ments, based on 35 specimens of *brunnei-nucha* and 132 of *frontalis*, clearly shows that the bill of the latter race averages longer.

Traylor reported that he could see no correlation between geography and the variation in relative amount of white on the underparts. I found this surprising, since this had seemed to me to be the most striking difference between *brunnei-nucha* and *frontalis*. Recalling that I had noted that the Peruvian examples of *frontalis* that I had seen averaged grayer below than those from elsewhere in South America, the possibility occurred to me that study of additional Peruvian specimens might indicate that the name *frontalis* would have to be restricted to the Peruvian population and *xanthogenys* Cabanis (type locality Caracas, Venezuela) revived for the birds of Venezuela, Colombia, eastern Panamá, and Ecuador. Mr. Traylor was good enough to send for my examination the Chicago Natural History Museum's entire South American series (18 specimens) of this species.

Examination of the Peruvian series described by Traylor showed that in evaluating the individual variation in amount of white on the underparts he was misled by the fact that no less than 5 of his 10 Peruvian specimens are young birds which still bear on the underparts many of the grayish-olive feathers of the juvenal plumage. Adults from Perú bear out my original statement (Parkes, *op. cit.*: 136): "Even the grayest of the Peruvian specimens has a greater extent of white ventrally than any Mexican specimen of *A. b. brunnei-nucha*." Extreme examples of the latter race (such as Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. no. 41042, Jalapa, Veracruz) may have the ventral white restricted to a small, poorly-defined dirty white spot on the lower abdomen.

If the only South American populations of *Atlapetes brunnei-nucha* were those of coastal Venezuela and Perú, there would be no hesitation in recognizing the former as a separate subspecies under the name *xanthogenys* Cabanis. Venezuelan examples are whiter below than Peruvian and have bills which are longer and more slender. The Peruvian spcimens are dorsally of a deeper, more golden green, and tend to have a slight brownish wash on the outer margins of the remiges. In the large series examined from Colombia and Ecuador, however, are examples which completely bridge all of these differences, and no plausible geographic separation can be defined. Examination of the new material from the Chicago Natural History Museum supports my original conclusion that all of the South American populations of *Atlapetes brunnei-nucha* (except *inornatus* and *allinornatus*, isolated races which lack the pectoral band) are best considered as belonging to a single somewhat variable subspecies to which the name *frontalis* Tschudi may be applied.—KENNETH C. PARKES, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 11, 1958.*

Starlings Nesting in Central California.—On May 13, 1958, adult European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) were observed feeding young at an abandoned woodpecker hole in a blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) in the Palo Prieta Canyon, seven miles east of Shandon, San Luis Obispo County, California. On May 26 this nest site was revisited at which time six young starlings were collected from the nest; two of these were prepared as scientific study skins.

The lower five inches of the nest cavity was filled with oak bark fibers. This nesting material was moist, warm, and contained many maggots of a species of fly. The young when taken were well developed, being able to hop about but not to fly. Grasshoppers were fed to the young exclusively while they were under observation.—EBEN MCMILLAN, *Cholame, California, July 21, 1958.*

Red-tailed Hawk Killing a Lamb.—Observations of hawks killing domestic lambs are so unusual it seems worthwhile to report a recent case involving a Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*). The incident occurred in Humboldt County, California, on the Joseph Russ sheep ranch, located about five miles south of Capetown and approximately three miles from the coast.

On January 30, 1958, Predatory Animal Hunter, Darrel Cussins, left the Russ Ranch at 7:00 a.m. with two hounds to hunt bobcats. About three miles southeast of the ranch house in the high country on open grassland, he saw a Red-tailed Hawk eating on a dead lamb. As Darrel approached, the hawk picked up the remains of the small lamb and flew off down the hill with it. Darrel proceeded on up the mountain with his dogs. On his return approximately one hour later, he stopped to look over the sheep to see if there were any more dead lambs. About 200 yards below him he saw a Red-tailed Hawk dive several times at a newborn lamb. The ewe would butt at the hawk as the hawk would try to hit the lamb. He then saw the hawk hit the lamb knocking it to the ground. It did not get up. While all of this was taking place Darrel was trying to get a shot at the hawk with his 25-20 rifle, but he was

afraid of hitting the lamb or the ewe. He finally took a shot at the hawk while it was in the air. The hawk then left the area and did not return. When Darrel reached the lamb it was dead. It had talon marks on the head, neck, and back and was still bleeding from the wounds. It was a lamb not over twelve hours old, and it appeared to be a healthy lamb. Joseph Russ, Jr., heard the rifle shot and met Darrel at the lamb kill. He also examined the kill and said it was the first time he had seen a lamb that had been killed by a hawk.

On Darrel's return to the ranch house he saw another Red-tailed Hawk or possibly the same one diving at another lamb. At the shot of Darrel's rifle the hawk altered its course. Darrel remained there for about one and one-half hours, but the hawk did not return.

Six years ago Darrel Cussins and Mr. Olson were riding horseback on the Olson Sheep Ranch in Sonoma County, California. They saw a Red-tailed Hawk diving at a newborn lamb. The hawk hit the lamb after several attempts, and the lamb was dead when they reached it.

Several of the ranchers on this north coast district have told Darrel Cussins that they have felt sure hawks have killed their lambs, but only a few of them have actually seen the hawks killing lambs. It is not unusual to find a hawk or an eagle feeding on a dead lamb, but there are surprisingly few ranchers who have observed eagles or hawks in the act of killing lambs.—MERLE D. BARNEY, *Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Lakeport, California, June 30, 1958.*

Blackburnian and Connecticut Warblers in Montana.—Among the birds collected by the writer on a brief field trip to Montana in 1953, two warblers are of particular interest.

Dendroica fusca. Blackburnian Warbler. A female of this species was collected on June 4, 1953, in a deserted farmyard two miles north of Raymond, Sheridan County, Montana. The skin is number 11,446 in my collection. Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 203, 1953) mentions a sight record, August 21, 1924, near Libby, Montana, and the A.O.U. Check-list (5th ed.) lists the species as "accidental in Western Montana (Libby)," based, probably, on the sight record in Bent (1953).

Oporornis agilis. Connecticut Warbler. On June 5, 1953, a Connecticut Warbler was taken two miles north of Raymond, Montana. This specimen, a female, is number 11,449 in my collection. So far as I know this species has not previously been recorded from Montana.—ALEX. WALKER, *Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, Tillamook, Oregon, October 23, 1958.*

Some Records of Oceanic Birds in Uruguay.—The oceanic coast of Uruguay is visited during winter by some birds of other South American countries and neighboring oceanic waters. In August, 1953, I saw on the beaches near the mouth of the Arroyo Carrasco, Departamento de Canelones, a great number of dead specimens of Slender-billed Whale-birds (*Pachyptila belcheri*). Nearby I obtained a first sight record of four Cayenne Terns (*Thalasseus eurygnathus*). Two were flying over the left bank of Arroyo Carrasco, and the others were bathing in a large pool near the seashore. Their large size, black crested crown, white underparts, grey mantle, and lemon yellow bill were easily identifiable.

Magellanic Penguins (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) are winter visitors, and on July 15, 1954, I saw 35 of these birds swimming and diving in waters of Piedras del Chileno, within Maldonado Bay. Flying overhead was a flock of nearly 50 Sooty Shearwaters (*Puffinus griseus*).

On August 10, 1954, a Rockhopper Penguin (*Eudyptes crestatus*) was obtained in Montevideo Bay near the mouth of Arroyo Pantanoso. The skin is deposited in the author's collection.

On July 16, 1955, I saw, with binoculars, two Giant Fulmars (*Macronectes giganteus*) sitting on the water, 200 meters west of the rocky coast of Punta del Este. Their uniform rusty brown plumage indicated that they were immature individuals.

Principally, however, this article is devoted to an austral bird, the Sheath-bill or Paloma Antárctica (*Chionis alba*). On July 9, 1954, Rogelio B. López photographed three specimens of the Sheath-bill at Mar del Plata, 38°S latitude (Hornero, 10[2], 1956:168). This was the northernmost record known in Argentina. Hellmayr and Conover (Cat. Birds Amer., pt. 1, no. 2, 1948:240–241) give the northern boundary of the range for this species as Bahía de Camarones (Chubut) in Argentina (44°S latitude). Raúl Vaz Ferreira in 1952 reports sight records of this species during winter, from Torres and Lobos islands. He also reports a photographic record and one specimen collected on July 7, 1952, by E. Palerm, on this island (Observaciones sobre la Isla de Torres y Castillo Grande, Rev. Fac. Humanidades, Montevideo, VI[9], 1952:237–258). Some hearsay records about white and pigeon-like birds seen in Torres Islands were reported by B. Sierra y Sierra in 1895 and D. Granada in 1896 (R. Vaz Ferreira,