

although I spent hours in the various locust groves looking for the bird. I am sure I would not have missed it if it were there since I am familiar with the characteristic song. I do not have the faintest notion what happened to the bird between June 18 and June 26. I never saw more than the single singing bird. I wouldn't be surprised if the birds had been nesting in one of the locust trees since there were several accumulations of materials under the slabs of loose bark that could have been old nests of the species. However, I am fairly certain that there was no second brood in this locality. A second brood is normal in this species, as I found in New Brunswick in 1933."

It is considered that the exceedingly late spring on Long Island in 1947 may have accounted for the breeding of these birds at an unaccustomed and southerly station. The last frost in the Smithtown area was on May 9. It is also interesting that these birds chose a nesting site in an exposed and slightly elevated position, surrounded by lawns and scattered ornamental trees (principally Norway spruce) in preference to heavily wooded (deciduous), depressed, swampy ground surrounding the 20 or 30 acres of elevated "parked" land.—DAVID G. NICHOLS, 181 Liberty Ave., Westbury, N. Y.

**Painted Redstart in Massachusetts.**—On October 18, 1947, while casually birding at Marblehead Neck, Massachusetts, Mrs. Heyliger de Windt, of Boston, and Mrs. David H. Searle, of Marblehead, were attracted to a small bird, strikingly marked in black, white, and bright red, that was actively feeding in a tree above them. It was a species entirely new to them, and examination of their eastern bird books on returning home failed to place it. The bird was watched intermittently in the same neighborhood over a five-hour period, and every detail of color and marking was noted. A call to the executive director of the Massachusetts Audubon Society and a further check on the bird by the discoverers and by Herbert Caswell, of the Essex County Ornithological Club, Salem, identified the visitor as a Painted Redstart. The bird was still present in the same area the following day, when it was observed by Ludlow Griscom, of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy at Harvard University, and many parties of bird enthusiasts, including fifty members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society on a regularly scheduled field trip.

In the Audubon party, a graduate student at Harvard, who was equipped with a motion picture camera having a telephoto lens, secured motion pictures in color of this western species as it posed obligingly for minutes between its active feeding and preening periods. The bird was last seen in mid-afternoon of that day.

As far as can be determined by the records, this is the first occurrence of the Painted Redstart in the United States outside of its usual range, which includes Arizona, New Mexico, and the Chisos Mountains of western Texas, except for somewhat recent reports of the species from southern California. How the bird happened to reach New England must remain a mystery, though other western and southwestern species have been reported in increasing numbers in recent years. The possibility of its being an escaped cage bird seems remote, since birds with food habits of the warblers are seldom caged, even by cage-bird enthusiasts living in México and Cuba.—C. RUSSELL MASON, *Massachusetts Audubon Society, Boston, Massachusetts.*

**Bell's Vireo in Connecticut.**—On the morning of May 11, 1947, the undersigned made a field identification of Bell's Vireo in Redding, Connecticut. The day was clear and sunny, with a light wind. A series of observations by all three observers was made over a period of not less than twenty minutes. The bird was seen