

sonian. And the latter were the more confiding, for they flitted within a few inches of my head. I noted each distinctive detail—the dusky chestnut crown, the duller underparts and the wing feathers with no more than a suggestion of white edgings. The kinglets were silent; there were only a few of them, but the crown patch of one, the absence of crown patch of others, and the intermittent fluttering of the wings as the birds hopped from twig to twig, made identification sure. The occurrence of these two rare birds in July is, in the case of the Hudsonian Chickadee at least (a species scarcely migratory at all), little less than demonstration of nesting. Of the Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Barrows wrote (1912) that it probably was not to be found nesting within the state of Michigan.—BAYARD H. CHRISTY, *Sewickley, Pa.*

Some Interesting Ohio Records.—Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*).—Westerville, May 16, 1928. Also, a specimen of this species was found dead near the Huron Marshes south of Willard, on July 16, 1928.

Black Rail (*Creciscus jamaicensis*).—Bumgardner's Pond, Franklin County, April 4, 1927, and Alum Creek Swamp, Westerville, April 3, 1927. Probably a considerable number of both of these species breed in favorable localities of the state but are easily missed because of their small size and secretive habits.

Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis martinicus*).—On May 17, 1928, I collected a perfect specimen of this gorgeously painted species at the Alum Creek Swamp, Westerville. There are about a half dozen published Ohio records for this casual migrant, and this seems to be the first specimen taken in the state since 1917. The skin is now in the Wheaton Club Collection of the Ohio State Museum at Columbus.

Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*).—Richard E. Durst and the writer observed seven individuals on April 27 and 28, 1928, in company with a flock of sixty-eight Golden Plovers, feeding in a surface pond in western Madison County. Spring records of this sandpiper are much rarer than records made in the fall.

Prairie Hen (*Tympanuchus americanus*).—Richard E. Durst and myself recorded a female of this species at Bay Point, May 26, 1928. It was discovered while sunning itself in the clearing of an old wagon road, and ran slowly ahead of us for about 200 yards at a distance of from thirty to sixty feet, following the deep rut formed by the wagon wheels. The bird seemed little frightened by our presence and we did not succeed in flushing it until the distance between us was cut to less than twenty feet. The head and neck, the barring of the heavy plump body, the short feathered legs and the very short tail with prominent black bars were all clearly observed, both with the naked eye and by the aid of 8x binoculars, removing all possibility of confusion with any other species. This bird was thought by many to have become extinct in Ohio a number of years ago, as there have been no recent records. Evidently a few scattered individuals have been able to survive in unusually favorable habitats, as it is unlikely that the species would ever be able to reestablish itself in the state once it had been completely wiped out. Several rumors of birds resembling Prairie Hens have come from the Huron Marshes region and it is altogether possible that they may sometime be found there, or somewhere in the Oak Openings region west of Toledo.

Lawrence's Warbler.—On May 27, 1928, I studied for some time a peculiar hybrid warbler that I discovered along the northern edge of the Huron Marshes

southwest of Willard. The bird had the typical plumage of a Lawrence's Warbler (the black throat and ear patches of the Golden-winged Warbler and the yellow crown and underparts and the two whitish wing bars of the Blue-winged Warbler) with one exception. Between the two white wing bars was a solid patch of gold, similar to the wing bar of the Golden-wing. The bird was singing a song indistinguishable from those of a half dozen Blue-winged Warblers singing nearby. The occurrence of this hybrid is interesting in connection with the record of a pair of typical Brewster's Warblers feeding young at Neotoma, Hocking County, on June 11 and 12, 1927. In 1928, only the male Brewster's Warbler returned, singing the same low pitched "sweive, eze, eze, eze" song of 1.8 seconds duration, as that heard the previous year, or varying it with a "sweeze, sweeza, zai-ze-e-e-e-e" song, lasting only 1.1 seconds. The first syllables were very rapid, but the last was long drawn out and had somewhat of a plaintive quality. Several Brewster's Warblers, in addition to these records, were recorded near Columbus during the summer months of 1928.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Fredericktown, Ohio*.

Birds in Western Texas.—During the months of July and August, 1928, I was working in Uvalde, Texas, about ninety miles west of San Antonio. As the flora, fauna and climate there were quite different from any I had formerly experienced, I made it part of my business to examine the various organisms found there. Not the least of these were the birds. Unfortunately, I did not have time to make a careful survey of the region. I was also handicapped by a lack of books and keys for identification. Certain species were so conspicuous, however, that they could not pass unnoticed. These I have listed as follows:

1. Killdeer (*Oxyechus vociferus*). Very common. Strange to say, I never saw one of these birds on the ground.
2. Scaled Quail (*Callipepla squamata*). Common. Often seen crossing the road. Texans call these birds "blue quail."
3. Mexican Ground Dove (*Chaemepelia passerina pallescens*). These little birds are common even in the towns. The wings are conspicuously reddish.
4. White-winged Dove (*Melopelia asiatica asiatica*). Without doubt one of the commonest birds in West Texas. It is as large as a domestic pigeon, and is eaten by the people. Doves are common even in town. Their peculiar harsh "coo" can be heard on all sides throughout the day.
5. Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*). Very common. This is a bird of the country, and spends most of its time in the air. I have seen them, however, on fence posts.
6. Black Vulture (*Coragyps urubu*). Not as common as the last species. The ranchmen, who claim that Black Vultures carry anthrax, make constant war upon the birds. The only individuals that I saw close at hand were feeding on a dead jack rabbit in the road.
7. Road-runner (*Geococcyx californicus*). Very common. Often seen crossing the road or seated on fence posts. One lived back of the Government station.
8. Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*). Common.
9. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*). These birds are to be seen at any time, especially on telegraph wires. When flying, the tail often resembles a trailer or some foreign substance.
10. Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*). Hardly common, although some were seen near the Government station on several occasions.