Actually it may well be within a transitional zone of hybridization with *M. m. melodia*. However the recovery point is considerably west of the geographic center of the *M. m. euphonia* breeding range.—F. H. and M. L. Folemsbee, Post Office Box 57, Chippawa, Ontario, Canada.

Comments on Repeats and Recoveries of Migrants in Panama.—The article by Loftin, Rogers and Hicks (*Bird-Banding*, **37**: 35-44, 1965) on mist-netting of North American migrants in Panama contributes valuable evidence that individuals tend to return to the same winter quarters. I feel the authors may have been over-conservative in suggesting that a Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*), banded on 25 February 1963 and shot in the same locality on 16 March 1964, may have been a bird which remained in Panama for over a year without returning north. The Broad-winged Hawk is an abundant migrant and common winter resident in Panama, but in the course of many years in the field in that country during June, July and August, I have never seen a summering individual. Wetmore (*Smiths. Misc. Coll.*, **150**: 204-206, 1965) mentions no summer record, and I know of no specimen taken other than between October and April. While many species of Charadriiformes regularly summer (without breeding) in Panama, in my experience, the only migrant bird of prey that does so is the Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). The northern birds that regularly summer on their wintering grounds seem to be those requiring more than a year to attain breeding condition. While an occasional individual of any species may fail to migrate, in the absence of evidence that the particular bird remained, the fact that a Broad-winged Hawk banded one year was recovered the next in the same locality justifies the assumption that it had returned to previous winter quarters.

In the case of the Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*), several individuals of which were recovered in successive years at Curundu, Canal Zone, and at intervals in the same year between February and later March or April, the suggestion was made that this indicated a return to the locality of migration and a long sojourn while migrating. Actually this species is a common breeder about Curundu; the authors were misled by the puzzling circumstance, to which I have elsewhere adverted (Eisenmann, *Condor*, **64**: 506, 1962), that this species is not only both a transient and a breeder in Panama, but that the breeding population migrates out of the country, generally by September, yet begins to return surprisingly early, often before the end of January. The Curundu birds recaptured were unquestionably local breeding birds. I called this matter to Dr. Loftin's attention, and he wrote me that he fully agreed, and had, independently, found this to be so, but too late for correction of his article.—Eugene Eisenmann, American Museum of Natural History, New York, New York, 10024.

Some Unusual Vireos.—Gross (*Bird-Banding*, **36**: 68, 1965) found but a single individual vireo among 1847 albinistic North American birds. The latter figure might be augmented easily by the examination of additional collections of blackbirds (Icteridae), robins (*Turdus migratorius*), etc.

This apparent rarity of albino vireos makes it seem desirable to place on record two more, in my collection. An adult male Gray Vireo, *Vireo vicinior*, taken west-northwest of Hillside, western Yavapai County, Arizona, 17 September 1948 (ARP original #1632) has several white feathers in the nape, one on the right side of the fore-crown, and a partially white (distally) feather in the crown. This last is old and badly worn, though the bird has practically finished the pre-basic or post-nuptial molt. The right side of the tail is white except for rectrix 2 (the next-to-central tail-feather); on the left rectrices 3 and 6 are white, and 5 has a bit more than the usual amount of white tipping, this white extending along the shaft on the inner web. This is my only clearly albino *vicinior*, though another adult male (ARP original #2394, east of Seligman, northern Yavapai County, Arizona, 2 September 1951) has a white feather between the eyes in the right side of the crown. A more definite partial albino is a female Solitary Vireo, *V. solitarius plumbeus*, taken in the Huachuca Mountains, southern Arizona, 29 May 1937 by E. C. Jacot (original #4980). In this specimen the forehead is narrowly white across the base of the bill, and this white extends back broadly for about 4 millimeters along the mid-line of the fore-crown; there are also several white feathers farther back on the crown (to the occiput), mostly near the mid-line.

Another unusual *Vireo solitarius* is a female *cassini* taken near my home in Tucson, Arizona, 16 April 1953 (ARP original #3119). This bird was in general

body molt (lightest on the belly); its bright flanks attracted my attention as being exceptional at that season. As is well known since the days of Stone (*Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila.*, **48**: 156-157, 1896) and Dwight (*Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci.*, **13**: 235-240, 1900), our vireos normally have little or no pre-alternate or pre-nuptial molt in the spring. The unusual molt of #3119 was correlated with badly worn plumage (for April). The exposed flight feathers were all worn (the tail being almost in shreds), except the freshly molted tertials. The rest of the wing was also old, the posterior wing-bar having been almost worn off. Had it *not* molted, this poor vireo would have been half-naked by July or August.—Allan R. Phillips, Instituto de Biología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, D. F.

Abnormalities in the Remiges and the Rectrices of the Saw-whet Owl.—Stresemann (*Condor*, **65**: 449-459, 1963) has demonstrated the value of records of abnormalities in the number of primaries as an aid in studies of avian phylogeny. The observations listed below may thus be of interest. In the autumns of 1960 through 1964 we examined carefully 201 Saw-whet Owls (*Aegolius acadica*) for evidence of molt (Mueller and Berger, in preparation). The owls were taken in mist-nets and were banded and released. Seven individuals showed abnormalities in the flight-feathers, and these are listed below:

514-79662, adult, taken on 30 October 1964. There were only 9 primaries in each wing. We searched to no avail for an empty follicle.

534-14720, adult, netted on 30 October 1964. The innermost (first) primary on the left wing was represented only by a rhachis; the vanes were totally absent.

514-49663, adult, trapped on 31 October 1964; and 524-52498, adult, netted on 29 October 1963. These two birds had only 11 rectrices; in each case there were only five on the left side of the tail. A search for an empty follicle was unsuccessful.

524-52476, immature, taken on 12 November 1962; 514-49649, adult, netted on 22 October 1964; and 514-49655, immature, trapped on 24 October 1964. These three individuals each had 13 rectrices; in each case there were seven on the right side.

We thank the National Science Foundation for financial support during the years 1962 through 1964 (Grant GB-175).—Helmut C. Mueller, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison Wisconsin, (present address: Dept of Zoology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.), and Daniel D. Berger, Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Route 1, Cedar Grove, Wisconsin.

Defecation by Bobwhites When Flushed.—When conducting a count of winter birds in Montgomery County, Alabama, on 11 March 1960, I encountered a covey of nine Bobwhites (*Colinus virginianus*) at the edge of a small stock-watering pond. I was approximately six feet from the nearest bird of the closely grouped covey when the birds burst from the ground. The pond and birds had been approached from a direction causing the flushed birds to pass over the water soon after leaving the ground. After flying distances ranging from 8-12 feet and when over the water 4-8 feet from shore, each of the nine birds presumably defecated, as was indicated by nine circles of outward-spreading ripples on the otherwise smooth water surface. While no means was available to recover the feces and thus confirm defecation, other possibilities, such as each bird having dropped food from its mouth or dirt from its feet, appeared most unlikely. The observation was made in mid-forenoon, and the absence of substantial hiding cover where these birds were found suggested that the birds were feeding, or more likely seeking drinking water, rather than loafing.

The fact that each of the nine Bobwhites defecated in this unusual situation where defecation could be observed suggests that defecation might frequently occur when these birds are flushed in situations unfavorable for its observation. On the other hand, it may be that these birds defecated because they were taking-off over water and they would have behaved differently over land. This observation of defecating upon take-off brings to mind the fact that this is a commonly observed habit of herons, and one important reason for this behavior of herons being so well known is the conspicuousness of herons' evacuations.

In studies on behavior of the American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) Ellen L. Coutlee (1963. *Wilson Bull.*, **75**: 356) reported that goldfinches sometimes defecated "just after take off." Defecation was observed by Coutlee to be some-