

their latest date for the region east of the Cascades is October 24. To this I should like to add the following sight records (and the unmistakable call-note heard): November 3, 1940, one at Pendleton; and for La Grande four occurrences—November 11, 1940, one; November 26, 1941, two; December 1, 1941, one; December 30, 1941, one.

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*).—A female or immature bird was watched at a distance of about twenty feet for about a minute in fir woods at an elevation of about 4,500 feet near Mount Emily on August 3, 1940. On the basis of two specimens taken in worn breeding plumage in September, Gabrielson and Jewett (*op. cit.*, p. 541) state that *P. e. montana* "probably breeds" in the higher Wallows.

Green-tailed Towhee (*Oberholseria chlorura*).—An adult accompanied by an immature bird seen on a brushy hillside in the lower portion of the Transition zone near La Grande, and adults in song in the springs of 1940 and 1941 indicate that the bird is a regular breeder in Union County. Gabrielson and Jewett (*op. cit.*, p. 551) record it from Baker, the county adjoining Union County on the south.

Western Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea ochracea*).—On December 8, 1940, I studied a Tree Sparrow for five minutes at close range in a brushy, weedy area in the Valley four miles east of La Grande. Another was seen near Elgin on February 15, 1940. One was seen to fine advantage in the Valley about five miles east of town on December 26, 1941. Gabrielson and Jewett (*op. cit.*, p. 573) record specimens from Baker and Wallowa counties, which adjoin Union County on the south and east, respectively.—A SIDNEY HYDE, *Eastern Oregon College of Education, La Grande, Oregon*.

A Rock Wren Specimen from Michigan.—My friend, Dr. Max M. Peet, recently remarked to me that he had once seen in Michigan a species of bird which he felt sure was not represented by a Michigan specimen in the University collection. The bird, it turned out, was a Rock Wren which he saw unmistakably from a railway train which was drawing very slowly into the Detroit station. He was familiar with the species in the West and recognized it instantly. The bird was tame and he had a very good look at it for several minutes. This happened in the fall "five or six years ago" but he had not made any note of it because it seemed to him so obviously a stray that had been accidentally transported from the West in a freight car.

This incident caused me to bring out from the collection and restudy a Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) which had long lain there, at first not recognized and later not taken seriously. The specimen came to the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology by gift of Bryant Walker after J. Claire Wood's death in 1916 and was catalogued No. 50838. It is a normal specimen of Rock Wren in somewhat worn and soiled plumage. It is typical of the J. Claire Wood "make" of bird skin and bears the original label with the following data in his handwriting: "Carolina Wren. ♂, Oct. 31, 1910. From pile of railroad ties at D. S. Crossing, Sec. 24, Monguagon Township, Wayne County, Mich." His brother, Walter C. Wood, writes me from Detroit that that entry occurs in the original catalogue now in his possession. The only other birds taken that day were Pine Siskins and a Red-tailed Hawk.

Several facts have a bearing on this erroneous identification of the specimen. J. Claire Wood was not familiar with the Rock Wren and had none in his collection. P. A. Taverner calls my attention to the fact that the Carolina Wren "was just extending into Michigan" at that time and Wood's associates had recently taken specimens. (See *Auk*, 27, 1910:141; *Auk*, 29, 1912:107; *Wilson Bull.*, 24, 1912:129). He was therefore interested in and looking for Carolina Wrens. In the papers of James B. Purdy we find a letter of February 28, 1911 from J. Claire Wood asking for Purdy's Wayne County records of the Carolina Wren, adding that as "soon as I hear from you I will prepare my notes for the Auk." Apparently the note was never published.—JOSSELYN VAN TYNE, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan*.