

On January 31, 1950, Mr. J. R. Hendrickson, who was a student guest on board Mr. J. W. Sefton's research ship *ORCA*, collected a number of *Oceanodroma* petrels from rock crevices on the hillsides of Melpomene Cove, situated on the southern end of Guadalupe Island, Baja California, Mexico.

Among the lot was a very small petrel, *Oceanodroma tethys tethys*, which Mr. Sefton set aside to be presented to the San Diego Society of Natural History, of which, at the time, he was President.

The bird was in a refrigerated condition when delivered to the writer, a week or more later, for preparation. It was found to be a male with testes about three millimeters in length and thus not in breeding condition. It is now No. 29900 in the collection of the San Diego Society of Natural History.

Mr. Sefton stated that the petrel had been taken from a crevice by Mr. Hendrickson where it was found in the close company of a young *Oceanodroma leucorhoa socorroensis*, which was also brought in the flesh to the writer. The body of this juvenile petrel was still well clothed in natal down, but the wing and tail feathers were about half-grown, with the wing coverts and feathers of the white rump patch out of the quills and almost clear of down. It was over twice the bulk of the tiny *Oceanodroma tethys*.

Another, as yet unrecorded, specimen of *Oceanodroma tethys tethys* (No. 18014, San Diego Society of Natural History) was presented to the Society several years ago by Mr. J. R. Pemberton. This bird was collected by Mr. Pemberton, March 21, 1938, at Roca Partida, a dangerous barren rock in the Revilla Gigedo Islands, lying between 18° 20' and 19° 20' N. and 110° 45' and 114° 50' W. This locality is not as near Baja California as is the locality recorded by Mr. Moffitt but adds another northern locality of capture for this tiny petrel.

These two petrels were submitted to Dr. Alexander Wetmore for critical identification and his reply was as follows:

"*Oceanodroma tethys tethys*. The specimen from Guadalupe Island is a little small and so is on the borderline between the typical race and *kelsalli*. I think, however, that it should be determined as I have marked it. I may note that there is considerable variation in form of bill in these birds. Your specimen from Roca Partida is also small but comes within the lower limit of measurement of the typical race."

The writer wishes to express his thanks to Dr. Wetmore and Mr. Sefton for their parts in establishing this important record.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California*.

Captive Whooper Swans, *Cygnus cygnus*, Kill Other Waterfowl.—On May 27, 1950, I saw a Whooper Swan, kill a Mallard duckling, *Anas platyrhynchos*. Two Whooper Swans, six Canada Geese, and three adult Mallards were eating bits of bread thrown into the water. Another adult female Mallard with four ducklings about one week old swam up and joined the feeding. As the group passed near one of the swans, the swan grasped a duckling and thrust it under water for a few seconds. When released, the duckling popped to the surface and swam rapidly around in circles as though confused. The swan grasped it again and thrust it under water briefly as before. This time when released, the duckling floated to the surface, belly-up and without movement. The adult Mallard paid no attention to the proceedings.

Within 30 seconds, I retrieved the duckling. Its heart had stopped. There were no external injuries but blood dripped from its mandibles. From this blood and the abruptness of the death, I concluded that death had resulted from the pinch rather than from drowning.

The waterfowl at this rural location (Oak Openings Park, 20 miles west of Toledo, Ohio) are pinioned but not fenced in or restrained in any other way. Earlier in the season Canada Geese, Snow Geese, and other Mallards had nested around the pond or on the numerous islands in it. The swans had not attempted to nest here.

I related this incident to Arthur E. Staebler at the Kellogg Bird Sanctuary, near Battle Creek, Michigan, where the swans were obtained. He said that he attributed to Whooper Swans the deaths of at least five young Canada Geese (up to the size of adult Mallards) and one adult Canada Goose the same spring. He did not have an opportunity to observe the details, but the method seemed to be the same as described here.—HAROLD MAYFIELD, 2557 Portsmouth Ave., Toledo 13, Ohio.

First Flight of Trumpeter Swans, *Cygnus buccinator*.—During the morning of June 16, 1951, the last of three Trumpeter Swan cygnets was hatched from a clutch of five eggs on a small pond near Jackson Lake, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, at an elevation of approximately 6,750 feet. On October 4, and occasionally thereafter until October 14, the young were checked for ability to fly. On October 14 one cygnet was able to take off and circle the pond with its parents for approximately three minutes before it disappeared from view. Another of the cygnets was able to reach a height of about 20 feet and to circle the pond once; the third was unable to arise from the water. Using October 14 as a fair date for first flight of this family of cygnets, 120 days elapsed from hatching to first flight. On October 16 the whole family left the pond for the season.

The pond was frozen November 2. With development of approximately four months in this case, it is significant that some of the swans of the region, reared on shallow ponds at much higher altitudes (up to 7,800 ft.) and consequent shorter periods of open water if thermal areas are not involved, may not reach the flight stage.—JAMES R. SIMON, Jackson Hole Wildlife Park, Moran, Wyoming.

Introduction of the Domestic Pigeon.—Recently there has been an epidemic of trichomoniasis (canker), caused by *Trichomonas gallinae*, among the Mourning Doves, *Zenaidura macroura*, in the southeastern states. The outbreak has prompted the suggestion that the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon, *Ectopistes migratorius*, was due to the acquirement of this disease from the Domestic Pigeon, *Columba livia*, or other birds (Stabler and Herman, Trans. 16th N. Amer. Wildl. Conf., 1951: 159). Disease, particularly "canker," has been frequently suggested as the cause of the disappearance of the Passenger Pigeon, but there is no record of the finding of pigeons that had died of disease. Contrary to the general belief, the Domestic Pigeon was introduced by the earliest colonists. "Canker" is an old disease among Domestic Pigeons and was mentioned by Moore ('Columbarium,' 1735: 16). In fact the Passenger Pigeon had an opportunity to acquire trichomoniasis, or any of the other diseases to which the Domestic Pigeon is heir, over a period of three centuries.

The first introduction of the Domestic Pigeon appears to have been by the French. Lescarbot ('History of New France,' 3:226, 232, 1914) wrote of Port Royal, Nova Scotia, in 1606, that the only domestic animals were hens and pigeons, and added: "There are such a quantity of them [eagles] in those parts that often they ate our pigeons, and we had to keep a sharp look-out for them." A plate in Champlain's 'Works' (2: plate IV, op. p. 39, 1925) shows the *Colombier* of his "habitation" built at Quebec in 1608. The 'Jesuit Relations' (28: 145, 1948; and 30: 153, 1898) of 1646 and 1647 mention gifts from the Governor of Canada of eight young pigeons (*pigeonneaux*) and six pigeons (*pigeons*). Boucher ('Histoire veritable du Canada,' 1664: 73) says: "Les oyseaux que l'on apporté de France, sont Poules, Poules-d'Indes,