

his attempt to escape from the greenhouse. The bird was sent to Stanley G. Jewett of Portland, Oregon, who verified my identification.

The Black-chinned Hummingbird is included on the Oregon bird list on the basis of only two female specimens—this being the first male taken in the state.—BERTON M. BAILEY, *Enterprise, Oregon*.

The Race of Kingfisher, *Alcedo a. pallasii*, Occurring in the Crimea and Ukraine, South Russia.—Peters (Check-list Birds of World, 5: 172, 1945) places *Alcedo atthis suschkini* Pusanov (Bull. Soc. Nat. Moscou, Sect. Biol., 42: 15, 1933), from Crimea and Ukrainia, as a synonym of *Alcedo atthis atthis* (Linné), ('Systema Naturae,' ed. 10, 1: 109, 1758) from Egypt.

I have recently examined in the collection of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) examples from the Crimea. I find that Crimean Kingfishers differ from Mediterranean *A. a. atthis* and western continental *A. a. ispida* Linné by their paler ventral surfaces and smaller proportions, and particularly in the shorter bill. On comparison with material from the Caspian Basin and Persia (*A. a. pallasii* Reichenbach), the Crimean specimens were found to correspond in all essential details, and I consider Pusanov's race *A. a. suschkini* to be a synonym of *Alcedo atthis pallasii* Reichenbach, (Handb. spec. Orn., 1851: 3) from Siberia, which must now be listed as ranging considerably farther to the west than hitherto recorded, that is to the Crimea and Ukraine.—P. A. CLANCEY, 9, *Craig Road, Cathcart, Glasgow, S. 4, Scotland*.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, *Muscivora forficata*, Feeding at Night.—In front of a hotel in Dublin, Erath County, Texas, during the evening of August 1, 1949, I noticed what I took to be a large bat fluttering around a streetlight. Further observation showed the creature to be an adult Scissor-tail. The bird perched on a nearby elm or on the electric wires, from which it made sallies to capture large insects. It appeared to be catching grasshoppers or katydids and often flew against the globe protecting the light in its pursuit of prey. I watched the performance from 9:15 to 10:00 p. m.

On August 2, I left Dublin but returned the following day. On the evenings of August 3 and 4, the Scissor-tail was busily catching insects until at least as late as 11:00 p. m.

The streetlight was of a large bulb-type, giving a blue-white light resembling that of a fluorescent tube.—PHILIP F. ALLAN, *Soil Conservation Service, Fort Worth, Texas*.

First Occurrence of Vermilion Flycatcher, *Pyrocephalus rubinus*, in Canada.—On Saturday, October 29, 1949, the writer and his wife, Dorothy, observed a Vermilion Flycatcher at the north end of Grenadier Pond in the northwest corner of High Park, Toronto. Many local observers saw the bird on October 30 and 31, and on November 1 it was collected by C. E. Hope for the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology (No. 76565).

On dissection, it was found that the bird had a broken left femur which had completely healed. This defect did not seem to affect the bird's activity and it was flying well, associating with a mixed flock of migrating Bluebirds and Juncos. It showed no evidence of recent captivity and was fat and in good condition. Although its skull was completely granulated, it was an immature male, with vermilion feathers covering most of its underparts and a large part of its crown, and with a white throat.

This appears to be not only the first record of this species in Canada, but the first to be reported to the north of its usual northern limits in Utah, New Mexico, and Texas.