

droica auduboni), Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*), and the Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*).

It might be of interest to note that our summer resident warblers returned long before there was any indication that the winter residents were considering leaving. (The Myrtle Warbler is an exception to this statement as they were becoming noticeably scarce by the first of March and not one could be found on the 24th of that month. The Pine Warblers also left early and a few at a time). The Sennett Warbler (*Compsothlypis nigrilora*) was heard singing on all sides in the southwestern part of the county on March 6, but there was no attempt at song by any of the winter residents. The Orange-crowned Warbler was the first of the winter group to sing. They were first heard on March 29.

Instead of gradually thinning out as the Myrtle Warblers did the Black-throated Green Warblers left all at once as they did in the spring of 1934. The time of leaving was again the second week of April—not a one could be found on the 14th.

HARLINGEN, TEXAS.

AN EXAMPLE OF PARTIAL ALBINISM IN THE EASTERN CROW

BY DAYTON STONER

The unusual arrangement and extent of the white areas in the plumage of an Eastern Crow (*Corvus b. brachyrhynchos* Brehm) recently received by the Zoology Section of the New York State Museum prompts the present contribution.

On December 9, 1933, the writer received a telephone message from Mr. J. Hofman who lives in the west section of the city of Albany, New York, inquiring whether "partly white" crows were rare. He stated that he had such a bird in captivity and asked whether the Museum would be interested in obtaining it. On being assured that the specimen would make a welcome addition to our collection Mr. Hofman sent his son to get the bird but the boy found that the crow had died some time within the preceding twenty-four hours.

This crow was captured alive on November 26, 1933. From that date until the time of its death it had been kept in captivity during which period it fed and appeared to thrive. Upon examination of the specimen in the laboratory, it was found to be in a considerably emaciated state although its stomach was well filled. However, the condition of the plumage was very good and it exhibited few signs of wear or results of abrasion.

The measurements of the specimen, which upon sexing proved to be a male, were made in the flesh and are as follows: Length, 438 mm.; wing, 292 mm.; tail, 174 mm.; tarsus, 51 mm.; middle toe with claw, 46 mm.; exposed culmen, 42 mm.; depth of bill at nostrils, 19 mm.

It will be noted from the above that in two respects, length of tarsus and of exposed culmen, this individual is somewhat below the lowest range for *C. b. brachyrhynchos*. Both these measurements con-

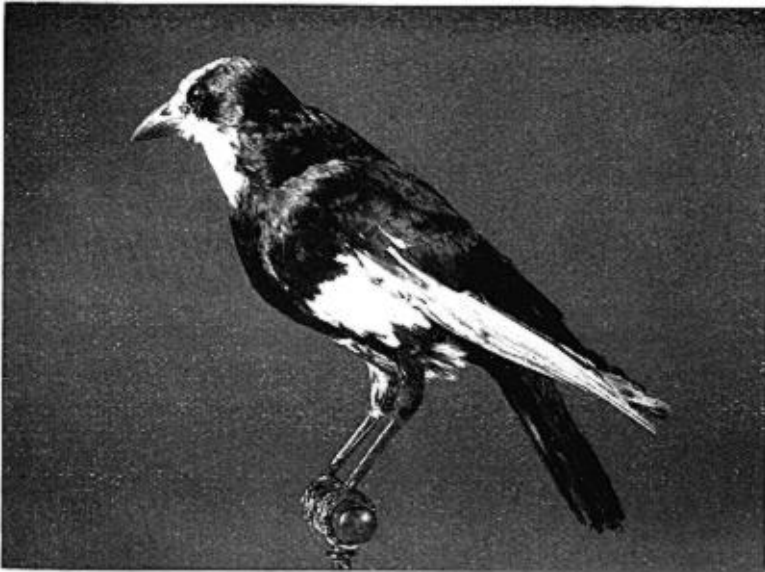


FIG. 39. Partial albino Crow taken in New York.

form closely with those for *C. ossifragus*; all other measurements are about average for *C. b. brachyrhynchos*. However, it often happens that animals which depart strongly from normal in the matter of coloration are somewhat under the average in size; the crow here discussed appears to partake of this characteristic and may be considered as a depauperate form.

The vagaries of arrangement of the black and white areas in the feather covering of this "pied" or "calico" crow may be summarized briefly as follows:

General: Back, nape, occiput, ocular region, tail and all principal contour feathers of the wings except the outer primaries and

secondaries more or less glossy black; lower throat, breast and upper belly together with left tibia also uniform black.

Head: Front to crown, white with a few scattered black feathers; antrorse feathers white except a small black "pencil" on the left side; right ear coverts white, the extreme tips and margins of a few of the feathers black; left ear coverts black; chin, throat, and upper neck white, a few of the feathers sparsely black; occiput and nape black. Irises brown.

Right wing: Primaries 2, 3, and 4 (from outside) and five outer primary coverts white. Remainder of wing feathers black.

Left wing: Seven outer primaries white except dusky tips. Eighth primary (from outside), with outer vane entirely black; inner vane partly black. Ninth primary mostly white, dusky near tip and near middle of outer vane. Tenth primary with outer vane mostly black; inner vane mostly white with black along rhachis. Outer secondary with outer vane grayish, inner vane white. Primary coverts mostly white; a few faint dusky streaks. Two of lesser wing coverts tipped with white; other lesser coverts black. Alula mostly white suffused with dusky. Remainder of wing feathers black.

Body: Left side of lower belly white, a few scattering white feathers forming a diagonal band extending to right leg. Remainder of body plumage black.

Right leg: Feathers of thigh mostly white as also the short feathers covering anterior and outer sides of tibia; feathers on interior and hinder margin of tibia black.

Left leg: Elongate feathers of thigh only tipped with white; remainder of leg feathers black.

Claws mostly white or whitish, the bases only black.

It will be observed that while this unique bird partakes of some of the size characteristics of both the Eastern Crow and the Fish Crow it also bears, in some degree, the plumage coloration of another near relative, the American Magpie (*Pica p. hudsonia* Sabine).

The partly albino crow here discussed has been mounted and is now on exhibit in the New York State Museum (Cat. No. 5255).

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM,
ALBANY, N. Y.