

and are familiar with its behavior.—SALLY F. AND J. SOUTHGATE Y. HOYT, *Stark General Hospital, Medical Detachment, U. S. Army, Charleston, South Carolina.*

Phainopepla in Texas.—In a recent article on the Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens lepida* Van Tyne) Crouch (Auk, 60: 324, 1943) states that "little can be said for the Phainopepla in Texas." His map (p. 320) indicates only two locality records—El Paso and Eagle Pass.

Seemingly the author overlooked Van Tyne and Sutton's record (The birds of Brewster County, Texas; Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool., Univ. Mich., no. 37: 78-79, 1937) of three specimens of *lepida* from Brewster County. In the Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collections is a young female of *lepida*, taken August 18, 1940, seven miles north of Pine Springs, Culberson County, at 6,900 feet elevation. This locality is at the eastern base of the Guadalupe Mountains about six miles south of the Texas-New Mexico line. Subspecific determination of this specimen was checked by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. Measurements are: wing, 87 mm.; tail, 86.—W. B. DAVIS, *Department of Fish and Game, College Station, Texas.*

Some new records for the Virgin Islands, U. S. A.—LOUISIANA HERON, *Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis*.—An adult male was collected on September 21, 1941, on Krause Lagoon, St. Croix. On May 22, 1943, another adult bird was observed on its feeding grounds, among other species of herons, in Morning Star Swamp.

PUERTO RICO FLYCATCHER, *Myiarchus stolidus antillarum*.—During the course of a recent wildlife reconnaissance on St. Thomas, a discovery was made of a small colony of tyrant flycatchers that had found a last retreat in an extensive ravine leading back about one mile from the seacoast to the southward. I was attempting to force a trail up Bivoni Valley by following the ravine and ran into the greatest difficulty when I reached the steep ascent where the thorn shrubbery of the plains merged with a heavy stand of tall second-growth trees, and an attempt to survey the steeper slopes was frustrated when it was proven impossible to negotiate the impenetrable undergrowth. However, I stumbled onto a small clearing and found my attention centered on a flycatcher perched high up. The unfamiliar call-note and the dark dorsal coloration of the bird caught my attention and I realized that I was scrutinizing this *Myiarchus* for the first time beyond the fringes of Puerto Rico. From my position I could hear about fifteen birds calling. I was not bearing a gun at the time but several days later, on June 10, 1943, I was fortunate in collecting a specimen at the same place. Subsequently I learned to distinguish the plaintive note of this flycatcher above the din of *Elaenia* songs and made an effort to detect the call of *Myiarchus* elsewhere on the island. Several weeks later two birds were heard calling from a wooded slope adjoining the old site of the C. C. C. Camp. The locality is on the north slope of the opposing ridge with a grassland valley intervening, some two miles in expanse. In the light of my findings it would appear that the breeding habits of this *Myiarchus* are not flexible enough to permit the bird to overcome difficulties in the changing environment, and the species is faced with extermination through the increasing difficulty of finding holes in trees sufficiently large for their nests as these small islands become more widely denuded of their older forest growth. The known range of this flycatcher includes Puerto Rico, Vieques, Culebra, and St. Thomas.—HARRY A. BEATTY, *United States Department of Interior, Wildlife Restoration, Christiansted, St. Croix, V. I.*

Lesser Snow and Blue Geese on Southampton Island.—Eskimos report finding, in 1942, a considerable colony of Lesser Snow Geese (*Chen hyperborea hyperborea*)

and Blue Geese (*Chen caerulescens*) nesting at the head of Bear Cove, lat. 63° 35', long. 84° 15' on Southampton Island. This colony was not previously known to the Eskimos and it seems probable that it is of recent establishment. In 1936 there was a marked decrease in the number of geese nesting at the Bay of God's Mercy colony compared with 1934 (cf. Manning, T. H., Blue and Lesser Snow Geese of Southampton and Baffin Islands; *Auk*, 52: 158, 1942). The Bear Cove colony may have been established between these two years or it may have been the result of the exceptionally late season at the Bay of God's Mercy in the latter year. According to my informant, the proportion of Blue to Snow Geese in this new colony was similar to that at the Bay of God's Mercy.—T. H. MANNING, *Montreal, Canada*.

Connecticut notes.—White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus griseus*). Flight-song; May 29, 1943, Groton, Conn. The bird fluttered up some fifteen feet from the bushes where it had been feeding and, on alighting, immediately resumed its ordinary routine. The performance was not repeated during the ten or fifteen minutes I was able to keep the bird under observation. The song was reminiscent, in tonal quality, of the usual resounding voice of this species but the notes were more softly and sweetly uttered. The range was considerable and the really delightful song seemed to me to be a jumble of ecstatic notes rather than to follow a distinct pattern.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni lincolni*). Unusually early appearance; March 14, 1943, New London, Conn. Two males in full song. Because of the date (the earliest prior date I can find is more than a month later), I give rather full details. Time, mid-afternoon; very strong sunlight; temperature, 54° F.; calm. Place, vacant lot in outskirts of New London. The lot is large and much overgrown with high bushes and weeds. While not far from houses, access to open country without passing close to any is easy. Song Sparrows always winter in this neighborhood and several were singing. Mrs. Stoddard, a professional musician, called my attention to a bird song she had never heard. I failed to recognize it, but perhaps this is understandable as it is five years since I have heard this song. While much shyer than the Song Sparrows with which they were in company, the birds were surprisingly indifferent to my presence and sang several times when only a few feet away, the nearest within three paces. I have seen similar, though not quite so extreme, behavior in New Brunswick. I find this occurrence of peculiar interest because in this region, in recent years, the number of wintering birds has increased and, even more markedly, the number of visitants from the south and west. The date and behavior of these birds strongly suggest that they were winterers.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia melodia*). Partial albino; May 18, 1943, Waterford, Conn. Head, neck, throat, under part of body dull white except for an almost invisible gray stripe through the eye and two stripes, equally faint, on each flank. Breast-spot pale gray but distinct. The white of the flanks ran upward onto the back. Back light brown, bright in color and without spots or stripes. Wings and tail light gray-brown. Bill rather pale slate. Feet and legs very bright pink. Iris dark brown. The bird was active and apparently in good health but made no sound while under observation.—E. V. STODDARD, *Waterford, Connecticut*.

Meadowlark ranges.—The Fourth Edition of the A. O. U. Check-List (1931, p. 302) is vague as to the eastward limit of the range of the Western Meadowlark. Minnesota is not mentioned, but that state is occupied by this form, "breeding