



**Another Pacific Record of the Black Swift Off México.**—On September 20, 1933, a Black Swift, *Nephoecetes* [= *Cypseloides*] *niger*, was collected aboard the S.S. "Antigua" at 12° 52' N latitude and 91° 50' W longitude (Davidson, Condor, 36, 1934:37); the specimen was referred to the migrant race *borealis* on the basis of measurements.

On May 19, 1963, at 3:00 a.m., a Black Swift flew into a cabin aboard the M.V. "Red Rooster," a fishing vessel under charter to the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Biological Laboratory, San Diego. The bird was captured and preserved by the junior author, and presented to the Dickey Collection (no. 51,462) at the University of California, Los Angeles. At the time of capture of this specimen, the "Red Rooster" was lying in waters at 14° 30' N latitude, 92° 34' W longitude, a point approximately 18 miles southwest of Puerto Madera, Chiapas. The bird was a female, the largest follicle measuring less than 1 mm.; it was extremely fat, weighing 41.5 gm.; the stomach was empty. Measurements are: chord of closed wing, 157 mm.; tail, 52.3 mm.; exposed culmen, 6.1 mm.; tarsus, 12.2 mm.; middle toe, 9.3 mm. In view of these measurements, which are intermediate between those of *C. n. borealis* and *C. n. costaricensis* (Ridgway, Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus., 50, pt. 5, 1911:708), racial designation is uncertain. The large amount of fat and the hour at which it came aboard the vessel suggests that the bird was a migrant, probably representing the race *borealis*.

Willis (Condor, 63, 1961:419) reported a Prairie Warbler, *Dendroica discolor*, which flew aboard the M.S. "Oakville" on September 25, 1960, at 12° 37' N latitude and 92° 31' W longitude.

An interesting fact is that all three records occurred in a restricted area comprising less than one degree of longitude and only 1° 53' of latitude. Furthermore, neither species is otherwise known to occur on the Pacific slope of southern México or Guatemala. Although the race *borealis* of the Black Swift winters in México, it has not been recorded south or east of Oaxaca. A possible explanation for the presence of these migrants at this particular location may be found in the presence of off-shore winds that travel in a north-to-south direction over the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and which veer both to the west and to the east after crossing the Isthmus. These winds form a potential mechanism for carrying birds from the Gulf of México or the region of the Isthmus over the Isthmus

of Tehuantepec, first southward, then eastward, over Pacific waters adjacent to the frontier of Chiapas and Guatemala.

Additional records of both migrant species and resident forms of highly volant species in the Tehuantepec region are to be expected over the Pacific in the area of Chiapas and Guatemala.—  
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