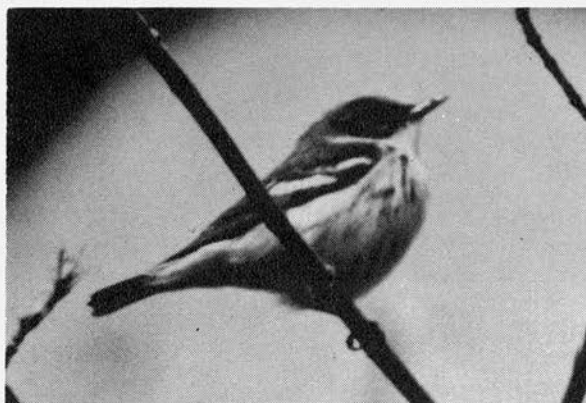# At a Glance . . .

The photos in At-a-Glance are always subjected to scrutiny by one or two expert advisers before publication. The comment of one when shown the photo of the Cerulean Warbler was - "Very, very sneaky." But having in mind a test of the mettle of the "real" birders perusing this column, I decided to offer this picture as number four in our contest. The response ratio of right to wrong answers was 60:40. [I learned early on from "real" scientists to disguise the bulk of results by expressing them in percentages.] The quality of the responses, however few, was excellent as always - wrong as well as right.

"The mystery bird in the August 1983 issue may be a Cerulean Warbler. This parulid has the clear white? throat, breast streaks (but lightly), wing bars, back stripes, pale crown, dark face, no eye ring, clear undertail coverts. That's a rarely photographed bird, IF that's what it is. The contortions of the chest may hide a necklace."

This tentative, but accurate, assessment was offered by distinguished world birder, Peter Alden. The chest feathering does indeed hide a blue-black neck band. But then, how often do you see this field mark on the Cerulean anyway, perched way up there in the tree tops? The spectacular May 1983 migration produced this bird in our state about nine times, at the least, a doubled incidence. We are indebted for the picture (rare, as Pete says) to Roger Everett, the master photographer from Mansfield who seems always to be there when the unusual avian comes through. [See the Mississippi Kite photo in August BOEM and the Fulvous Whistling-Duck report in the August records in this issue.]   D.R.A.

Cerulean Warbler
Beech Forest, Provincetown
May 7, 1983
    Photo by Roger Everett

At a Glance . . .

Can you identify this bird? Identification will be discussed in next issue's *At a Glance*. *Bird Observer* will award a PRIZE to the reader who submits the most correct answers in 1983. Please send your entry on a postcard to Bird Observer, 462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178 before the answer is published in the next issue.