The tanager flitted into the air from time to time to capture insects. Its condition, however, was apparently weakened by the sojourn at sea, since it was easily captured by hand. The wren and the sparrow were less easily taken. While the writer was in pursuit of them, a Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus swainsonii*) and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula cineraceus*) appeared. Fortunately, the vireo soon flew by at close range and was captured by hand while in flight. The kinglet was taken in a similar manner.

On top of the deck house, a Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) had alighted. When frightened, it circled the ship repeatedly but returned unnoticed. The dove lacked its upper tail coverts and was easily recognized as the same bird when rediscovered. It did not return from a second flight.

The specimens of the tanager, vireo, kinglet, and wren are deposited at the San Diego Natural History Museum, where the identifications were verified by Mr. Laurence M. Huey.—ANDREAS B. RECHNITZER, *Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, April 10, 1956.*

Footprint of a Bird from the Miocene of Louisiana.—Through Dr. Julia Gardner of the United States Geological Survey there came to me for study a slab of sandstone of Miocene age from near Bentley, Grant Parish, Louisiana, that shows two fossil footprints in bold relief on the surface of the rock. The specimen, which is the property of the finder, Mr. B. N. Eubanks of Dry Prong, Louisiana, was forwarded by him for identification to the Louisiana Geological Survey at Baton Rouge and was sent to Washington for study by Dr. Grover E. Murray, Chairman of the Department of Geology at Louisiana State University. According to information received from Dr. Murray, the tracks come from the Catahoula Formation, which is attributed to the Lower Miocene.

While the two casts are generally similar (see fig. 1) they differ slightly in size. Apparently, they come from two sets of tracks that trend in the same general direction but tend to cross, as the impressions are at a slight angle with one another. Seemingly, the lower footprint is from a left foot and the upper one from the right side, as indicated by the relative lengths of the two lateral toes. The upper track is more heavily formed and is slightly larger. The impressions show three anterior toes clearly, while in the upper one at the rear on the left there is a faint, rounded depression that may be an indication of a hind toe. Separate phalanges are not indicated except for the narrowed points on certain of the toe-prints that represent short claws. Rather broad fusion at the bases of the toes in both tracks indicates the presence of small webs. Since only the two units in two apparently separate trackways are present, there is no indication of the length of the stride. The approximate length of the longest track, including a very faint indication of claw on the distal end of the middle toe, is 97 mm. The dimension across the spread of the lateral toes is 79 mm. The smaller track measures 86 mm. in length and 71 mm. in breadth.

The preservation of tracks in fossil form is intriguing to the mind and attractive to the eye, as well as an interesting puzzle, particularly to persons of hunter training who in their outdoor excursions examine the ground for footprints and other sign as they pass along. In the present instance there seems to be no reasonable doubt that the animal concerned was a bird and not a reptile. The casts are distinctly avian in appearance, and the Miocene locality makes their identification as avian reasonable.

The species apparently was one of considerable weight to judge from the evident depth of the impression made by the foot, and one with strong and heavy, but relatively short, toes armed with rather small claws. After some consideration of foot-form in such large living birds as tinamous, screamers, vultures, fowls, cranes, cariamas and thick-knees, and of various fossil species where the foot is known, it is thought that the proportions of the toes relative to one another, the amount of apparent basal webbing, the heavy form, and the spread of the track suggest a condor-like species. The spread angle of the toes in relation to one another especially agrees with this group. The toes appear heavier and those at either side shorter in relation to the central one than in the cranes, another group that offers some resemblance, and the toes spread too widely for the fowl-like species. The size is that of a medium-sized vulture and the general resemblance of the impressions to the foot of such a bird is striking. Turkey Vulture and Black Vulture tracks usually show an impression of a hind toe, which is less evident in the larger kinds, as is well shown by Olaus Murie in his Field Guide to Animal Tracks (1955:329, fig. 175*a*) in an impression of the track of the California Condor. The fossil imprint is somewhat smaller than the foot of the King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*).

While footprint specimens have had scientific names given to them, particularly where found in

Fig. 1. Fossil footprints from Lower Miocene deposits in central Louisiana.

series in older geologic strata, this does not seem warranted in the present instance since there is no possibility of positive allocation in our system of classification. We have to express thanks, however, to Mr. Eubanks for bringing to attention a highly interesting specimen that appears to be the first representation of any form of bird from the Tertiary of Louisiana.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., November 15, 1955.*

European Widgeon and Glaucous Gull in Utah.—On October 19, 1955, a duck hunter, hunting on the open area of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, shot a European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*). This was a male bird in full fall plumage. As this is the first and only record of a European Widgeon in this intermountain area so far as we know, the specimen was added to the Refuge collection of rare and unusual birds for the area.

On March 16, 1955, a Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) was collected at the Refuge. This is the first record of this bird on the Refuge and so far as we know the second report of the bird in the state of Utah. The bird was first observed feeding with several California Gulls on dead fish in unit 3 of the Refuge. The bird was collected and the skin has been placed in the Refuge collection.—VANEZ T. WILSON and LEO T. YOUNG, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Brigham City, Utah, May 10, 1956.*