

overlooked on account of its secretive habits and association with other sparrows, or the species may have invaded this area in recent years and now occurs regularly in small numbers wherever suitable winter habitat is found. That the species is a regular winter resident along the middle Rio Grande is confirmed by observations on December 6 and 9, 1949, on the Bosque del Apache Wildlife Refuge. These records suggest that the Western Swamp Sparrow is a regular winter visitor in small numbers along the 35-mile course of the Rio Grande between Lemitar and San Marcial.

With this discovery, New Mexico becomes the last one of the southwestern States to report the occurrence of the Western Swamp Sparrow within its borders.—RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Antonio, New Mexico.*

An Early Reference to "Territory."—As a footnote to Mrs. Nice's "The Theory of Territorialism and Its Development" (Fifty Years' Progress of American Ornithology 1883-1933, 1933: 89-100), it might be suggested that Frederic H. Kennard deserves mention in the historical background of territorialism by virtue of his paper, "The Habits and Individualities of the Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) in the Vicinity of Brookline, Mass.," (*Auk*, 11: 197-210, 1894). While he did not anticipate modern concepts of the theory, Kennard did use the word *territory* several times to indicate that particular, limited area in which a pair of hawks confines itself for hunting and breeding. Kennard remarked: "Thus it is that each pair of these birds seems to hunt over its own area exclusively, and by a tacit understanding, never seems to trespass upon that of its neighbor." Again, he says: "Once laying claim to any territory they are exclusive to a degree. This exclusiveness, however, seems to apply to their own species merely, for other Hawks are allowed to hunt in their territory at will." Kennard's use of the word *territory* may be coincidental; it is, nevertheless, suggestive.—AARON M. BAGG, *Holyoke, Mass.*

Autumnal Trans-Gulf Migrants and a New Record for the Yucatan Peninsula.—In connection with the recent discussions of migrations across the Gulf of Mexico, the following autumnal records should prove of interest.

An American friend has kindly sent me specimens of a young male *Parula americana pusilla* and a female *Wilsonia canadensis* which he collected on August 30, 1949, while on a fishing boat about 30 kilometers off the village of Santa Clara, on the northern coast of Yucatan.

Both birds were exhausted and landed on the boat. The Parula Warbler was caught by hand and the Canada Warbler in a net.

In addition to the birds collected, he reported that there was at least one group of three warblers and another group of eight or nine which passed over about 100 feet above the water. As closely as he could ascertain without a compass, the birds were coming from due north while a brisk northeasterly breeze somewhat aided their flight.

The Parula Warbler is a common winter visitor on the Peninsula, but the Canada Warbler has never been reported from there. While Canada Warblers are not unexpected, they must be rather uncommon. Perhaps they are only transients on the Peninsula in the fall since, during extensive field work from October, 1948, to August, 1949, I failed to observe this bird in either the state of Yucatan or in the territory of Quintana Roo. During the spring migration I took particular care to collect northern migrants.

At noon on September 3, 1949, the observer was again out in a boat and saw a flock of about 50 Caprimulgidae, presumably nighthawks, flying towards Santa Clara.

Several days later he collected a number of swallows which were flying over the beach at the village. I have not yet received these specimens but he was able to identify positively a Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*, and from his description I believe he obtained several Cliff Swallows, *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*.—RAYMOND A. PAYNTER, JR., *Osborn Zoological Laboratory, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut*.

NOTES AND NEWS

The Recent Literature section of 'The Auk' is an important component of our journal as a working tool for research in ornithology and in keeping the entire membership informed of progress in this field. It was the general consensus of opinion at the Council Meeting in Minneapolis that the section needs to be strengthened by better coverage of world literature and by an increased number of annotations and critical reviews of important studies in books and journals. Later perhaps the material will be classified by fields of interest. These suggestions will be followed as rapidly as possible.

Also of significance in our attempts to improve 'The Auk' is the appointment of an Illustrations Committee, now in progress. This committee will aid the Editor in the selection and preparation of material for graphs, maps, photographs, and colored plates. It is still expected that authors will prepare illustrations with the greatest of care, but they, as well as the Editor, will have the benefit of suggestions from the committee when papers are submitted.

In the future all advertisements will be limited to the back part of 'The Auk.' Anyone wishing a new frontispiece for the October, 1950, number, *without* the advertisement on the back of it, may secure a copy simply by writing to Dr. R. A. Moser, our Treasurer.

The Japanese journal of ornithology 'Tori' has honored Dr. Nagamichi Kuroda by issuing volume 12 (59), published in December, 1949, as a Commemoration Number. Dr. Kuroda has played an important rôle in Asiatic ornithology.