

years which have elapsed since the type series of *cecaumenorum* was collected, and also for the fact that the series is, in part, composed of juveniles (though listed as "adult" in the original description), I believe the differences far too intangible to recognize by name. It is entirely possible that a more adequate series of *cecaumenorum* will make the naming of the Great Basin birds desirable.

In conclusion I wish to thank Dr. Oberholser for critical notes on the type specimens of Baird's *plumbeus* and Ridgway's *santaritae*, both of which are, as one might assume on geographic grounds, definitely olive-gray dorsally.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *San Diego Society of Natural History, San Diego, California.*

**The Ohio House Wren in Maryland.**—On October 27, 1935, I collected an immature female Ohio House Wren (*Troglodytes aëdon baldwini* Oberholser) at Cornfield Harbor, Maryland, near the mouth of the Potomac River. This bird, in full fall plumage, is typical of this recently described race in the distinctly gray tone of both upper and under surfaces. While Dr. Oberholser in his statement of specimens examined<sup>1</sup> included both the District of Columbia and Virginia the present is the first definite record for Maryland, where the race in question should come during migration.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

**Short-billed Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus stellaris*) Nesting in September.**—On September 12, 1935, I located seven young Short-billed Marsh Wrens just out of the nest in the Convis Twp. Calhoun Co. marsh fifteen miles east of Battle Creek, Michigan. The young were unable to fly and five of them were easily captured. One of these was kept for a specimen and weighed 7.5 grams.—LAWRENCE H. WALK-INSHAW, *Battle Creek, Michigan.*

**Breeding Behavior of Bluebirds.**—On the morning of March 27, 1935, I first noticed that a pair of Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia s. sialis*) were paying marked attention to a last year's Downy Woodpecker hole located in a willow tree back of my home in Middleton, Mass. For several days thereafter I observed the pair either in the vicinity of the tree or on the tree itself. It was apparent to me that this was their chosen nesting site. I gave these birds but passing notice, however, as it was a common occurrence for a pair to nest in the vicinity, although usually they had selected a bird house especially provided in a neighboring tree. In fact, it was not until April 8, when I saw the female having difficulty in trying to alight on a nearby telephone wire, that my interest was aroused in their behavior. Securing my binoculars, I readily determined the right leg of the female to be crippled in such a fashion as to give the bird no control over it whatsoever. The tarsus and toes, while of normal appearance, seemed stiff and lifeless and were held in a forward position. The slight breeze that happened to be blowing at the time was of sufficient velocity to continually upset the bird's balance by swaying the wire. The creature continually fluttered its wings in an attempt to right itself.

In spite of this severe handicap, I noted, during the days that followed, that the female Bluebird participated in the usual preliminary nesting routine. It was able to force itself through the small Woodpecker hole, even to bring in such nesting materials as dead grass blades and feathers. Once, while peering out from its nesting hole, the male passed it bits of nesting material. On another occasion I noticed the pair copulating.

Early on the cold, rainy morning of April 13 the harmonious relationship of the

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<sup>1</sup> Ohio Journ. Sci., vol. XXXIV, March, 1934, pp. 90-93.