Sept., 1948

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Red-wing in Southeastern Alaska.—On July 1, 1946, I was tramping across the grassy tidal marshes of Sergeif Island, at the mouth of the Stikine River, southeastern Alaska, when I was startled to hear the familiar call note of a Red-winged Blackbird. The bird circled high over my head, then landed on a cottonwood snag near by, where I shot it. The specimen (now in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences) proved to be a second-year male which I identify as *Agelaius phoenicceus arctolegus*. There is no previous published record for this species from southeastern Alaska, but there is a specimen in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. The skin (no. 44616) lacks a head and is unsexed, but is in adult female plumage. The original label indicates that it was taken by Allen Hasselborg at Mole Harbor, Admiralty Island, in the summer of 1924. (No doubt it was shot by Hasselborg with his famous bear gun.) It bears the notation, in the handwriting of the late H. S. Swarth, "Probably arctolegus H. S. S." The writer identifies this specimen, also, as arctolegus.

The extreme northwestern corner of the breeding range of the race *arctolegus* is in southeastern Yukon Territory (Rand, Nat. Mus. Canada Bull. 105, 1946:59). Farther west there are records, apparently of vagrants, from Atlin, in northwestern British Columbia (Swarth, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., ser. 4, 23, 1936:54), and from Cape Prince of Wales, in extreme northwestern Alaska (Bailey, Condor, 32, 1930:161 and Proc. Colo. Mus. Nat. Hist., 18, 1943:109). The northernmost definite record of the coastal race, *caurinus*, is from Comox, British Columbia (Macoun and Macoun, Cat. Canadian Birds, 1909:431).

I am indebted to the authorities of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology for permission to record the Hasselborg specimen and to study the collection under their care.—J. DAN WEBSTER, Jamestown College, Jamestown, North Dakota, April 4, 1948.

Young Short-eared Owl "Captured" by Plant.—On June 14, 1947, while working the Fern Ridge Reservoir west of Eugene, Oregon, I came upon an immature Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus) in a rather unusual circumstance.

This bird did not have fully formed primaries and so was unable to fly. It had left the nest and wandered through the grass until it came to a ditch filled with water. The owl was apparently moving along the edge of this ditch when it came into contact with a plant of the common tar-weed (*Madia sativa*) which has very sticky-glandular leaves. The young owl became trapped with two of the leaves firmly attached to the feathers on the top of its head.

When I came upon this owl, it was able to move but a few inches forward or backward. Had I not freed the bird it would certainly have lost its life. To free the bird it was necessary to remove the leaves from the plant and then pull the feathers out of the bird's head to which the leaves were stuck. The feathers could not be freed from the leaves.

In areas where this plant is common it might be a source of some loss of life among young birds of the ground dwelling species.

The young owl now wears band number 45-624031.—GORDON W. GULLION, Eugene, Oregon, July 1, 1948.

Correction to Description of Chordeiles minor twomeyi.—Owing to a catalogue error, the number of the type specimen of *Chordeiles minor twomeyi* Hawkins given as 131,534 in the description (Condor, 50, 1948:131) should be changed to read 131,840.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 3, 1948.