Oreortyx, Callipepla, Lophortyx, and *Colinus,* as well as four comparable elements of the extinct *Colinus hibbardi. Cyrtonyx* has a proportionately much stockier shaft in relation to the trochleae than has the fossil. In *Callipepla* and *Oreortyx,* the small foramen leading distad from the antero-distal margin of the distal foramen has a different appearance than in *Lophortyx, Colinus,* and the fossil. In *Callipepla* and *Oreortyx,* the small foramen does not appear to open directly into the distal foramen, as in the other quail named, but opens on a small lip or shelf which separates the two foramina. I have encountered great difficulty in finding definitive characters to separate the distal portion of the tarsometarsus of *Lophortyx* from that of *Colinus.* In discussing *Colinus hibbardi* (cited above), Wetmore says (p. 97) "*Lophortyx* differs [from *Colinus*] in the more angular development of the posterior side of the middle trochlea." This seems to me to be only an average difference, being quite unreliable in the identification of a majority of individual bones.

Confronted, therefore, with my own inability to separate *Lophortyx* from *Colinus* on the basis of the tarsometarsus, I have been unsuccessful in allocating the fossil to either genus, or in finding definitive characters by which a new genus might be named. Upon direct comparison, the fossil appears to be smaller than the comparable elements of *Colinus* (*virginianus*) and *Lophortyx* (*gambelii* and *californica*) and to have the distal foramen somewhat farther from the external intertrochlear notch. However, eight measurements taken of the fossil and of a series of modern *Colinus* and *Lophortyx* show that although the fossil is definitely smaller in all dimensions than the averages of the modern specimens, in each measurement some overlap occurs. The width of the intact middle trochlea of the fossil is 2.2 mm.; the depth 2.9 mm. The breadth of the shaft of the fossil at the proximal end of the distal foramen is 4.2 mm.

If the Oligocene quail here discussed were represented by more diagnostic skeletal elements than the tarsometarsus, it would doubtless prove to be a new species, and perhaps a new genus. However, until such elements are discovered, the only course seems to be to put this ancient odontophorine on record, to point out that the bone preserved most closely resembles the corresponding element of *Colinus* and *Lophortyx,* but to leave it unnamed.

I am indebted to Mr. Galbreath for the privilege of examining this fossil, and to Josselyn Van Tyne and Robert W. Storer, of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, for the loan of comparative material.—HARRISON B. TORDOFF, *University of Kansas Museum of Natural History, Lawrence, Kansas, December 18, 1950.*

Least Tern in Southeastern New Mexico.—A study of the bird life in southeastern New Mexico during the summer of 1950 included several trips to the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge, near Roswell, Chaves County. On June 21, a single Least Tern (*Sterna albifrons*) was observed flying over the water. Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*) were present at the refuge, usually 3 to 5 in number, and farther south along the Pecos River near Artesia, but this was the only occasion on which the Least Tern was observed. This observation is mentioned since Bailey (Birds of New Mexico, 1928) does not report the Least Tern, nor have I been able to locate any reference to its occurrence within the state in the available literature. Its presence in eastern New Mexico is not surprising in view of the fact that Nice (The Birds of Oklahoma, 1931) records it as a summer resident in Cimarron County, Oklahoma, and Stevenson (Condor, 44, 1942:111) reported it as a rare migrant in the Texas Panhandle. I have no doubt that more records of this tern will be forthcoming as more water becomes impounded at the refuge or as more ornithologists visit the area. Since no specimen was collected, it should be pointed out that I am very familiar with the two species of tern in all their plumages and that the observation was made under favorable conditions with glasses. I am indebted to the authorities of the New Mexico Military Institute at Roswell, in particular to Major James H. Sikes, who made possible my stay in that region.—HENRI C. SEIBERT, *Department of Zoology, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, January 15, 1951.*

The Clark Nutcracker in San Diego County, California.—On February 5, 1951, a dead Clark Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) was discovered by Bayard H. Brattstrom, hanging by its bill on an incense cedar, *Libocedrus decurrens,* at 6100 feet elevation on South Cuyamaca Peak, San Diego County, California. The bird was found with its bill imbedded one and one-half inches between the cracks in the bark of the tree. One-half inch of the hole was made by the impression of the bill

itself. The bird was located about five feet above the ground on the east side of the tree which had been partly burned in a recent (August, 1950) fire. When skinned by Laurence M. Huey, no damage was found other than freezing. The bird had probably been dead for several days. It is the opinion of the writers that the bird was not "placed" in the tree as might be suspected. No tracks of any humans were seen in the snow about the area.

The Clark Nutcracker has been recorded from the Laguna Mountains, San Diego County, in 1877 by Willett (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 7, 1912:69) and in 1920 by Fortiner (Condor, 22, 1920:190).

The specimen is now in the Ornithological Collection of the San Diego Society of Natural History.—BAYARD H. BRATTSTROM *and* JAMES R. SAMS, *San Diego Society of Natural History, San Diego, California, February 15, 1951.*

Pleistocene Duck Bones from Ohio.—Bones of an anatine duck from Pleistocene lake beds at Lockland, Hamilton County, Ohio, were recently sent me by Donald Baird, Curator of the University of Cincinnati Museum. Explaining the occurrence, Mr. Baird stated that the bones "were found in sediments deposited in water ponded against the face of the Wisconsin ice sheet."

The specimens, paired humeri and coracoids, and fragments of furcula and sternum, apparently all belonged to one individual. The species represented can, without doubt, be assigned to the genus *Anas*. The coracoids agree favorably with specimens of *Anas acuta*. The humeri, however, are heavier. Although shorter than available specimens of *Anas platyrhynchos*, they are relatively as broad, and, across the shaft, they are even broader than in that species.

Variations are so numerous within the ducks, and the species of *Anas* generally so similar that the naming of a new species on the basis of the proportions of these humeri is considered unwise. It should be noted, however, that among the anatine bones examined from Fossil Lake, Oregon, there were three which, although shorter than Mallard bones, were very stout. Possibly future discoveries will reveal more occurrences of this nature. Therefore, measurements of the Ohio bones are recorded here: Humerus: length, 86.5 mm., breadth of proximal end, 19.8 mm., breadth of distal end, 13.8, breadth of shaft at middle, 7.5 mm. Coracoid: length, 47.0 mm., breadth of furcular facet, 7.1 mm., breadth below furcular facet, 7.8 mm. The bones bear the University of Cincinnati Museum number 25698.—HILDEGARDE HOWARD, *Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, California, January 17, 1951.*

The Painted Redstart at Santa Barbara, California.—On January 12, 1951, Mrs. D. Irma Cooke of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History asked me excitedly to identify a peculiar looking bird that she said was feeding with some juncos outside the Junior Department of the Museum. I went with her and saw foraging on the trunks of the coast live oaks a Painted Redstart (*Setophaga picta*). It was working on the trunks of the trees somewhat like a nuthatch.

I went immediately for a collecting gun but when I returned the bird was gone. Although other members of the Museum Staff and I watched carefully we never saw it again.

Dr. John Davis of Pasadena reports that on January 14, 1951, while walking on the Museum grounds in Santa Barbara, he saw a Painted Redstart foraging in the coast live oaks. This was undoubtedly the same individual; although we redoubled our efforts to find the bird it was never seen again.—EGMONT Z. RETT, *Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, February 2, 1951.*

Autumn Bird Notes from the Charleston Mountains, Nevada.—On October 21 and 22, 1949, the writers visited Kyle Canyon in the Charleston Mountains, Nevada National Forest. Kyle Canyon is about 35 miles northwest of Las Vegas in Clark County, Nevada. We were interested in obtaining fresh fall specimens of certain races of birds described by van Rossem from this range for comparisons with Arizona populations to the east. The summary of van Rossem's work in these mountains (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 24, 1936) permits some interesting comparisons of our records with his, which were mostly made earlier in the fall.

A Yellow-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes auratus borealis*) was collected near the ranger station at the mouth of the canyon on October 21. None was obtained by van Rossem, who cited (p. 27) possible sight records of this form. Our bird was alone; it flew low overhead and alighted on the ground near buildings in the lower yellow pine belt. Other flickers seen were of the *collaris* type.