

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*.