

Sage Thrasher in southeastern Texas.—On October 17, 1945, while I was driving a car at Cove, Chambers County, Texas, I saw a dark bird with a white tail-band fly from one bush to another beside the road. I stopped the car and got out, and saw, about fifteen feet from me, a very small and light-backed thrasher with a shorter tail than a Brown Thrasher's. Presently the bird flew past me and alighted on a fence about fifty feet away. The white on its tail showed plainly. I walked up to within fifteen feet of it once more, whereupon it flew away to a distance of about fifty feet, where I again observed it carefully. Its back was lighter and duller than a Brown Thrasher's, and its wing bars less distinct. There could be no doubt that it was a Sage Thrasher. Dr. Harry C. Oberholser states that, except for five individuals seen in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, on January 2, 1926, the bird I saw supplies the easternmost record of the species.—A. K. MCKAY, *Cove, Texas.*

Jaçana taken at sea.—I received from my son William, who is in the Merchant Marine, a nice skin of a Jaçana (*Jacana spinosa*). The exhausted bird landed on his ship on August 11, 1945, off the coast of Dutch Guiana, latitude 6° 40' N. and longitude 55° 46' W., 42 miles from the nearest land. The weather was not abnormal at the time. Since this species is not known to migrate, its occurrence at sea must be considered accidental.—A. W. SCHORGER, *168 N. Prospect Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.*

The Florida Blue Jay at Sarasota, Florida.—This subspecies (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*) was common at Sarasota, Sarasota County, Florida, during the late winter seasons of 1943 and 1944. Two were closely observed on our bedroom window feeding shelf February 9, 1943, and two to four came there regularly until mid-April; then one appeared on February 1 and two were recorded March 22, 1944. My later notes read: "Daily now." None came to feed in 1945. This bird was seen regularly at three to six feet. It appeared larger, brighter blue, and lighter colored below than Semple's Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata semplei*), the supposed resident subspecies in this locality. In life the latter is darker grayish blue above and the sides of breast a trifle deeper smoky shade. This does not agree exactly with the book description which perhaps was made from dead birds or dried skins.

The above records seem to extend the known range of *C. cristata* (= "*florincola*") southward, and indicate that the two subspecies spend some of the winter and spring months, at least, in the same habitat. Sarasota is about eighty miles south of Tarpon Springs in a direct line, and Hillsborough and Sarasota counties are separated by Manatee County. The 1931 A. O. U. Check-List gives the range of the Florida Blue Jay as northern Florida and that of *semplei* as the central and southern parts of the state. Mr. Arthur H. Howell, in his work on Florida birds, indicates the separating line of the two subspecies as Hillsborough County west and Osceola County east, or about south of the towns of Tarpon Springs on the Gulf Coast and Melbourne on the Atlantic side, and thence southward to Key West. I notice that he examined specimens of *semplei* from Tarpon Springs.

Perhaps the more northern form observed here was making a migratory movement southward but lingered into the spring on account of finding a bountiful supply of good food. The jays seem to be especially fond of raw cut peanuts. I think it would be difficult to distinguish *cristata* from *semplei* in trees or bushes at an ordinary distance unless the two kinds happened to be near together and in good light. The latter is common here and both forms seem to remain paired during the winter season. At present—December, 1945—two Semple's Blue Jays, presumably a pair, come regularly to feed together. They arrive at the shelf about one hour after daylight,