

Recent Record of Bachman's Warbler, *Vermivora bachmanii*, from Gulf Coast of Mississippi.—During the course of a survey of eastern equine encephalomyelitis at Ship Island, approximately 16 miles offshore near Biloxi, Mississippi, the necessity for the collection of a sample of the bird life occupying the forested part of the island became apparent. On the morning of February 28, 1949, the writer was proceeding along one of the peculiar, tree-covered, low sand ridges which are a typical feature of the terrain of the eastern part of the island. A number of warblers were feeding in the upper level of the scrubby, gnarled live-oaks which occupy the backbone of this ridge. An obscurely marked and unfamiliar warbler attracted attention; the bird was quite wary and refused to allow close approach. After some difficulty, this individual was collected. It was suspected at this time that the bird was a Bachman's Warbler. A skin of this female was prepared by William W. Griffin. Dr. Friedmann of the United States National Museum has examined the skin and identified it as *Vermivora bachmanii*. As a routine investigative procedure, a thin-film blood smear was made from the bird at the time of collection. This smear, upon subsequent microscopic examination, failed to reveal the presence of blood parasites.

The record here reported is unusual in that this species, considered to be fairly common in restricted localities around 1900, has since so declined in numbers that Peterson ('Birds Over America,' Dodd, Mead & Co., 1948: 182) considers it, in recent years, to have "faded like a ghost." The last reported specimen known by the author was taken in 1941 on nearby Deer Island by Thomas D. Burleigh ('The Bird Life of the Gulf Coast Region of Mississippi,' Occ. Papers Mus. Zool., La. State Univ., No. 20: 440, 1944).—GEORGE W. SCIPLE, 100 Terrace Drive N. E., Atlanta 5, Georgia.

Winter Record of a Cape May Warbler, *Dendroica tigrina*, at Pimisi Bay, Ontario.—On November 23, 1949, a Cape May Warbler in fall plumage appeared at my feeding station. A full description of the bird together with a drawing was sent to Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne, Dr. Harrison F. Lewis, Mrs. Doris Huestis Speirs, and Mr. James L. Baillie, all of whom confirmed my identification. The bird remained in the locality four days when it was apparently killed by a Northern Shrike, *Lanius borealis*. During this time the weather was unusually cold, the lowest temperature registered was 9° below zero Fahrenheit, and there were 10 inches of snow on the ground. The bird was in excellent condition upon arrival and appeared surprisingly little affected by the cold; it travelled with a flock of Black-capped Chickadees, *Parus atricapillus*. Pimisi Bay is located about 20 miles north of the 46th north latitude. Two other winter records of this species are mentioned by Dr. Frank M. Chapman ('Handbook Birds Eastern North America,' D. Appleton-Century Co., New York, 1940: 457)—in the Bronx region, December 16, about 500 miles south of Pimisi Bay, and one seen by E. T. Keane and H. M. Halliday at Weston, Ontario, December 3, 1943, about 250 miles to the south.—LOUISE DE KIRILINE LAWRENCE, Rutherglen, Ontario.

The Name "Prairie Warbler."—This name has been objected to as not descriptive of the habitat of the bird, but not enough allowance has been made for diversity in meaning of the word prairie. Wilson who christened the bird says, "I first discovered it in that singular tract . . . in Kentucky, commonly called the Barrens" (Amer. Orn., 3: 87, 1811).

Such areas are characterized by a scrubby growth, particularly of oaks, and in fact usually are called "oak barrens." They may have been termed prairies also in Wilson's time for that word has other applications than the present dominating one