

by Naphthalene Yellow. In Ridgway's system, both these shades have the same color value; Naphthalene Yellow has, however, 32 per cent neutral gray, whereas Martius Yellow is "pure." In shadow the bird might be described as cream or ivory. The concealed bases of the feathers (slate-gray in normal birds) are pure white. The chin and throat (whitish to pure white in normals) are white, with an almost imperceptible trace of yellow at some of the tips. The back shows very faintly as a negative of the normal pattern, being more white where the normal is more black—crown, tail feathers, primaries, alula. The buff wing bands of the normal bird are very faintly traced in slightly deeper yellow. Feather shafts (blackish brown in normal) are white. In life, the eye-color (red-brown) of the albino was indistinguishable from that of its normal fellow-captive. Bill and feet, however, were pale pinkish in contrast with the normal bird's brownish black.

On August 1, 1954, I had taken a normal-plumaged bird (estimated to be 13 days old) from a nest near Ann Arbor. This bird was raised with the albino until September 22, on which date a study skin (U.M.M.Z. No. 135,858) was prepared. This bird, a male, weighed 14.5 grams; the skull was not completely ossified.

Both birds had become independent in obtaining food when about 26 to 27 days old (August 3 and August 13, respectively, for the albino and the normal-plumaged bird). They would, however, take food held in forceps when flying insects were not provided in adequate numbers. Until August 17, the two birds usually perched side by side during the day and invariably did so at night. During my absence from Ann Arbor, August 19 to 27, the two birds were caged at the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, where Dr. J. Van Tyne made further observations. It was during this period that the normal bird began to exhibit dominant behavior over the albino. When the birds were released on the breezeway again (August 28), the normal bird had precedence in selecting perches, was first to fly to the re-filled food dish, frequently took food away from the albino (earlier, August 16 and 17, the albino attempted to take food from the normal bird and sometimes succeeded), and spent much time chasing her. On several occasions, the albino was observed to crouch and slightly spread her wings while perched below the normal bird. The birds no longer perched together at night.

It is impossible to say how much of the difference in behavior was to be attributed to sexual differences and how much to the albinism of the female.—ANDREW J. BERGER, *Department of Anatomy, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor.*

***Streptoprocne semicollaris* in the lowlands of Sinaloa and Nayarit.**—We saw this little-known swift on at least two occasions in flocks observed over the coastal lowlands of Sinaloa and Nayarit in early May.

The first time that we saw a flock of large swifts in Sinaloa, May 8, 1954, we were on the highway 20 miles north of Mazatlán. This widely scattered flock contained about 10 individuals, some of which were tentatively identified as *semicollaris*.

Several individuals were positively identified as this species in a flock of about 20 birds observed on May 11, 1954, as they moved erratically near the highway 44 miles south of Mazatlán. There was no indication that the flock included any other species.

On May 13, 1954, a loose flock of 20 to 30 swifts, apparently all *semicollaris*, flew generally southward over our camp near the highway six miles south of Acajoneta, Nayarit (and 103 miles south of Mazatlán). A few moments later Hilton secured one of the swifts as it flew over a field a half mile south of camp

The bird was a female *semicollaris* with an ovary four millimeters long, and it had a small amount of fat. Feather arrangement and colors of the soft parts were recorded in a partial field sketch by Hilton. The specimen, a first record for the state of Nayarit, is now in the collection of Dr. George M. Sutton at the University of Oklahoma.

Possibly the three different observations may have involved only one loose flock, if we can assume such a flock to have been moving slowly and steadily southward over the Pacific coastal plain.

We could not detect any well-marked differences between the behavior of this species and that of *Streptoprocne zonaris*.—ERNEST P. EDWARDS, *Box 611, Amherst, Virginia*, and FREDERICK K. HILTON, *Division of Vertebrate Ecology, The Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland*.

**The Scientific Name of the Florida Prairie Warbler.**—In the January, 1930, *Auk* (published January 2) Arthur H. Howell described (p. 41) the very well-marked geographical form of Prairie Warbler which inhabits Florida, naming it *Dendroica discolor paludicola*. However, shortly after that, ornithologists discovered that there was another name, *collinsi*, proposed by Harold H. Bailey in a privately published leaflet, "The Bailey Museum of Natural History Bulletin No. 3." At the close of "Bulletin 3" appear the figures "11-16-1926," and ornithologists hastily assumed that this demonstrated the public distribution of the pamphlet on or about November 16, 1926. Perhaps the 1926 date represents the date of completion of the manuscript—a matter which has no bearing on nomenclature. A careful investigation by Dr. Walter Koelz and myself disclosed no evidence that any copy of Bulletin 3 was received by any institution or individual ornithologist earlier than February 10, 1930; most dates of receipt were in March, April, or May, 1930. I wrote to Mr. Bailey for assistance and from his reply I judge that he does not make any claim for the priority of the name he proposed.

Therefore I conclude that the Florida Prairie Warbler must be known as *Dendroica discolor paludicola*.—JOSSELYN VAN TYNE, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor*.

**First Revisor of the Eastern Sapsuckers.**—"Now why cannot we allow the type locality to stand at the rather indefinite statement 'Carolina' just as he [Catesby] left it and follow the first revisor of the species as to whether the Catesbian bird represents the northern or southern race? Why make a positively definite statement which the evidence does not warrant and which overturns the good work of our predecessors?" Thus wrote Witmer Stone in 1929 (*Auk*, 46: 453).

What prompts this reiteration of Stone's good advice is Ganier's renaming the southern Appalachian Sapsucker (Migrant, 25: 40, 1954). Ganier points out that Oberholser in 1938 used *S. v. varius* Linnaeus (ex Catesby) for this bird and *S. v. atrothorax* Lesson for the more northern bird.

On debatable technicalities, and quoting an earlier part of Stone's paper mentioned above as though supporting his views, but ignoring Stone's considered opinion, Ganier overthrows the first revisor, Oberholser, who unearthed an earlier name, and coins a new name!

Threshing the old straw of nomenclatural discussions, where opinion rather than fact must rule, the first revisor's principle offers stability of a sort. Oberholser's first revision, which can be defended on every point, should stand for purposes of nomenclature, if not for those of taxonomy.—A. L. RAND, *Chicago Natural History Museum*.