

as was formerly supposed. However, with the exception of Dr. Schorger's observations at Lake Owen, all present breeding records are confined to the lake-shore counties.—O. J. GROMME, *Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

**West Indian orioles of the genus *Icterus*.**—In his recent revision of the *Icteri-dae* ('Cat. Birds of the Americas,' vol. 10), Dr. Hellmayr has arranged the West Indian orioles under five species: *Icterus dominicensis* of Hispaniola, with races in Cuba and Puerto Rico; *I. laudabilis* of St. Lucia, with a race on Montserrat; *I. leucopteryx* of Jamaica, with races on Grand Cayman and St. Andrew's islands. *I. northropi* of the Bahamas is considered conspecific with *I. mesomelas* of Central America, while *I. bonana* of Martinique is placed next to the Orchard Oriole (*I. spurius*). With the exception of *I. leucopteryx*, a very distinct species, I consider this grouping most misleading. In the first place, the nearest relative of *I. laudabilis* is undoubtedly the erythristic *I. bonana*, which bears no close relationship to *I. spurius*. Secondly, *I. northropi* has, in all probability, been derived directly from Cuba, as is the case with most of the Bahaman land birds. Those who wish to use the 'formenkreis' should treat West Indian orioles as two species, *I. leucopteryx* and *I. bonana*. This at least would be a more natural arrangement!—JAMES BOND, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*

**The Western Meadowlark in Ohio.**—The Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) was unknown in Ohio until 1930, save for one accidental straggler, a male, collected by S. Hall, near Lakewood (Cleveland), Ohio, on April 8, 1880. This is now in the collection of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California (J. Stevenson, Auk, 48: 431, 1931).

A second specimen for Ohio was taken by the writer on May 22, 1937, along Swan Creek, three and a half miles west of Maumee, Lucas County, Ohio. This bird, a male, sang freely, and, when flushed, repeatedly returned to a favorite singing perch on a roadside telephone pole. No female was observed. This specimen is now No. 7507 in the Ohio State Museum collection. Through correspondence with Louis W. Campbell, of Toledo, it was later learned that a male (presumably the same one collected by me) had been seen on four occasions during May 1937. It was observed (while in full song) one mile east of Holland, Lucas County, on May 8, 1937, by Mr. and Mrs. Bernard R. Campbell, and on May 9, 1937, by Bernard R. Campbell and Louis W. Campbell. A week later it had moved its territory three miles to the southwest (near the place where collected). It was seen at the new locality by Bernard R. Campbell on May 15, and by Louis W. Campbell on May 21.

One sight record of the Western Meadowlark in Ohio has been published: a singing bird observed on March 17, 1932, by E. L. Wickliff and Milton B. Trautman in central Grand Rapids Township, Wood County (Auk, 50: 235-236, 1933). I know of no other records except those listed below.

The writer found this species as a rare and local summer resident in Wood, Henry, Fulton, Lucas, and Defiance Counties in 1930 and 1931 and concluded that it was probably a recent invader from the West. Most of the birds were obviously males, singing the typical song of the western species with great gusto and persistence. Three individuals seemed to have no definite territories, but most of the males recorded had well-defined territorial limits. The majority were obviously non-breeding birds (without mates). In two instances, however, males of typical "western" song consorted with females presumed to represent the same species. In one of the latter cases, adults were observed to carry food to nestlings. This seemed to constitute acceptable breeding evidence.

I have the following sight records for Ohio. Wood County: June 21, 1930, one singing bird in northern Liberty Township (this bird and another were later observed carrying food to nestlings); March 15, 1931, one individual singing, three miles west of Bowling Green; and September 6, 1936, a single bird in northern Henry Township. Lucas County: May 17, 1930, one singing bird observed near Swanton by Robert McCormick and the writer. Henry County: June 22, 1930, one singing bird and a silent companion in northeastern Washington Township; and July 28, 1937, a singing bird two miles north of Napoleon. Defiance County: June 28, 1930, a singing bird without a mate in northeastern Adams Township. Fulton County: June 24, 1930, two singing birds near Wauseon; June 26, 1930, one individual (singing) along Ten Mile Creek southwest of Metamora; July 30, 1930, one along Swan Creek northeast of Swanton; and June 21, 1937, one singing bird on territory near Delta. Logan County: June 18, 1937, two miles north of Indian Lake. This bird was without territory, singing within two hours from various stations along two miles of roadside. Muskingum County: on August 8, 1935, north of Roseville, Woodrow Goodpaster and the writer observed a single bird for more than two hours. This individual contrasted strikingly with a dozen Eastern Meadowlarks of the same flock. It seemed to be highly excited, shuttling between the tops of various clumps of willows, while emitting a great variety of call notes and weak attempts at song. Some of the call notes could not be distinguished from those of its companions. This bird remained in the vicinity for at least ten days.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Meadowlark has now been recorded from eight counties of Ohio. Two specimens have been taken. At least twenty-six records (representing about eighteen different individuals) have been made by nine observers. Some were obviously of stragglers or migrants. Most of the records, however, were of summer residents in sandy areas of five northwestern Ohio counties. The majority were non-breeding individuals, but evidence that some bred has been obtained. It is probably accurate to consider this bird as a recent invader from the West. Even in northwestern Ohio, the Western Meadowlark is still so rare that a good observer will average less than one record in a thousand miles of field work by automobile travel.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*

**Second record of Brewer's Blackbird in Alabama.**—Since Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) was first recorded in Alabama, near Foley, on March 23, 1936 (*Auk*, 53: 452, 1936), apparently no one has again noted it in the State. It is therefore of interest to record a flock of approximately a hundred of these birds feeding about cows in a pasture ten miles south of Montgomery, on November 30, 1937. In an adjoining cornfield there was a large concentration of other blackbirds but, as characteristic of the Brewer's Blackbird in the Southeast, the birds showed no inclination to associate with their near relatives, and during the brief time they were watched, they remained consistently apart. Both sexes were present in practically equal numbers, and the birds were feeding in small scattered groups rather than in a compact flock. Two, a male and a female, were collected to verify their occurrence in Alabama on this date, and are now in the Biological Survey collection in Washington.—THOMAS D. BURLEIGH, *U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey, Gulfport, Mississippi.*

**Red-wing parasitized by the Cowbird.**—On July 1, 1937, I came across an abandoned nest of the Red-wing (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) of usual type in cat-tails some ten feet from the shore of a small lake (Nancy Lake) about thirty miles north of Toronto; the nest contained two eggs of the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) and none of the Red-wing. The shore at this spot was covered by a swampy growth of alders.