

dropped into an extensive clump of beach reeds about two hundred feet back from the shoreline, where I was unable to locate it.

Knowing of no similar observations, I endeavored to determine whether any reliable reports of this nature were available. I have found none involving land-birds, although Mr. Roger Tory Peterson has written me of an observation made by him which might be placed in the same category. He writes, "On one occasion I saw a Spotted Sandpiper rise from the surface of the water. This bird had, oddly enough, a collision with another sandpiper going in the opposite direction, believe it or not! It dropped below the surface of the water, rose up, rested for a moment and then flew."—VINCENT EVERETT SHAININ, *Columbia University, New York City*.

Bullock's Oriole in Thibodaux, Louisiana.—On February 1, 1939, I observed a strange female oriole in a garden in the town of Thibodaux, Louisiana. On February 5, it was found dead. The bird was a female Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullocki*) the first of its species to be recorded for Louisiana. Identification was made by Professor George G. Williams of Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, and confirmed by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey, Washington, D. C. The specimen is now in the Louisiana Department of Conservation Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana.—AVA R. TABOR, *Thibodaux, Louisiana*.

Hosts of the Cowbirds.—A few of the records of the parasitic cowbirds in the oölogical collection of the A. M. N. H. represent additions to the scrupulous lists of known hosts published by Dr. Herbert Friedmann in his monograph, 'The Cowbirds' (1929), and in supplementary articles in the periodical literature. The new or unusual hosts are:

Mimus l. longicaudatus.—A nest of this mockingbird found near Lima, Peru, on February 6, 1913, contained two eggs of *Molothrus bonariensis occidentalis* and two of the host. This is an addition to the several species of mockingbirds known to be parasitized by the Shiny Cowbird. The specimens were collected by Mr. R. H. Beck, who at that time was leading the Brewster-Sanford Expedition.

COOPER'S TANAGER, *Piranga rubra cooperi.*—A set of this species taken near Tucson, Arizona, on July 3, 1922, contains two eggs of the Bronzed Cowbird (*Tangavius aeneus aeneus*). This is the second such record for Cooper's Tanager, and the first within the United States. These eggs, now in the P. B. Philipp collection at the A. M. N. H., were collected by Mr. H. H. Kimball.

TEXAS SPARROW, *Arremonops r. rufivirgatus.*—Two eggs of the Red-eyed Cowbird, *Tangavius aeneus involucratus* from the George B. Sennett collection are accompanied by data indicating that they were taken in a nest of this sparrow. The eggs of the host, unfortunately, are not with them, although they may have been sent in separately as there is a set of similar data in the collection. J. B. Bourbois collected these eggs in 1879 at his Lomita Ranch near Hidalgo, Texas. This seems to be the only evidence that the Texas Sparrow is sometimes a victim of the Red-eyed Cowbird.—DEAN AMADON, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City*.

Alabama Towhee in northeastern Florida.—Early in the spring of 1938, from March 11 to 28, large numbers of migrating towhees were seen near the mouth of the St. Johns River, in the vicinity of Mayport, Duvall County, Florida. A specimen taken by the writer on March 12 proved to be an adult male White-eyed Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus alleni*), the common breeding variety of eastern Florida. A second specimen, however, collected on March 18, was found to be an adult male Alabama Towhee (*P. e. canaster*), normally found in the western part of the State

and, so far as known, unreported in migration from the Atlantic coastal region. Both specimens were examined and identified by Dr. H. C. Oberholser and are now in the collection of the Biological Survey.—JOHN C. JONES, *Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Winter roosting habits of Slate-colored Juncos.—In the afternoon of March 19, 1937, I set a number of traps for shrews about the *Taxus* thickets in the woods a few miles east of Ithaca, New York. There was some snow on the ground, but much had melted during the day, leaving bare patches in the woods beneath the hemlocks and leafless hardwoods. During the evening the traps were visited in expectation of securing live shrews. While none was secured, my efforts were not wholly without reward. When examining one trap about 9 p. m., I observed five juncos, *Junco hyemalis hyemalis*, roosting on the ground at the base of a *Taxus* thicket. The birds did not take immediate alarm, but allowed me several moments for close inspection at a distance of several feet. They had chosen the site with care, for the chamber was well protected from rain, snow and wind. I had not previously seen juncos in this rather dense wood stand, although neighboring open fields usually supported a few birds. Perhaps where such shelter is available, this species commonly resorts to the *Taxus* thickets with the approach of nightfall.

That they are not immune from the attacks of small predators even in such situations is attested by finding the feathers of small birds in the stomachs of deer mice (*Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis*) in the same habitat. While the feathers were not recognized as those of a junco, it seems probable that the small ground-roosting species must be susceptible to the attacks of these ubiquitous rodents and the larger shrews.—W. J. HAMILTON, JR., *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.*

Harris's Sparrow in central western Illinois.—In checking over old records, from Adams County, Illinois, I find one report of a Harris's Sparrow, *Zonotrichia querula*, previous to 1910. The migration course of this bird formerly was considerably west of Quincy.

I reported a stray occurrence in 1913, another in 1923; and in the spring of 1936, H. L. Angus captured a mature male in one of his bird-banding traps. This seemed to be the forerunner of a very decided drift which for two years has been increasing in intensity each spring and fall.

In the spring of 1939, I banded twelve Harris's Sparrows and saw no fewer than twenty-five or thirty additional birds which remained in the woods of my Nature preserve for a period of two weeks. Russell Davis of Clayton, Illinois, twenty-eight miles east of Quincy, has been capturing Harris's Sparrows regularly for the past eight years. These birds enter traps readily and feed upon fine-chopped corn, hemp and millet. The advent of this species has been a welcome addition to the lists of bird lovers in this locality.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois.*

Correction.—Through misunderstanding, the final paragraph of my note on 'Two new breeding birds for the United States' (Auk, 57: 117, 1940) was omitted. This is: "I am indebted to Dr. H. C. Oberholser of the Bureau of Biological Survey and to A. J. van Rossem of the Dickey collections, California Institute of Technology, for the loan of specimens for comparison; to George H. Lowery, Jr., for a copy of his recent paper on the *Cassidix mexicanus* group; and to Ludlow Griscom of the Museum of Comparative Zoology for the measurements of the 1905 kingbird." It was this assistance which made possible a critical determination of the specimens secured.—ALLAN R. PHILLIPS, *University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.*