

How the birds happened to be here is a mystery. This is far out of their range and a logical theory is that they were blown from their usual course by the dust storms of early spring, but to find a pair, evidently mated, seems to call for a better explanation. That they were still here on April 7, seems to point to the conclusion that they might have remained to nest.

Taverner in his 'Birds of Western Canada,' 1926, states that the Mountain Bluebird is extending its range and is found quite commonly as far east as central Manitoba.

The birds are on display in the museum of the State Teachers' College at St. Cloud, Minnesota.—NESTOR M. HIEMENZ, RICHARD D. VOTH, GEORGE W. FRIEDRICH, *State Teachers' College, St. Cloud, Minn.*

**The Correct Name of the Spotted Flycatcher.**—Since the rediscovery of the 'Adumbratiuncula' of Vroeg's Catalogue, 1764, Pallas's name *Motacilla striata*, proposed on page 3 of that work, has been in use for the Spotted Flycatcher. The combination *Muscicapa striata* (Pallas) Richmond, 1905,<sup>1</sup> however, is rendered invalid by the much earlier *Muscicapa striata* Forster, 1772,<sup>2</sup> which refers to the Black-poll Warbler. On this account the Spotted Flycatcher must again be known as *Muscicapa griseola* Linnaeus, 1766,<sup>3</sup> which is the first available name. I am indebted to Mr. James L. Peters for advice on the nomenclatural point involved.—PIERCE BRODKORB, *Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

**The Occurrence of Sprague's Pipit in Michigan.**—On June 21, 1935, while driving northeast from Lovells, Michigan, Louis W. Campbell, Bernard R. Campbell, and Milton B. Trautman noted a striking bird song which they could not recognize. In spite of a steady drizzle of rain they spent two hours trying to get a glimpse of the singing bird but were unsuccessful. On June 25 Trautman and Josselyn Van Tyne returned to the spot to continue the search.

On reaching the place we immediately heard the bird singing and, the weather being clear, we soon saw the bird singing high in the air. Two and a half hours of vain pursuit were ended by approaching darkness. Returning at five-thirty the next morning we continued our efforts to collect the bird and six hours later finally succeeded. It proved to be an adult male Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spraguei*) in breeding condition. It is now No. 84587 in the bird collection of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology.

On the three days it was observed the bird occupied a territory about a quarter of a mile square of barren "jack pine plain," sparsely covered with coarse grasses, sweet fern, and a few small pine and oak saplings. The territory adjoined the east side of the Lovells-Lewiston road, a mile and a half northeast of Lovells in Crawford County.

A remarkable characteristic of this bird was the persistence with which it sang. Some fifty song flights were noted during the three days it was observed. The shortest of these flights lasted about seven minutes and the longest was over thirty minutes in duration. The song was repeated at very regular intervals, averaging about six complete songs per minute. The greatest number of songs counted in one flight was one hundred fifty-eight. The best description we have seen of the flight song of Sprague's Pipit is that by W. J. Breckenridge in T. S. Roberts' 'Birds of Minnesota' (vol. 2, pp. 153, 1932). However, contrary to Dr. Roberts' opinion,

<sup>1</sup> Smiths. Misc. Coll., 47, pt. 3, p. 345.

<sup>2</sup> Philos. Trans., 62, art. 29, p. 406.

<sup>3</sup> Syst. Nat., ed. 12, 1, p. 328.