

**Swainson's Warbler in southern Ohio.**—The morning of May 4, 1947, while passing through a small ravine in Lawrence County, Ohio, 1.3 miles north of Chesapeake, I heard a warbler's song similar to that of Swainson's Warbler, *Limnothlypis swainsonii*, but I could not find the bird that day. On May 7, I visited the area shortly after daybreak and observed the warbler for more than an hour. At times it sang from a dead branch, 10 feet above the ground and scarcely 20 feet away, where the distinctive characters of Swainson's Warbler were plainly visible. It used at least three singing perches in the area, shifting from one to another at irregular intervals, singing about every 50 seconds.

I watched the warbler at this spot until May 17. I next visited the area on May 27 but failed to find the bird and did not see it again until May 31, when I found it about a quarter of a mile away near the head of the same ravine. It remained there for several days, but between June 9 and 21 I could not find it at either station. On June 21, I collected it at the first locality. The skin, an adult male Swainson's Warbler, is now in the collection of the Ohio State Museum. It constitutes, so far as I can determine, the first record for the species in Ohio. Lawrence County, the southernmost of Ohio, is but 50 miles west of Kanawha County, West Virginia, where Sims (1946. *Auk*, 63:93) reported a Swainson's Warbler nest in 1945.

The two localities in which I saw the warbler were quite similar ecologically. Both were dense tangles of Japanese honeysuckle, Virginia creeper, cross vine, and blackberry canes about 150 yards up the steep side of a valley through which a small stream flowed. A few scattered trees of black locust, honey locust, ash, and hickory provided the perches from which the bird most frequently sang.

Within the past decade the known range of the Swainson's Warbler has been extended from the Coastal Plain to the mountainous regions of North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The behavior of the Ohio bird indicated that it may have been unmated and beyond its normal nesting range. As the season advanced, the boundaries of its territory seemed to become more flexible, and on June 21 I heard it singing over a wide area that included both of the earlier localities.

It is possible, however, that the species nests regularly somewhere in southern Ohio. Because of its preference for dense thickets, the superficial similarity of its song to that of the Louisiana Water-Thrush, and the dearth of resident ornithologists in this section of the State, the bird might easily have been overlooked.—N. BAYARD GREEN, *Department of Zoology, Marshall College, Huntington, West Virginia.*

**Nomenclature of the higher groups in swifts.**—The generic name for the group of species that includes the Common Swift of Europe has long been accepted as the basis for the name of the order as well as for the categories of lower rank that include these birds. For a long period, the accepted generic term was *Micropus* of Meyer and Wolf, published in 1810. More recently it has been decided that the genus name *Apus* of Scopoli, dating from 1777, is the proper one, a decision accepted by the American Ornithologists' Union Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. The change from *Micropus* has led to some misunderstanding about the formation of the higher group names that requires brief explanation.

Scopoli proposed the name *Apus* for the Common Swift on page 483 of his "Introductio ad Historiam Naturalem," published in 1777. In the same work, on page 404, he used the name *Apos* for a crustacean, the two differing by a single letter. There is no question that the two terms, so closely similar, were used intentionally, for both appear together in the index to the work.

When *Apus* was accepted as the valid name for the Swift, in place of *Micropus*, the order became APODIFORMES in place of MICROPODIFORMES, the suborder APODI instead of MICROPODI, the family APODIDAE instead of MICROPODIDAE, and the subfamily APODINAE instead of MICROPODINAE. J. L. Peters used these newer terms in Volume 4 of his Check-list of Birds of the World, published in 1940.

P. Brodkorb, in a review of Peters' work published in the *Wilson Bulletin*, 52, 1940, page 214, discussed these changes in names, and made proposals that require consideration. The pertinent part of his statement follows:

"The use of *Apus* unfortunately calls for a change in the A. O. U. subfamily, family, subordinal, and ordinal names for the group of swifts allied to "*Micropus*." Following certain European writers, Peters calls these Apodinae, Apodidae, Apodi, and Apodiformes, respectively. He has overlooked, however, Burmeister's much earlier use of the term Apodidae for a family of crustaceans. This name is still in current use among carcinologists. Burmeister's action precludes employing this term for the swifts and would seem to also preclude the use of its derivatives for ordinal, subordinal, or subfamily terms. One cannot use the terms Micropodidae or Cypselidae as the family name of the swifts, either, since these names are based on synonyms of *Apus*. Article 5 of the International Rules states: "The name of a family or subfamily is to be changed when the name of the type genus is changed." The best solution of this unhappy situation seems to be the erection of a new family name for the swifts, *Chaeturidae*, nom. nov., with *Chaetura* Stephens as the type genus. The suborder may be known as *Chaeturae*, nom. nov., and the order *Chaeturiformes*, nom. nov. A new subfamily term for the swifts allied to *Apus* is also required. These birds may be called *Panyptilinae*, nom. nov., with *Panyptila* Cabanis as type genus."

Brodkorb is correct in stating that APODIDAE has been used as a family term in Crustacea but is mistaken in his belief that this usage is still current. Through the assistance of Dr. Fenner Chase, Jr., Curator of Marine Invertebrates in the National Museum, the following data has been assembled:

Early writers erroneously used the genus *Apos* Scopoli for a group of phyllopod crustaceans, which was recognized by various authors as the family APODIDAE. Ludwig Keilhack (*Zool. Ann.*, vol. 3, pt. 1, 1908, pp. 177-184) discusses this matter in detail, showing that the diagnosis given by Scopoli for *Apos* demonstrates clearly that it refers to a branchiopod, not to a phyllopod, and that *Apos* Scopoli, 1777, is thus a synonym of *Branchipus* Schaffer, 1776. *Apos*, of authors, for a phyllopod, basis for the crustacean family name APODIDAE, has to be replaced with another name, and the family name is changed thereby. According to Keilhack, the genus becomes *Triops* Schrank, 1803, but this is disputed by some, notably by Folke Linder. Regardless of this argument (with which, as ornithologists, we are not concerned), the family name APODIDAE is not valid now for use for a group of crustaceans, so that it is fully available in ornithology. Therefore, the higher group names for the swifts concerned in this discussion are to be formed from the genus name *Apus*, as listed by Peters, namely, APODIFORMES for the order, APODI for the suborder, APODIDAE for the family, and APODINAE for the subfamily.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.*