

and to Dr. Harry C. Oberholser for advice in connection with the determination of the specimens.—JOHN W. ALDRICH, *The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, Ohio.*

Hybrid *Vermivora* in the Chicago region.—In 'The Auk' for July, 1938, the writer published a note on the Brewster's Warbler (*Vermivora leucobronchialis*) in the Chicago region, giving details of the discovery of the breeding of this hybrid in that area. The present note summarizes the more satisfactory and extensive observations made during the following breeding season (June 14, 17, and 18, 1938) in the same area, Deerfield Township, Lake County, Illinois (in that note, the locality was erroneously designated as in Cook County). The area within which these observations were made covered approximately ten acres.

On June 14, 1938, the recorded number and distribution of Blue-winged Warblers (*Vermivora pinus*) indicated that there were at least three nesting pairs. One nest of a pair of Blue-winged Warblers containing six young (five to six days old) was found on the ground beneath a small blackberry shrub in a semi-open grassy woodland. A male Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) in full song was located in the same general territory occupied by this species the previous summer (see earlier note, referred to above). On June 18, the writer with Mr. Sydney Stein, Jr., of Chicago, located a brood of at least three young warblers just out of the nest attended by a female Blue-winged Warbler and the male Golden-winged Warbler, mentioned above. As well as could be ascertained, these young conformed to the juvenal plumage of the Blue-winged Warbler, indicating that the mating was probably one of pure *pinus* with impure *chrysoptera*. That there were additional young in the brood was probable as the female, making the round and feeding the young, was noted to remain away for more or less definitely spaced periods between her visits to the three young which we were able to keep under our eyes. The male Golden-wing accompanied the female most of the time but was never seen to feed the young. In the observers' presence, the male Golden-winged Warbler feigned injury by fluttering its wings and, at the same time, bending forward and raising its tail. Mr. Stein was fortunate in seeing the male apparently attempt to lead the young from the observer's presence by perching next to one of the young, then fluttering the wings and moving along the branch causing the young bird to move, and repeating the performance with a second youngster.

Soon after, a Brewster's Warbler, very likely a female, was discovered attending a brood of at least two young, one of which appeared to be a juvenal Blue-winged Warbler and the other, decidedly grayer, a juvenal Brewster's Warbler. The plumage of this adult Brewster's Warbler was typical, the wing-bars being yellow and the white under parts having a more or less restricted yellow breast-patch. Another Brewster's Warbler, a male observed in full song, had clear white under parts and the yellow wing-patch of *chrysoptera*. Its song was identical with that of one of the Blue-winged Warblers occupying a neighboring territory and also with that described in the above-mentioned note.—FRANK A. PITELKA, *Lyons, Illinois.*

Flight song of the Blue-winged Warbler.—On June 17 and 18, 1938, the writer observed and recorded the flight song of the Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*). Subsequent perusal of the numerous references containing notes on calls and songs and particularly those of Mr. A. A. Saunders revealed no mention of a flight song in this species. Correspondence with Mr. Saunders indicated that though the flight song of the Blue-winged Warbler had been observed in the past, there was no definite record, and in spite of its being a more or less rare phenomenon, the observation was worthy of publication.

These observations were made in a semi-open woodland-thicket tract bordering the Desplaines River, Deerfield Township, Lake County, Illinois, where the Blue-winged Warbler is a locally abundant summer resident. Though the flight song was observed on both of the above dates, unfortunately no record of frequency was made and the writer can only state that it was given at least several times. Essentially, the flight song was not different from the regular song, which could be interpreted as *zee-zee-zee-zee-zwee'* (rather than the usual inhale-exhale song) with the first four notes often increased to six and the last note decidedly ascending. The quality of the Blue-winged Warbler's notes, amply described elsewhere, need not be detailed any further. The observed flight song can be presented as follows:

tsee-
zee'
zee'
tzip-
zee-zee-zee-zee-zee-zee-
zee-zee-zee-zee-zee-zee-
zee'

This pattern, though based on a single continuous performance, obviously consists of two renditions of the song, and on another occasion but the first part of this pattern was given, ending with the first *zee'*. The notes, though high-pitched, insect-like, and rapidly repeated, particularly the *zee's*, were clear and syllabic, and the song as patterned above took no more than four seconds. The song accompanied normal, direct flight from the higher parts of trees and tall shrubs across more or less open areas.—FRANK A. PITELKA, *Lyons, Illinois*.

A very late Blackburnian Warbler.—On November 5, 1938, while watching a chickadee trying to extract sunflower seeds from some old heads on partially withered plants in the garden of my residence a few miles west of Niagara Falls, Ontario, I was astonished at the sudden appearance of a male Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) in the low willows, almost at my elbow. The warbler, which appeared to be travelling in company with two chickadees, was remarkably fearless and afforded many opportunities for close observation. It was in and out of the garden repeatedly during the afternoon, and at dusk appeared to settle down for the night in a rather large weeping-willow tree which was still, at this late date, almost in full leaf. The following day, November 6, the warbler and the chickadees were again much in evidence in the garden, and once more at dusk the warbler was seen to haunt the big willow tree. After the week-end, I was not in the garden for several days, but in view of the fact that the Blackburnian Warbler again frequented the garden on November 11, its sudden appearances almost invariably heralded by one or both of the chickadees, it is probable that it had been in the immediate vicinity throughout the intervening period. An examination of the row of low willow trees which appeared to be so attractive to this particular warbler, revealed the presence of numbers of active aphids and innumerable newly laid aphid eggs, and it is probable that these insects and their eggs provided the major incentive for the repeated and prolonged visits of this very late migrant. The writer knows of no other record of Blackburnian Warblers lingering until so late in the autumn in this part of Ontario, and in this connection it is interesting to note that the latest fall-migration dates given by Chapman ('Warblers of North America,' p. 177, 1907) for any of the northern States is five or six weeks earlier than that now recorded from southern Ontario.—R. W. SHEPPARD, *1805 Mouland Ave., Niagara Falls, Ontario*.

Dickcissel in Worcester, Massachusetts.—Considerable local interest was aroused by the occurrence of a male Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*), October 23–29, 1938, at the feeding station of Mrs. Harry T. Gray, 6 Windemere Road, Worcester.