

ing range of the Vermilion Flycatcher still another one hundred miles to the northern limit of the Mohave Desert.—WILLIAM R. FISH, *China Lake, California, October 3, 1949.*

Virginia Warbler Parasitized by Cowbird.—The restricted range and elusiveness of the Virginia Warbler (*Vermivora virginiae*), together with its well-hidden nest, probably account in a large measure for the fact that it has so long escaped inclusion in Herbert Friedmann's extensive lists (*The Cowbirds*, 1929; *Auk*, 60, 1943:350-356; *Auk*, 66, 1949:154-163) of birds known to be parasitized by the North American Cowbird, *Molothrus ater*. I am able to add it to the list through the cooperation of Robert J. Niedrach, who took me to the nest of a Virginia Warbler in Daniels Park, near Denver, on July 13, 1949. When Niedrach found the nest in a bunch of grass at the edge of a clump of mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus parvifolius*) about two weeks earlier, it had contained several eggs of the warbler and one cowbird's egg. At the time of our visit, however, it was occupied by only one weak little warbler almost smothered beneath a lusty young cowbird.

The cowbird involved was *Molothrus ater artemisiae* which, with the addition of the Virginia Warbler to Friedmann's lists, is now known to parasitize 110 species and subspecies.—FRANK C. CROSS, *Silver Spring, Maryland, September 26, 1949.*

A Vireo Specimen with Supernumerary Rectrices.—There are few records in the literature of passerine birds with supernumerary rectrices, although Arthur A. Allen informs me that they are not uncommon in the Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) and perhaps in other gallinaceous birds. It may be of interest, therefore, to record such an occurrence recently discovered in a specimen in the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Memorial Collection at Cornell University. The bird (C. U. 15791) is a male Carmiol Vireo (*Vireo carmioli*) of undetermined age, collected by Austin Paul Smith at 9000 feet elevation on Volcan Turrialba, Costa Rica, on November 24, 1922. The specimen seems perfectly normal in all respects, save that it possesses no less than fifteen rectrices. All are fully grown, with no trace of sheathing at the bases of the feathers. The three extra feathers are, morphologically, of the type of the normal central pair, with the rachis centrally located. As far as can be determined without damaging the specimen, the follicles have been duplicated laterally rather than dorsoventrally, thus making it difficult to ascertain precisely which three of the five "central" rectrices are the supernumeraries. The exact stage of development at which this duplication arose is, of course, purely conjectural.—KENNETH C. PARKES, *Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, October 17, 1949.*

Summer Range of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.—In connection with other field work in Mexico in the summer of 1949, an effort was made to determine the southern limits of the summer range of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*). On July 18, careful check was made of the occurrence of this bird along the highway between Matamoros and Ciudad Victoria, Tamaulipas. Several Scissor-tails were observed in the vicinity of Santa Teresa; one at Las Norias (104 miles by road SSW Matamoros); and two near Tres Palos (about 25 miles NNE Jimenez). Beyond this point no Scissor-tails were encountered. Since mid-July is within the breeding season as reported by Bent (*Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, no. 179, 1942:92), it is likely that the birds here reported were within their breeding range. This point needs confirmation, however.—W. B. DAVIS, *Department of Wildlife Management, College Station, Texas, October 3, 1949.*

Mallards "Mobbing" Cooper Hawks.—Late in the afternoon of September 30, 1949, while studying Coots (*Fulica americana*) on Lake Temescal, on the eastern edge of Oakland, Alameda County, California, I observed behavior of about 20 Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and six Coots which seemed to be comparable to the "mobbing" behavior so well known among passerine birds. Two Cooper Hawks (*Accipiter cooperii*) were the objects of this demonstration.

About 5:15 p.m. a Cooper Hawk sailed across the lake, causing some uneasiness among the widely scattered waterfowl. The hawk showed no interest in any of them but flew into a large oak and a moment later emerged closely pursuing another larger and paler Cooper Hawk. In close pursuit they flew into another group of oaks which partly overhang the west shore of the lake. Here the first bird was seen to engage in some sort of a tail-spreading display, apparently for the benefit of the other