

straight upward—a thick-set bird about seven inches long. The light was failing fast but it was bright enough to show us something that quickened our interest—a massive slaty blue bill. We followed the restless bird to some low bushes and then, at a distance of ten yards, with my Zeiss 8 × 40, I had the sight and thrill of my ornithological life time.

There were—in the clear round field at one time—four birds: A male Blue Grosbeak, he of the slaty blue bill, dull grayish brown above, and below, with red-brown shoulder marks and indistinct blue on the lower back and tail coverts; his mate—similar in stocky build, heavy bill and notched tail, but with solid, sooty back and yellowish-buff throat and breast; a Towhee, perhaps attracted by the nervous chirping of the Grosbeaks; and only for a few seconds, but long enough to show one the diagnostic black line on the yellow side below the wing—a female Prairie Warbler. Then twilight deepened and we went to headquarters—hot, a bit catbriar scratched, but happy.

The discovery of something new or rare in nature brings to some men an inrush of joy which is permanent in its effect and establishes a craving. Only he who has been as fortunate as I was in my little rediscovery of the Blue Grosbeak can understand that it is the benign potency of this craving which made Audubon master of hardship and disappointment, and which has taken thousands into the open in heat and cold humbly and without reward to weave the beautiful fabric of American Ornithology.

The next morning we were out at four thirty. We hoped to find the nest of the Grosbeaks though we knew the season was against us in this. We were too late. But the pair were where we had left them the night before and in the bright morning light gave us ample opportunity to reestablish the very great indistinctness of the blue on the male and to settle the fact in our minds that next to the bill the best field mark on the male is the reddish shoulder. And the young were there too, for we soon discovered the droll, dull-colored, stump-tailed birds, barely able to fly, about which the Grosbeaks were making so much fuss.

Which after all was just as good for our purposes as finding the nest; for quite as certainly, after a century and a quarter of doubt, we had modestly supported the testimony of John Bartram and placed the Blue Grosbeak back on the list of Lancaster County's summer residents.—**HERBERT H. BECK**, *Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.*

Western Tanager in Texas.—Nearly all of June I spent in Dallas, Texas, at the home of Mr. R. A. Gilliam, who has a beautiful estate in the suburbs. He has about ten acres of wooded land, and five of lawns, gardens, etc. About thirty species of birds nest on his place, and I spent a good deal of time wandering about and identifying these birds, many of which were new to me.

The first week in June I heard a strange song and following it up found the bird and examined it closely both with and without a glass, having a splendid opportunity to study it closely. It was a Western Tanager,

(*Piranga ludoviciana*) and I saw it several times during the month, and learned its song well.—ALICE B. HARRINGTON, *Lincoln, Mass.*

Bay-breasted Warbler a Regular Summer Resident on Mount Monadnock, N. H.—In the 'Bulletin of the Essex County Ornithological Club' for 1922, pp. 23-26, the writer presented evidence strongly indicating that the Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) nests in the spruces on Monadnock mountain in southern New Hampshire at an elevation of approximately 1400 feet, although no nest of this species has been discovered there. The observations were made during the years 1921 and 1922.

On July 4, 1923, Mrs. Whittle and I again spent a half day in the same locality where we had seen three Bay-breasts previously. This visit dissipated such slight doubt as we had previously entertained regarding the status of the birds as four different adult males were seen and heard singing while a fifth male was heard nearby. Two males seen at short range, ten to fifty feet distant, were accompanied by their mates and were busy carrying food into the fringe of small spruces bordering a larger growth, no doubt to their young, the nearness of which, in the case of one pair, was painfully shown by the great concern manifested by the parent birds, particularly the female. We did not, however, have time to find either the nests or the young. A more thorough examination of the spruce area in question would doubtless have discovered more nesting Bay-breasts.

The finding of this species three years in succession at nesting time and in such abundance proves it to be a regular summer resident on the mountain. That more were not seen by us in previous years does not mean that others were not present, for during the first two years our attention was focused on a particular spot, no part of the remaining spruce tract being examined.

We thus have this member of the Canadian Fauna firmly established on an isolated mountain which rises 3166 feet above the sea and is separated from the nearest mountain, approaching it in altitude, by a distance of twelve miles. Their occurrence here is of course attributable to the altitude which permits the growth of solid patches of red spruce, often having a border of small trees of the same species, in which the birds love to nest. I am unable to state at this time the exact area covered by the spruces, but it is planned to secure this information and to study the birds more thoroughly another year.

In this patch of evergreens the Bay-breasts occur in such numbers as to perhaps constitute a colony, and it is of interest to note that as long as the present distribution of conifers and deciduous trees is maintained, this group of birds will be able to enjoy complete isolation during nesting time.—CHARLES L. WHITTLE, *Cohasset, Mass.*

Early Migratory Movements of *Seiurus n. noveboracensis*.—On July 2, 1923, at 6.05 A. M., there came to our banding station in Peterboro,