been referred to *V. h. stephensi*, most recently by Hellmayr (1935. *Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser.*, 13, pt. 8:120). Two specimens taken by Webster in 1952, 15 miles west-southwest of El Salto (a female with an egg in her oviduct, June 23, and a male, June 24), as well as two specimens in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (a male from 4 miles southwest of El Salto, June 26, 1952, and a male from Resolana, near the Chihuahua border, June 23, 1952) we refer to the darker, less green, race of north-central Mexico.

Dendroica auduboni nigrifrons. Audubon Warbler. The most southerly breeding area reported in the literature is extreme southern Chihuahua by Moore (1946. *Auk*, 63:241–242). Actually, the species seems to breed commonly in southern Durango, and probably even farther south. Singing males were taken by Webster at Hacienda Coyotes, 8,200 ft., 7 miles northeast of El Salto, Durango, June 27, 1950, and June 24, 1952. The former specimen had testes 4 mm. long; the latter was in full breeding condition, with testes 10 and 9 mm. long and cloaca (seminal vesicles) enlarged with sperm.

Dendroica graciae graciae. Grace Warbler. On June 25, 1952, Webster observed an adult female feeding two immatures in the pines above Arroyo Mimbres, Durango, 8,000 ft. All three birds were collected. We have previously (Webster and Orr, 1952. *Condor*, 54:311) reported a sight record from the same area, but this is the first specimen to be recorded from the state.

Sporophila minuta parva. Ruddy-breasted Seedeater. An adult male was secured by Ernest P. Edwards, July 24, 1952, at Pie de la Cuesta, near Acapulco, Guerrero. The testes measured 5 and 6 mm., respectively. Edwards saw several other individuals that day, and Webster saw a single male at the same place on July 26. This species has previously been recorded in Mexico only from the states of Nayarit, Oaxaca, and Chiapas.

Loxia curvirostra stricklandi. Red Crossbill. Two red males in nonbreeding condition were taken by Webster on June 23 and 24, 1952, 15 miles west-southwest of El Salto, Durango, from several small flocks seen. There is no previous record from the state.

Aimophila ruficeps simulans. Rufous-crowned Sparrow. Since the description of this race by van Rossem (1934. *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 77:486-487), determination of specimens from Sinaloa and southern Durango has not been reported. There are two males in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology taken October 14 and 16, 1946, at El Batel, Sinaloa. Webster took a breeding pair on June 22, 1952, six miles west of Durango City, Durango, at 7,200 ft., in mesquite grassland; his only Durango sight records were from the same area.

Aimophila cassinii. Cassin Sparrow. On July 10, 1952, an adult male in full breeding condition (testes 7 and 6 mm. long, cloaca enlarged and full of sperm) was taken by Webster in San Luis Potosi. The bird sang a typical flight song and exhibited territorial behavior. The locality was 24 miles northeast of San Luis Potosi City, at 5,900 ft., in mesquite grassland with a good growth of new grass. We find no previous records in the literature of the Cassin Sparrow from this state.—J. DAN WEBSTER AND ROBERT T. ORR; *Hanover College, Hanover, Indiana; California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, and University of San Francisco, California, March 5, 1954.*

English Sparrow seeks refuge in ground burrow.— Several large outside cages are maintained in connection with the Ornithological Laboratory at Ohio State University. Some of these cages are 16 × 10 × 8 feet in size and are covered with one inch mesh poultry netting. They are used to confine such birds as ducks and pheasants. The doors on some of the cages are slightly sprung out at the bottom, and English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) enter and leave through the holes thus formed. A Norway rat also entered one of the cages and dug a burrow into the ground beside the rat-proofing wire which is buried around the edge of the cage.

It was sometimes possible to enter the cages and to capture the English Sparrows with an insect net before they escaped through their entrance hole or through the mesh of the chicken wire. Normally, I entered the cages and concentrated my efforts on a chosen bird until it was captured; then effort was shifted to a second bird if one were present.

On February 18, 1954, a cage contained two English Sparrows, and I readily captured one of these birds in a net. The second was pursued from one end of the cage to the other several times before it plunged to the ground and disappeared into the rat burrow at the corner of the cage. I waited several minutes about 10 feet from the burrow for the bird to reappear, but it remained hidden. I withdrew, therefore, to a distance of some 20 feet from the burrow and waited. After about five minutes, the bird came out of the burrow. It paused a few inches from the entrance and remained there several minutes while I watched. I then disappeared from the bird's view and watched from concealment. After several minutes, the English Sparrow moved farther from the burrow and flew about the cage. I then rushed into the cage with the net only to see the bird immediately return into the burrow. This procedure was repeated two more times without my being able to capture the English Sparrow. It was only by waiting a half hour and then rushing into the cage that I was able to outwit this bird.

A second English Sparrow showed closely similar behavior. This bird escaped into the room from the small cage in which it was confined inside of the bird laboratory. When it was pursued, it soon disappeared somewhere among the equipment stored in an adjacent room. Food and water were available in the room, and this bird remained free therein through the following several weeks. Repeated unsuccessful efforts to capture it were made. Whenever I entered the laboratory, it flew directly into the small adjacent room and hid among equipment which could not conveniently be moved. After about a month it was permitted to escape through an open door.—PAUL A, STEWART, *Ohio Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Ohio State University, Columbus, June 21, 1954.*

Barn Owl hunting by daylight.—At 3:00 p.m. on January 23, 1954, Francis Cormier of Hartsdale, New York, Terry Hall of Scarsdale, New York, and I observed a Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) hunting over Tobay Beach Bird Sanctuary near Jones Beach, Long Island, New York. We watched the bird for about 15 minutes, during which time the sun was bright although the sky was slightly hazy.

The owl had a distinctive hunting pattern, which we saw it repeat four times: After flying at an altitude of 15 or 20 feet for about 50 yards over bayberry (*Myrica cerifera*) and scattered Japanese black pine (*Pinus thunbergi*) habitat, it would climb to 30 feet and hover for about half a minute. Slowly losing altitude, it would suddenly plunge to the ground. Consistently catching nothing, it would fly into a two or three acre Japanese black pine grove or perch on an 8 foot high sign post at the edge of the grove.

While hovering, the owl's long legs hung directly downward, its head was directed downward at an angle of about 35 degrees from its horizontal body, and its wingbeat was approximately one-third as rapid as that of a hovering Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius*). While the owl was hunting, a light-phase American Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) passed within 50 feet of it. Neither bird, however, outwardly reacted to the other.

The owl's intended prey was probably the meadow vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*), which occurs abundantly in the area. On February 28, 1954, 200 yards from where we had observed the owl hunting, Terry Hall and I found three Barn Owl pellets containing four skulls of meadow voles.—KEN HARTE, *45 Lawrence Road, Scarsdale, New York, April 2, 1954.*