

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

from all angles in excellent light and in many postures including that of singing. The observations were made principally from the crest of a shallow gully while the bird was feeding over the stream running through the hollow. At times it was at the eye level of the observers, at times below it, and at other times in tops of small trees which, growing from the bottom of the gully, reached their maximum height slightly above eye level. The bird was occupied mostly in searching for food in the deliberate manner characteristic of vireos and was seen to capture one large green worm about an inch long from the under side of a newly opened leaf. Attention was first attracted to the bird by hearing a part of its song which led the observers to suspect that they had perhaps heard a weak outcry from a Crested Flycatcher. Very shortly thereafter the bird was first observed; the light yellow Flanks were particularly prominent as it turned in the sun. The upper parts may be described as olive green, shading towards brownish gray on the head and showing two light-colored wing-bars. Under parts and breast were washed with yellow but not as bright in tone as the flanks. Throat grayish white; eye dark. Under certain light conditions a light line through the eye was perceptible but not clearly defined. The iris was so dark as to appear black.

Towards the close of the observation the bird perched on an exposed twig and uttered a brief explosive song, the first syllables of which were barely audible, although the throat could be seen to vibrate. Following the half-audible opening notes, the song broke into a whistle not unlike the sound made by a toy steam engine when for a brief moment the valve is opened. The song then died away in a few weak sputterings. At the conclusion of the performance the bird flew farther downstream and the observers felt that no further gain was to be anticipated by following it.—REUBEN J. ROSS, FRANCIS A. YOUNG, AND JOHN A. YOUNG, *Willon, Connecticut*.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in the Chicago area.—On May 3, 1947, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) was identified by Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Campbell and Mrs. Amy G. Baldwin at Wolf Lake, Indiana, about a quarter of a mile from the Illinois state line. This bird was watched for half an hour, frequently at distances of not more than 25 and 30 feet. While it was feeding on flies, over a cinder fill adjacent to the lake, ample opportunity was afforded to observe the long tail as well as the pink sides and under lining of the wings, when the wings were being folded. This flycatcher was present next day and was seen by seven other members of the Chicago Ornithological Society, including the writer. A heavy gale had been blowing from the south on May 3 and may have assisted this bird in its wanderings north and east of its normal range. This appears to be the third record for the Chicago area. One was seen at La Grange, Cook County, Ill., April 22, 1902 (Craigmile) and the other was seen in Lincoln Park, Chicago, on May 20, 1933 (Dreuth).—KARL E. BARTEL, 2528 W. Collins St., *Blue Island, Illinois*.

The names of the Chilean parrots.—In the central part of Chile there are three recognized species of parrots. These three species were first described and named by Molina in 1782 (4).

At the present time all three of Molina's names for these birds have been discarded by ornithologists. The inaccuracy of the descriptions is the principal reason for their not being retained. The late Dr. Charles E. Hellmayr in his book 'The birds of Chile' (3), in speaking of *Microsittace ferruginea minor* Chapman (*Psittacus jaguilma* of Molina), says (note, page 258): "The diagnosis, '*macrurus viridis, remigibus apice fuscis, orbitis fulvis*,' is too indefinite to permit of final conclusion, and the name is better dropped as undeterminable."