

and one used to explain occurrences of western juncos in the east. Thus a representative of *altivagans* could have become geographically dislocated earlier in the year and survived until October. Second, the specimen, taken in mid-October which is a migratory period for the species, could have been an autumn wanderer from the normal breeding range of the race *altivagans* in west-central Alberta. According to our present knowledge of the limits of the breeding range of the form, the Winnipeg region is approximately 900 miles distant. Third, perhaps the most important observation is that the specimen concerned conforms in its color tone and size characters with the Alberta race and when compared with a good sample of specimens of the eastern race originating from the geographic interior of the continent, it does not match any specimen, falling beyond the range of individual variation of that race on the dark end of a graded series. In the opinion of the writer, the specimen represents the first occurrence in Manitoba of *altivagans*.

The foregoing remarks are written in the light of the excellent discussion by Rand (Auk, 65, 1948:416-432) and the timely caution of Blake (Auk, 66, 1949:212-213) on identification of vagrant members of geographic races.—L. L. SNYDER, *Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, June 21, 1949.*

The Starling Reaches the Pacific.—On December 15, 1948, Wesley Batterson brought me a female Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) taken that day from a muskrat trap on Nestucca Bay, Tillamook County, Oregon. This specimen is now preserved in my collection. Mr. Batterson also reports that four other Starlings were seen at the same place in a mixed flock of Red-winged and Brewer blackbirds. The Starling has recently been reported from various localities in western Oregon and Washington, but so far as I know, this is the first record of its occurrence in the immediate vicinity of the ocean; it seems then to have reached the limits of its westward expansion in the United States.—ALEX. WALKER, *Tillamook, Oregon, March 15, 1949.*

Further Records of the Starling in Oregon.—Since the writer prepared a specimen of a starling collected in Union County, Oregon (Condor, 48, 1946:94) he has had no positive records of the further occurrence of the species there until February, 1949, when a second specimen was obtained from the hayloft of a barn about eight miles north of La Grande. During the same winter, presumably in December, 1948, a single starling was collected at Enterprise, Wallowa County, by Ted Loughlin, district agent for the Oregon Game Commission. This bird was examined by the writer.

At Malheur Lake Wildlife Refuge five starlings were shot on December 21, 1948, by Dr. R. C. Erickson, refuge biologist. These additional records for eastern Oregon merely augment records from neighboring states of the Great Basin area and indicate the trend of starling settlement.—CHARLES W. QUAINANCE, *Eastern Oregon College, La Grande, Oregon, June 5, 1949.*

Range Extension of Ash-throated Flycatcher.—On June 8, 1948, the writer saw two Ash-throated Flycatchers (*Myiarchus cinerascens*), apparently migrants, near the McKenzie River ten miles east of Eugene, Lane County, Oregon. These were followed on June 10 by one individual (seen also by Hal Pruitt) and again on May 18, 1949, by a single bird of the species, all using the same route, and feeding and moving slowly northeastward.

Gabrielson and Jewett (Birds of Oregon, 1940:393) list this flycatcher as a not common summer resident of eastern Oregon and of the Umpqua and Rogue River valleys west of the Cascades. The records here reported extend the range for migrants in western Oregon north over one mountain range, the Calapooyas, and down the Willamette Valley to the McKenzie, a total distance of about 75 miles.—BEN H. PRUITT, *Springfield, Oregon, June 13, 1949.*

Black-chinned Hummingbird in Tarrant County, Texas.—On the afternoon of April 5, 1947, in the Botanic Garden in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, I observed a Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*). This bird, a male, was seen perched for several seconds about 8 feet from me. I called it to the attention of my wife, who noted, as I did, the blackness of the upper throat contrasting sharply with the white of the breast. Upon leaving its perch the hummingbird flew to a honeysuckle (*Lonicera fragrantissima*) nearby where it remained in sight for a short time under good conditions for observation. Long familiarity with the Ruby-throated Hum-

mingbird, the only common species of this locality, leads me to be confident of my identification of the bird.

Sutton (The Breeding Birds of Tarrant County, Texas, Ann. Carnegie Mus., 27, 1938:171-206) questions the occurrence of the Black-chinned Hummingbird reported by Ramon Graham (Nesting Dates of Texas Birds, Oologist, 33, 1916:81-82) as a breeding bird of the county. It has been reported elsewhere as far east as Tarrant County, so there seems to be no reason to doubt the likelihood of the bird's presence here.—PHILIP F. ALLAN, *Soil Conservation Service, Fort Worth, Texas, April 13, 1949.*

Catching Petrels by Flashlight.—On September 6, 1929, I drove with Mr. C. Irvin Clay eight miles north of Crescent City, California, to catch a glimpse of some rocky islets where a few years before he had collected sea birds. We stopped on a grassy plot near the seashore; but the fog had come in and we could see nothing, not even the ocean a few feet below us. The night was quite calm, and presently we became conscious of some light specks passing back and forth above us irregularly, like swallows feeding in the day time. Although we had little hope of being able to discover what they were, we suspected they were petrels. Clay turned his powerful flashlight toward the sky in an attempt to focus on one of these light spots. Suddenly it left its orbit and plunged to the ground at our feet. We found it was one of the small white-rumped petrels, probably *Oceanodroma leucorhoa beali*, the form recorded as frequenting this part of the California coast.

Soon we caught another which had followed down the beam of light and struck the ground near us. After a short trip back to Crescent City to refill the exhausted flashlight, we returned to our petrels and found they were still coursing. We collected two more and stayed on until 10:30 p.m. when most of the birds disappeared. Later I noticed that birds always escaped when the light struck them from behind but when the light hit them full in the face they fell as if shot, hitting my body with considerable force and staying on the ground until picked up. These birds were evidently feeding on night-flying insects, and in striking the ground they vomited the amber colored fluid so characteristic of petrels. Their flight was slow and fluttering.

One of the birds taken (now in Chicago Mus. Nat. Hist.) had white spots on the back of the head, ear-coverts, and chin and a broad white bar across the lower abdomen. As I could find no petrel of this description, I decided it was merely albinistic.—LOUIS B. BISHOP, *Pasadena, California, May 2, 1949.*

A Guerrero Whip-poor-will Impaled by an Insect.—On January 15, 1949, while collecting on some great rocks at the foot of a cliff near the Chiapa River, Chiapas, México, I found a Guerrero Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus ridgwayi*) which seemed very awkward. When touched with a long twig, it made no effort to fly. The bird was captured alive by hand and taken to the museum where it was examined. I then discovered in its mouth the head of a dobson fly (*Corydalis cornuta*) with one of the long mandibles and one antenna.

Later, when the bird was being prepared as a study skin, I was much surprised to find the other mandible of the insect thrust through the oesophagus, trachea and skin of the neck; it had further penetrated through the skin of the chest where it was fixed firmly in the breast muscles. All around this place the muscles were full of coagulated blood; the long mandible was as hard as when fresh. The stomach of the bird was empty.

Undoubtedly the bird was to die, but whether the insect bit upon being swallowed or the mandible was pushed through by the bird's movements, it was impossible to determine.—MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Museo de Historia Natural, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, México, March 20, 1949.*

Ground Dove and Black-chinned Sparrow in Southern Nevada.—A single Ground Dove (*Columbigallina passerina*) was observed with Mourning Doves at Corn Creek Ranch, Desert Game Range, Clark County, Nevada, on June 27 and again on June 29, 1945, by Fred Wagner of Texas, A. V. S. Pulling, and the writer. The small size, rufous-red flash of the wings and short black tail served to identify the bird to all three observers who were familiar with the species and who saw it at close range. This seems to be the first record of this species for Nevada.

The Black-chinned Sparrow (*Spizella atrogularis*) was observed in company with House Finches drinking at Cabin Springs in the northern Sheep Mountains of southern Lincoln County during the