

The observation of the tanager was reported to Kenneth Stager of the Los Angeles County Museum and an examination of skins was made. Subsequently Dr. Stager advised me of a report received from Mrs. Edith Eppler of Hollywood, California, of observing "red Cowbirds." I talked with Mrs. Eppler and learned that she had observed two red birds in the company of a large flock of cowbirds at her feeding station. She was able to make observations at a distance of ten feet, of two birds on July 31 and one bird on August 5. From her careful observations and notes it was possible to identify these birds as Hepatic Tanagers also.

According to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list (5th edition, 1957), there were no reports of the Hepatic Tanager for California up to 1957. The possibility that these were escaped or released birds cannot, of course, be ruled out. — OTTIS H. WADE, *Los Angeles, California, September 17, 1963.*

Pseudo-sleeping by a Herring Gull.—The note of Cornwell and Bartonek on pseudo-sleeping (Condor, 65, 1963: 444-446) leads me to report what appears, from their résumé, to be the first observation of this behavior by the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*). At Woodlawn, Baltimore County, Maryland, on November 29, 1959, an adult gull was standing in heel-deep water two or three yards out in Gwynns Falls, at a place where that stream is perhaps 100 feet wide. During some minutes that I watched from a spot several yards back from the opposite shore, it turned its head back many times and buried its bill in its scapulars for from a few to many seconds. Its eyes were open on every occasion on which I was able to see them, as the gull shifted its position at intervals so that at one time or another it faced all around a circle.

This would seem to be another instance of agonistic pseudo-sleeping, the gull presumably being uneasy over my watching, although such a degree of uneasiness would have been unusual for this particular bird. During migration periods there are sometimes half a dozen or so Herring Gulls at this place on Gwynns Falls, but for a number of years running I have as a rule been finding, from early October to early April, just a single adult, presumably the same individual at its regular wintering place. From distances similar to that on November 29, 1959, I have repeatedly watched "this" gull as it idled, ate garbage brought by the stream, dived and caught small fish and crayfish, or pulled up earthworms on the shore. I have on no other occasion noticed pseudo-sleeping. — HERVEY BRACKBILL, *Baltimore, Maryland, October 19, 1963.*

Ages of Some Captive Wild Birds.—Records on the longevity in birds are very scarce. As a consequence over a period of years I have kept records of them. A male Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) was picked up under a tree at Point Defiance Park, Tacoma, Washington, after a severe wind storm in the last week of June, 1948. It has been in my possession until its death October 6, 1963, at the age of 15 years and 4 months. Mrs. Zella Schultz examined the dead bird and found all the organs in good condition with the exception of the lungs which showed scar tissue caused by pneumonia in 1962 and the kidneys which were gray and granulated, probably due to old age. The specimen is in the Thomas Burke Memorial Washington State Museum.

A pair of Honeycreepers (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) was acquired in January of 1940 and a pair of White-eyes (*Zosterops palpebrosa*) was obtained in March of the same year. The female White-eye died in December of 1961. The specimen is in the Thomas Burk Memorial Washington State Museum. At this writing the other birds are still living and are in good plumage.

A Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius*) died in July of 1963. The bird was brought in with a broken wing, that mended stiff, in September of 1949. It lived about 14 years in captivity and was in adult plumage when received.

Two female Saw-whet Owls (*Aegolius acadicus*) were received shot in the wing in October, 1946; one died in January of 1963, after 17 years, and the other in April, 1963, after about 17½ years. Both were in adult plumage when received. — DELLA M. SCHUMACHER, *Seattle, Washington, November 1, 1963.*