

material from this quarry seems to represent the subgenus *Sthenelides*. It is probable that the earlier, badly preserved specimen may belong in this same group.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., January 9, 1957.*

Bay-breasted Warbler off California Coast.—On the morning of October 6, 1956, a specimen of the Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) was obtained 24 miles south-southeast of San Clemente Island, almost due west of San Diego, California. This location is out of sight of any land mass, and the bird, after circling the ship for approximately ten minutes, attempted to land. The crew of the vessel, a commercial chartered fishing craft, indicated that it was not uncommon to find small land birds off the coast, and that "many were picked up and released when they returned to port." This bird, following unsuccessful attempts to land on the rigging, slipped into the water and was netted by the crew.

The specimen, now number 134974 in the collections of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, was checked for identification by Dr. Harrison B. Tordoff. The bird is an immature, as shown by the plumage, having only a faint suffusion of buff on the breast, and by the skull, which was only partly ossified. It was a male, and it was considerably emaciated.

No reference can be found to the occurrence of this warbler in the western United States, although numerous reports are available concerning vagrant warblers taken or seen at sea near the California coast and on the Channel Islands off southern California. It would seem most likely that passerine birds would appear away from shore during conditions of unusual wind velocity. At the time the Bay-breasted Warbler was taken, there was no storm, nor had there been high winds. The bird was alone; no other passerines were observed on this particular day.

One must concede that, particularly among migrants, the mortality is great because of straying from regular migration routes. Grinnell (*Auk*, 34, 1922:373-380) discusses such vagrants carefully, and we can but conclude with him that this Bay-breasted Warbler was a "pioneer . . . sacrificed in the interests of the species."—M. DALE ARVEY, *Long Beach State College, Long Beach, California, February 20, 1957.*

Blue and White Swallow in México.—On May 24, 1954, Alvarez collected a swallow from a mixed flock of *Petrochelidon fulva* and *Progne chalybea* which was roosting within a building in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, México. The bird was presented to the Museum of Comparative Zoology (no. 280768), where it was identified as an immature example of the Blue and White Swallows, *Atticora cyanoleuca patagonica*; the race involved breeds from Bolivia southward and winters to the north. The specimen has light-colored underwing coverts and its crissum is white with the longest feathers tipped with the dusky—characters which unequivocally distinguish *patagonica* from the other races.

Howell (*Condor*, 57, 1955:188-189) recently found this swallow in Nicaragua; his record at the time was the most northern station for this form, which commonly winters north to Colombia and Panamá. The addition of a record from México suggests that *patagonica* may be a regular migrant north of Panamá. If this is true, the specimen from Tuxtla Gutiérrez would seem to represent the longest known migration of a South American non-marine species, although, of course, some stray birds have travelled even farther.—RAYMOND A. PAYNTER, JR., *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts*, and MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Instituto Zoológico del Estado, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, México, November 30, 1956.*

Translocated Golden-crowned Sparrows Return to Winter Range.—On February 4, 1956, several Golden-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) were trapped and banded in a residential garden at San Jose, California. After acclimatization to cages they were shipped by commercial aircraft to Pullman, Washington, on February 14 for use in studies in the physiology of avian migration. On March 6 they were placed in individual activity-recording cages designed to determine their 24-hour activity patterns. The cages were exposed to the weather on the roof of the Science Building on the campus of the State College of Washington. By accident, two birds escaped from their cages on March 19 and one on April 4.

On December 1, 1956, Golden-crowned Sparrows were again trapped in the same residential garden at San Jose. Among them were the two which escaped at Pullman on the previous March 19. The escapee of April 4 has not been seen.