

material from this quarry seems to represent the subgenus *Sthenelides*. It is probable that the earlier, badly preserved specimen may belong in this same group.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., January 9, 1957.*

Bay-breasted Warbler off California Coast.—On the morning of October 6, 1956, a specimen of the Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) was obtained 24 miles south-southeast of San Clemente Island, almost due west of San Diego, California. This location is out of sight of any land mass, and the bird, after circling the ship for approximately ten minutes, attempted to land. The crew of the vessel, a commercial chartered fishing craft, indicated that it was not uncommon to find small land birds off the coast, and that "many were picked up and released when they returned to port." This bird, following unsuccessful attempts to land on the rigging, slipped into the water and was netted by the crew.

The specimen, now number 134974 in the collections of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, was checked for identification by Dr. Harrison B. Tordoff. The bird is an immature, as shown by the plumage, having only a faint suffusion of buff on the breast, and by the skull, which was only partly ossified. It was a male, and it was considerably emaciated.

No reference can be found to the occurrence of this warbler in the western United States, although numerous reports are available concerning vagrant warblers taken or seen at sea near the California coast and on the Channel Islands off southern California. It would seem most likely that passerine birds would appear away from shore during conditions of unusual wind velocity. At the time the Bay-breasted Warbler was taken, there was no storm, nor had there been high winds. The bird was alone; no other passerines were observed on this particular day.

One must concede that, particularly among migrants, the mortality is great because of straying from regular migration routes. Grinnell (*Auk*, 34, 1922:373-380) discusses such vagrants carefully, and we can but conclude with him that this Bay-breasted Warbler was a "pioneer . . . sacrificed in the interests of the species."—M. DALE ARVEY, *Long Beach State College, Long Beach, California, February 20, 1957.*

Blue and White Swallow in México.—On May 24, 1954, Alvarez collected a swallow from a mixed flock of *Petrochelidon fulva* and *Progne chalybea* which was roosting within a building in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, México. The bird was presented to the Museum of Comparative Zoology (no. 280768), where it was identified as an immature example of the Blue and White Swallows, *Atticora cyanoleuca patagonica*; the race involved breeds from Bolivia southward and winters to the north. The specimen has light-colored underwing coverts and its crissum is white with the longest feathers tipped with the dusky—characters which unequivocally distinguish *patagonica* from the other races.

Howell (*Condor*, 57, 1955:188-189) recently found this swallow in Nicaragua; his record at the time was the most northern station for this form, which commonly winters north to Colombia and Panamá. The addition of a record from México suggests that *patagonica* may be a regular migrant north of Panamá. If this is true, the specimen from Tuxtla Gutiérrez would seem to represent the longest known migration of a South American non-marine species, although, of course, some stray birds have travelled even farther.—RAYMOND A. PAYNTER, JR., *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts*, and MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Instituto Zoológico del Estado, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, México, November 30, 1956.*

Translocated Golden-crowned Sparrows Return to Winter Range.—On February 4, 1956, several Golden-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) were trapped and banded in a residential garden at San Jose, California. After acclimatization to cages they were shipped by commercial aircraft to Pullman, Washington, on February 14 for use in studies in the physiology of avian migration. On March 6 they were placed in individual activity-recording cages designed to determine their 24-hour activity patterns. The cages were exposed to the weather on the roof of the Science Building on the campus of the State College of Washington. By accident, two birds escaped from their cages on March 19 and one on April 4.

On December 1, 1956, Golden-crowned Sparrows were again trapped in the same residential garden at San Jose. Among them were the two which escaped at Pullman on the previous March 19. The escapee of April 4 has not been seen.

The air-line distance from San Jose, California, to Pullman, Washington, is approximately 700 miles. Pullman is more than 150 miles east of the usual route of migration. Jewett, Taylor, Shaw, and Aldrich (Birds of Washington State, 1953:650-651) state that the Golden-crowned Sparrow is a very common spring migrant west of the Cascade Mountains, but eastern Washington is off the main route of migration; in fall the principal mass of migrants apparently moves south along the Cascade Mountains where they seem to prefer the west slope. During several years of netting of *Zonotrichia* in the vicinity of Pullman, only six Golden-crowned Sparrows have been taken, while more than a thousand White-crowned Sparrows were handled. The southernmost known breeding area of the Golden-crowned Sparrow is at Harts Pass in the Cascade Mountains of Okanogan County, Washington (Farner and Buss, Condor, 59, 1957:141).

It may be noted that the two birds escaped four to six weeks prior to the time their flock mates at San Jose started their northward migration. "*Zugunruhe*," or migratory restlessness, in the birds caged at Pullman, began to develop about April 10 and became well marked about April 27.—L. RICHARD MEWALDT, *Department of Biological Sciences, San Jose State College, San Jose, California*, and DONALD S. FARNER, *Laboratories of Zoophysiology, The State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington, January 25, 1957*.

The Cattle Egret in Jamaica, British West Indies.—On a visit to the Bodles livestock experiment station in Jamaica on November 21, 1956, more than 20 Cattle Egrets were seen feeding, in typical fashion, among the steers on an experimental pasture. Bodles is on the low-lying plain on the south side of Jamaica, not far from the town of May Pen. The elevation is estimated at about 50 feet.

Dr. T. P. Lecky, of the Jamaican Department of Agriculture, who was showing us the station, remarked that the birds had appeared about 10 days previous, and that he had never before seen white herons feeding in among the cattle in this fashion. He and Mr. Tom J. Jackson of St. Croix, who were familiar with the white immature Little Blue Heron, were quick to see the difference in heaviness of head and neck and in leg color when these were pointed out.

This sight record is offered because I am thoroughly familiar with the birds in St. Croix, and because I regard it as serving to fill in the range rather than to extend it; the species has been collected in Cuba (Sprunt, Bull. Mass. Audubon Soc., 40, 1956:65-69) and the Virgin Islands (Seaman, Wilson Bull., 67, 1955:304-305), and it is common in Puerto Rico (letter from James Bond to G. A. Seaman, March 4, 1955).—R. M. BOND, *Kingshill, St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands, December 3, 1956*.

Precocial Strutting in Sage Grouse.—The annual strutting display by male Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) in March and April provides game managers with a handy and apparently reliable index to population trends. During the past three years of management-research investigations I have spent 75 early morning periods observing these activities on more than 120 different strutting grounds.

Therefore, it was with considerable surprise that I observed the unmistakable strutting display by a Sage Grouse that was estimated to be about eight weeks old. This incident occurred just after sunrise, along Chicken Creek, 6460 feet elevation, on Sunflower Flat, 11 miles southeast of Mountain City, Elko County, Nevada, on July 14, 1956. The bird was one of a group of about 10 young birds and 4 adult hens.

All phases of the strutting display were observed, including the fanned tail, the three or four shuffling steps forward, the forward wing thrust, and even an attempted pumping of non-existent air sacs. The display was directed toward an adult hen and the whole episode lasted about 15 or 20 seconds, with no observed preliminary or subsequent display.

This precocial behavior of this very young Sage Grouse is particularly interesting when one recalls that immatures of the species are still very inept at strutting when about 10 months old. Apparently they do not regularly participate in this courtship display until their second year (Patterson, The Sage Grouse in Wyoming, 1952:143).—GORDON W. GULLION, *Nevada Fish and Game Commission, Austin, Nevada, January 7, 1957*.

Some Additions to Nesting Data on Panamanian Birds.—In 1956 I found nests of four species of birds in the Province of Chiriquí, Panamá, which provide evidence that extends the known breeding season of these forms.