

that the species is not at all rare. The bird lives at medium heights in the rain forest and at this season its very conspicuous whistle call can be heard all morning. Its behavior and general aspect is that of the Thrush-like Manakin (*Schiffornis turdinus*) excepting for its color. In the field this bird may be confused with the Rufous Mourner (*Rhytipterna holerythra*) which also lives in the same habitat.—MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Instituto Zoologico del Estado, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, México, August 10, 1955.*

A Supposed Record of a Fossil Cormorant.—Shufeldt (Auk, 32, 1915:485-488, pl. 30) described in considerable detail a fragment of fossil bone from the Miocene of the Arikaree Sandstone, collected in southeastern Montana, and identified the specimen as *Phalacrocorax macropus* (Cope). This record has been carried in the two editions of the check-list of the fossil birds of North America that have appeared since, but with definite uncertainty, since *P. macropus* otherwise is known only from the Pleistocene deposits of Fossil Lake, Oregon. Although the specimen has been in the collections of the United States National Museum (Div. Vert. Paleo. cat. no. 3251), it has not been expedient to check the identification until recently. Careful examination indicates that while the bone is avian, and superficially suggests a cormorant, it is so crushed that there can be no certainty as to its allocation; there is even doubt as to the family to which it belongs. The record therefore is one that must be dropped from our list. Shufeldt's illustration (fig. 2) shows clearly the form and condition of the specimen.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., July 14, 1955.*

Hermit Warbler at Roswell, New Mexico.—On the morning of May 8, 1955, I observed a lone Hermit Warbler (*Dendroica occidentalis*) at Roswell, New Mexico, which I tentatively identified as a female. I returned later that day to the site of observation and took the bird for a record specimen. The skin was sent to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, where J. W. Aldrich reported that as far as known the only other definite previous records for the Hermit Warbler for the state are a female specimen in the United States National Museum, taken on August 3, 1908, at 8000 feet on Animas Peak, and two specimens in the Peet collection at the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, taken on September 13 and 19, 1927, at Reserve. Both places are near the Arizona line and approximately 200 air miles west of Roswell, which is in the Pecos Valley.—VESTER MONTGOMERY, *Roswell, New Mexico, August 17, 1955.*

Notes on Food Habits of the White-tailed Kite in Southern California.—Since 1951 a pair of White-tailed Kites (*Elanus leucurus*) has been under observation by the writer in the area along Ballona Creek, 2 miles northeast of the Pacific Ocean, Los Angeles County, California. Recently vandals have shot one of the pair. Fearing that the other bird might also be shot and no longer available for study, the writer collected a number of pellets and loose skeletal material from beneath the bird's roost in a dead tree. The vegetation surrounding the roost is largely *Salicornia ambigua*.

The average size of 9 pellets, which had not been loosened by recent rains, was 33×17×15 mm. While the possibility exists that some of the material examined represents food eaten by another species of predatory bird, repeated observations have shown the White-tailed Kites to be the only raptorial species using this roost. Following is a tabulation of the contents of the pellets.

Species	Number of specimens	Per cent of total
<i>Mus musculus</i>	15	53.8
<i>Microtus californicus</i>	4	15.3
<i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i>	3	11.5
<i>Thomomys bottae</i>	1	3.9
<i>Sylvilagus</i> sp.	1	3.9
<i>Sorex ornatus</i>	1	3.9
<i>Peromyscus</i> sp.	1	3.9
Bird (unidentified passerine)	1	3.9

Although most investigators have reported high percentages of *Microtus* in the diet of the White-tailed Kite (Bond, Condor, 42, 1940:168; Hawbecker, Condor, 42, 1940:106-111, and 44, 1942:267-276), in another section of Los Angeles County, Bond (Condor, 44, 1942:231-232) similarly found that the kites were feeding largely on *Mus*.—JOHN D. CUNNINGHAM, *Department of Zoology, University of California, Los Angeles, California, February 18, 1955.*