

determine whether that movement would be repeated, the transport from station 21 and release from station 86 was repeated on the evenings of 21 and 22 August. On 22 and 23 August the mouse was recaptured 60 feet from station 21. Minimum travel was 490 feet on the night of 19 August, 410 feet on 21 August and 420 feet on 22 August. As the mouse was released at 9 P.M. and removed from the trap at 7 A.M., travel time in each instance was less than 10 hrs.

Mean diameter of the trap-revealed home range of 14 male sub-adult *Peromyscus maniculatus* in this study was 300 feet. It is possible therefore that the mouse was returning to its home area from a point within its "life range". As all traps were opened and baited when the mouse was released in the homing experiment, it passed within 60 feet of at least 14 traps in each movement back to the station of recapture. The observed rate of travel (average 44 ft/hr) and lack of attention to traps far from station 21 suggest that movement was not entirely random. As the animal had not been fed prior to release, it would appear that feeding and unnecessary investigation were minimal until familiar territory was reached.

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- ### Xanthochroism in the Cape May Warbler and Evening Grosbeak
- G. D. SCHNELL AND L. D. CALDWELL (1966) recorded an instance of xanthochroism in the Cape May Warbler, *Dendroica tigrina*. They found no additional specimens showing this aberrancy among approximately 1,000 skins of the species in four large and several smaller United States museums.
- Recently, the writer examined another Cape May Warbler exhibiting xanthochroism. This specimen was collected at Deschambault Lake, Saskatchewan, in spring, 1966. It is No. 10013 in the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History and I am grateful to Mr. Victor Schmidt of that institution for permission to record it. Judging by its plumage the bird is a male. The back of the neck and the interscapular region are mostly yellow with a very few normal feathers. The rump is canary yellow. The yellow feathers of back and rump have white bases thus indicating that the aberrancy is a form of schizochroism, in which the melanic pigments are absent or deficient. Breast and sides appear normal superficially, but many of the feathers have white bases.
- R. W. Tufts (1962) mentioned an abnormally colored male Evening Grosbeak, *Hesperiphona vespertina*, which he collected at Wolfville, Nova Scotia, on November 25, 1958. This was kindly donated by Dr. Tufts to the National Museum of Canada (catalogue number 42583).

It is a fine example of xanthochroism. The head and neck are canary yellow with a few black or partly black feathers in the crown. The back is yellow, much blotched with brownish olive, and becoming immaculate yellow on lower back, rump, and upper tail coverts (last are normally black). Primaries of right wing black, fading to white near tips (except second to outermost, which is all white). Four outer primaries of left wing white with traces of yellow on outer edges. Wing coverts mostly yellow, some black. A few primary coverts are white. The inner rectrices have various amounts of white. The under parts are yellow with an admixture of yellowish-olive feathers on the breast and upper abdomen. As in the aberrant Cape May Warbler mentioned above, the abnormal yellow feathers are white at their proximal ends.

A. O. Gross (1965) listed six examples of xanthochroism in North American birds but included no species of Parulidae. He cited two examples of this in the Evening Grosbeak including the bird here described. There is apparently yet a third published example of xanthochroism in the Evening Grosbeak, a female collected at Pullman, Washington, on January 1, 1933 and recorded and described by Arthur Svihla (1933).

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W. EARL GODFREY

Occurrence of ptarmigan off northern Labrador

IN THE COURSE OF A recent research cruise off the Labrador coast, the C.G.S. *A. T. Cameron* left the vicinity of Cape White Handkerchief (59°17'N, 63°23'W) at 1000 Nfld. Standard Time, October 9, 1966, steaming roughly ENE at 10 knots until arrival at position 59°45'N lat., 59°30'W long. at 2200 NST on the same day. The ship remained in this vicinity, about 120 miles from the nearest land, until 1700 NST October 10.

On the evening of October 9, I was informed by Mr. C. Pardy, First Mate of the *A. T. Cameron*, that a number of ptarmigan (*Lagopus* sp.) had been observed flying about the ship while steaming out from the coast. After dark on the same day a ptarmigan flew into an aerial and dropped to the deck, where it was picked up by a crew member. The ship was stopped for most of the next day and frequent observations of one or two ptarmigan were made. Periodically a bird would perch on the ship's rail, remaining until it was frightened off or captured by one of the crew. Four birds were captured by various crew members who crept up behind and picked them off the rail. Occasionally, as the ship made a sudden movement, a bird would fly a few feet straight up from the rail, remaining a few seconds in the air and alighting again.

Unfortunately no positive identification of species was made on board and no specimens were preserved. However, from previous reports of ptarmigan sighted over northern open water areas, it seems likely that these were Rock Ptarmigan (*Lagopus mutus*). Thus Todd (1963, *Birds of the Labrador Peninsula and adjacent areas*, Univ. Toronto Press, p. 272) summarizes a number of observations concerning northerly spring and southerly autumn migration of Rock Ptarmigan across Hudson Strait, including a description of birds perching on



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