

so placed that the current would bring fresh and living food through the wide mesh. The penguin survived for a month and a half.

There appears to be no prior record of a penguin taken in Middle America. Yet Mr. James Price of Panamá assures me that some years ago he was offered several unidentified penguins captured alive on the Pacific coast of Panamá. Hence this may not be an isolated incident.

According to Murphy (*Oceanic Birds of South America*, 1, 1936:466 ff.) the Galapagos Penguin is known only from the Galapagos Archipelago, particularly the central and westerly islands lying on or just below the Equator; it feeds in the cool waters of the Humboldt Current, which wash the shores of these islands. Murphy mentions (*loc. cit.*) that it has been "doubtfully reported from Wenman Island," which is isolated and lies at latitude $1^{\circ} 20' N$, to the northwest of the main Galapagos Archipelago. The Galapagos extend east to longitude $89^{\circ} 16' W$; Puerto Armuelles lies at about longitude $82^{\circ} 50' W$ and latitude $8^{\circ} 15' N$ —some seven hundred miles to the northeast. Since the Humboldt Current in its course through the Galapagos flows toward the west, it is a matter of speculation how a non-migratory and non-volant penguin from these islands ranged so far to the northeast. However, a short distance north of the Galapagos Archipelago, another current, the Equatorial Countercurrent, flows toward the east, veering northward as it approaches the continent. In some years, during the early months, this countercurrent displaces, or partly displaces, the Humboldt Current about the Galapagos. It is possible that a penguin chancing to stray into the countercurrent might reach the coast of Panamá. Perhaps a stronger possibility is that fishermen or yachtsmen may have captured the bird and later allowed it to escape near Panamá waters.—EUGENE EISENMANN, *New York City, New York, September 29, 1955.*

White-throated Sparrow in Humboldt County, California.—On September 27, 1955, we observed a White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) at close range in a thimbleberry and salal thicket at the west end of the Wildlife Building on the Humboldt State College Campus, Arcata, California. There are few records for this area, although the species has been recorded in Eureka in the months of November, March, and May and at Adams, Del Norte County, on November 4 (Grinnell and Miller, *Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 27, 1944:526).

This record is of significance because of the early date for the area.—CHARLES F. YOCOM and ROLF E. MALL, *Humboldt State College, Arcata, California, October 15, 1955.*

Distributional Data on the Birds of the White Mountains of California and Nevada.—The White Mountains are the largest and highest of the mountain ranges constituting the Great Basin mountain province of California. The breeding birds of the boreal areas of this province were tabulated in 1951 (Miller, *Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool.*, 50, 1951:584–591) from a scattered literature and from the notebook records of field parties of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology which have operated in the White Mountains, chiefly in 1917. When this tabulation was prepared, certain doubts remained about the summer resident status of some species and as a consequence a field party visited the mountains under the leadership of Russell in May and June of 1954 in order to gain further information. In addition to Russell, Francis S. Williamson, Joseph G. Hall, A. Starker Leopold, Robert S. Hoffmann and Jerry Russell took part, the last three only in the last week of June. Parts of the range lying in Esmeralda County, Nevada, were visited, as well as those in Mono and Inyo counties, California. The following data supplement the previous records for this mountain system.

Dendragapus fuliginosus sierrae. Sooty Grouse. No specimens of this type of grouse from the White Mountains were extant previously, although the species was known to occur. In 1944 Grinnell and Miller (*Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 27:115–116) tentatively included the population of these mountains in *D. f. howardi*. Russell took three males and one female in May, 1954, in Trail Canyon, 8900 feet, Esmeralda County, Nevada, and an adult female and downy young at 8200 feet on Wyman Creek, Inyo County, on June 6 and 7. The backs of the males as a group are intermediate in color and pattern between those of *sierrae* and *howardi* in the same way that grouse of the Yosemite district and the Sweetwater Mountains of northern Mono County are intermediate. The tails of adults are intermediate in length although closer to *sierrae* than to typical *howardi*: ♂ ♂, 173, 174, 183; ♀ ♀, 147,