identification and made up the skin which is now specimen no. 4258 in the collection of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

Dial House is in Mission Canyon near Mission Creek and lies between the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and The Mission. The grounds and the adjacent areas have many trees and shrubs which make a narrow wooded strip in a residence section. The bird evidently was killed by flying into something high on or near the house and was one of three birds similarly found within a period of a few days. The two days preceding had been clear or with high, thin clouds and were average in temperature. They were unusual in having strong west and southwest winds varying from 13 to 30 miles per hour from about noon until late in the evening.

Prior to this the westernmost records of occurrence of this warbler were from Arizona. Peet (Condor, 50, 1948:134) records one specimen taken in that state in 1884 and one in 1924.—MARIANNE HILLMAN and MARY M. ERICKSON, *University of California, Santa Barbara, California, August 14, 1953.*

Courtship Activities of the Inca Dove.—On March 6, 1951, at Terminal, elevation 6700 feet, in northern Zacatecas, México, I had an opportunity to observe courtship activities of a pair of Inca Doves (*Scardafella inca*) on the ground. The bird presumed to be the male circled the female, dipping its head, spreading its tail, and extending its wings on a "V" over the body, thus showing the chestnut of the wings to full advantage. These activities differ considerably from those described as courtship by Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 162, 1932:444) based on Frank Stephens' statement (1885): "I saw a little group on the ground, the males strutting around the females, carrying their tails nearly vertical and cooing."—FRED G. EVENDEN, *Sacramento, California, August 28, 1953.*

Mountain-top Visits by Birds at Aspen, Colorado, in Winter and Early Spring.—Some observations recently made at Aspen, Pitkin County, in west-central Colorado, indicate that several passerine species are prone to move upslope and to forage on mountain tops in winter and early spring. Certain movements appear to be daily excursions which carry the birds many hundreds of feet above their roosting areas. Because mountain summits are, in large part, struck by the sun's rays earlier and later in the day than are the relatively narrow, intervening valleys, such as are characteristic of this region, the effective time for feeding by birds would surely seem to be longer at the higher altitudes. Lack (Proc. 10th Internat. Ornith. Congress, 1951:440) states and documents the fact that passerines "retire to roost later with respect to sunset in midwinter than in autumn, indicating that when days are shortest, the birds need to collect food up to the last possible moment." Thus, it seems reasonable to theorize that some birds, especially those with strong powers of flight, might well take advantage of mountain tops on sunny days for feeding purposes and might utilize the very early morning and late afternoon hours as well as other times of the day. Inasmuch as a mountain-top invasion at sunrise was once noted by one of us (Gardner), we have been led strongly to suspect that not only the presence of ample forage on the summit but also the matter of feeding time was, indeed, an important factor influencing such a movement. Pertinent details that suggest the likelihood of upslope invasions of this type are as follows:

Gardner, who lived on the side of Red Mountain, northeast of Aspen, in the winter of 1952–53, was first visited by Hebard from January 30 to February 2, 1953; during this period, only one Steller Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*), American Magpies (*Pica pica*), and one fringillid, of uncertain identity, were noted. Gardner had seen very little else at his feeder since mid-December. By contrast, we found on Richmond Hill, at an elevation of 11,300 feet, on February 2, a different situation. The snow-covered top of this mountain supported Engelmann spruce and limber pine, with Douglas fir up to 10,500 feet. Between 10:30 and 11 a.m., Canada Jays (*Perisoreus canadensis*), Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrula*), Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*), Red and White-winged crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra* and *L. leucoptera*), and a Brown-capped Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte australis*) were observed, all or nearly all coming from the west slope. On the way up or down the ski-tow, we noted chickadees (probably Mountain Chickadees, *Parus gambeli*), Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*), and juncos (probably Gray-headed Juncos, *Junco caniceps*). On February 5 Gardner found a Cassin Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*) on top of Richmond Hill, but it did not appear at his feeder at 8300 feet until March 26.

It was March 10 before there was an increase in individuals and kinds of birds at Gardner's feeder. By March 25, when Hebard revisited the area, the density and variety of birds had increased in the valleys not far below and was greater, in fact, than it was on the summit of Richmond Hill, on

March 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. However, it should be pointed out that some of the valleys and adjacent slopes other than the ones we saw doubtless had considerable numbers and kinds of birds all winter, at least at certain times of day, and these uninvestigated valleys, as well as higher slopes, presumably yielded most of the passerines that made visits to the mountain tops.

The most spectacular upslope invasion was observed by Gardner on April 5, on the summit of Richmond Hill, which he reached before sunrise. The birds came with the first rays of sunlight. Red and White-winged crossbills were predominant, and Pine Siskins ranked next in abundance. At about 7 a.m. Pine Grosbeaks appeared. A half hour later a flock of Gray-headed Juncos came in, spread over the summit and remained until Gardner left at 10 a.m. Canada Jays, which had been common on this summit at midday on several previous occasions, appeared about 9 a.m. So far as could be determined, the entire group came up the east slope (from Difficult Creek Valley) rather than the west slope as they had on previous occasions. Spruce seeds were the main source of food. The crossbills, Pine Siskins, and Pine Grosbeaks left about 9 a.m. and did not return, at least not within the following hour.

More extensive observations and study will be necessary if we are to establish with certainty the fact that such "vertical movements" tend to be daily in nature and are governed by the feeding-time factor more than by any other. In late winter and early spring some migratory, northward and upward movements might be under way and might complicate the picture. The passerines making up the bulk of the flocks that we saw are, moreover, well known for their irruptions and their generally irregular manner of occurrence. Hence we wish merely to say that feeding time or effective daylength was *possibly* of importance in eliciting such upslope movements. The same factor might also be influential with regard to birds that wander, in middle or late summer, higher than their nesting habitat in the Rocky Mountains, as noted by Packard (Auk, 63, 1946:152-158) and many others.—FREDERICK V. HEBARD, *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,* and ALFRED W. GARDNER, *Princeton, New Jersey, August 30, 1953.*

A Winter Record for the Swamp Sparrow in the Imperial Valley, California.—On January 31 and February 1, 1953, we were studying birds at a freshwater marsh where a drainage canal entered the Salton Sea west of Niland, Imperial County, California. On the evening of January 31, we heard the unmistakable call of the Swamp Sparrow. Upon searching the area from which the call came, we located the bird and observed it at close range. At this time, we heard another Swamp Sparrow calling a short distance from us. We were not able to secure either one at this time, but the next morning, February 1, we again heard the call note from a tangle of vegetation along the edge of the canal and obtained the bird. The specimen proved to be an adult male Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) and is now number 2059 in the Cardiff Collection.

Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:542) list no records for the Swamp Sparrow in the Imperial Valley. This is the fifth occurrence for the Swamp Sparrow in California.—EUGENE CARDIFF and BRUCE CARDIFF, *Bloomington, California, March 31, 1953.*