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DESCRIPTIONS OF SEVEN NEW BIRDS FROM VENEZUELA

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Five of the birds described below represent results of the William H. Phelps ornithological research on the Paraguana Peninsula and in the region of the upper Apure Valley during 1938-1939. They are described here in advance of the intended publication of an annotated list pertaining to the avifauna of the first locality. One new species and one new subspecies included in this paper are from localities outside of the range of those two collections.

I am particularly indebted to Mr. John Todd Zimmer for his generous advice and constant guidance in every problem and to Mr. William H. Phelps and Dr. Frank M. Chapman for the opportunity to study and describe these new birds. I heartily thank Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C., Dr. W. E. Clyde Todd, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Dr. Herbert Friedmann, U. S. National Museum, Mr. Rudyerd Boulton, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, and Rodolphe de Schauensee, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, for the loan of certain material necessary to the following studies.

Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparisons have been made with Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature."

The following map, at the bottom of which localities are printed alphabetically, shows all the localities in Venezuela cited in this paper. Each place name has been given a number which also appears on the map.

Colinus cristatus barnési, new subspecies

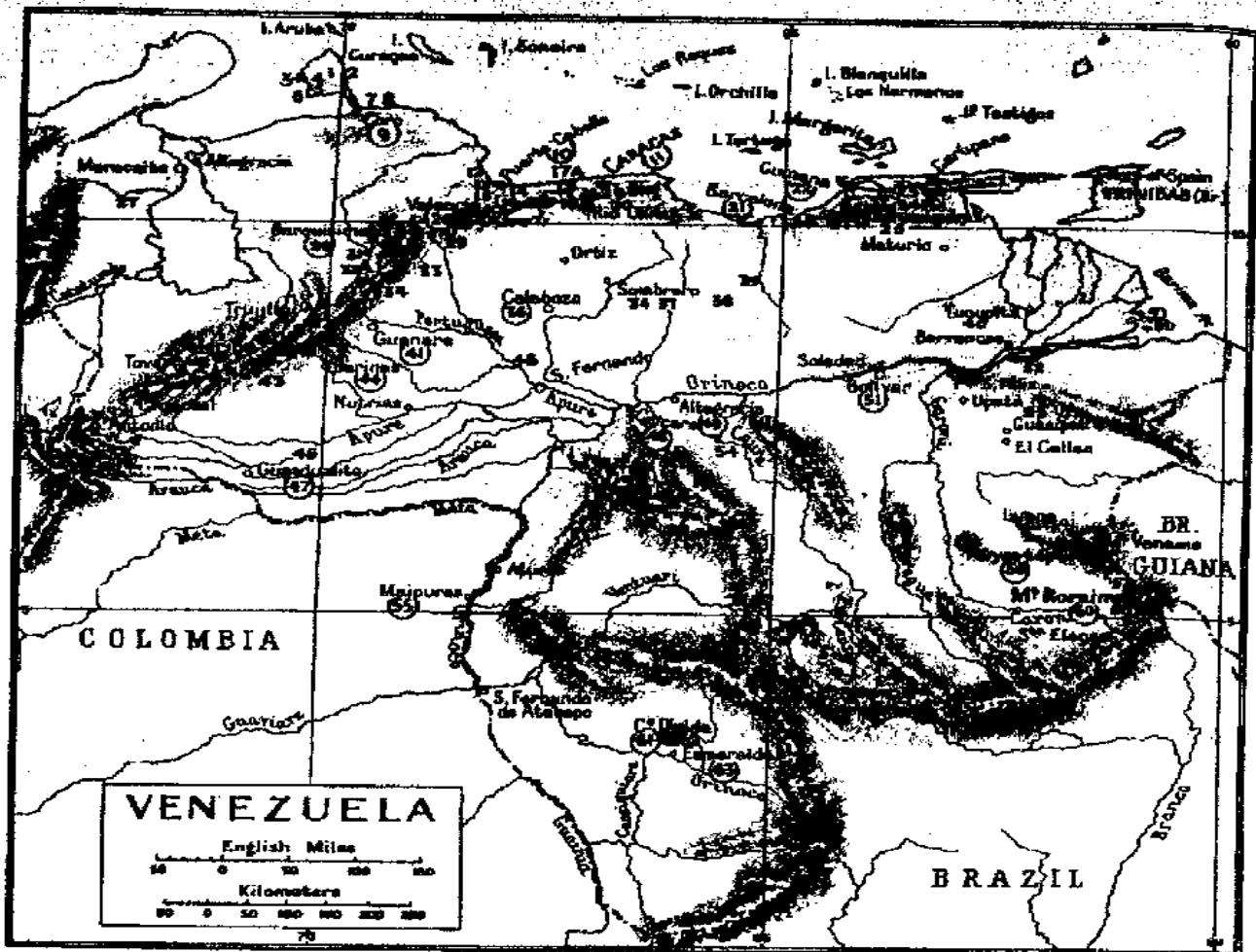
Type from Pedrasa (Ciudad Bolívar), Barinas, upper Apure Valley, Venezuela, No. 2134. W. H. Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. (Type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History.) Adult male collected March

16, 1939, by Ventura Barnés. Altitude, 310 meters.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *C. c. sonnini* of British Guiana but distinctly darker on upper surface, less brownish, and with the dark areas of tertiaries, back and rump sooty black instead of dark brown; crest plumes darker (sooty brown with subobsolete buffy brown tips) instead of uniform Light Drab; greater and middle wing-coverts darker, giving the appearance of being more extensively notched with white; chin buffy, less Ochraceous-Tawny; back with only traces of the deep brown which prevails in *sonnini*; feathers on central hind neck terminally fringed with Ochraceous-Tawny instead of buffy white with only a few subobsolete brownish shaft-streaks; vermiculations on chest, shoulders and anterior back darker, Blackish Brown (1), less Auburn; breast and anterior flanks more extensively dark Auburn (the narrow Amber-Brown shaft-streaks of *sonnini* being broader and darker); tail averages shorter than *sonnini*.

RANGE.—Venezuela: The Apure Valley from the base of the Andes eastward to the junction of the Apure River with the Orinoco River and north to the base of the Andean coast range (Guasualito to Camaguan and Catabojo).

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Anterior half of crown dusky white; crest fuscous faintly tipped with Tawny (a few of the feathers seen at the anterior bases of the long crest plumes are more Smoke Gray, less dusky white, and are fringed with Buff Brown); lorca, anterior subocular area and anterior malar region like forehead; auriculars Hair Brown; superciliaries Ochraceous-Tawny, beginning over the eye and broadening posteriorly, margined above by a broad irregular line of black-streaked feathers; (on the hind neck between the black superciliary margins are feathers which are terminally barred with deep Ochraceous-Tawny and subterminally barred with black, giving the central hind neck a slightly richer surface coloration than the superciliaries); chin buffy; throat Ochraceous-Tawny; neck distinctly collared with black and white spotted feathers, broadest in the post auricular region where the feathers are black with uniform white notches (elsewhere the feather design varies from semi-concealed subterminal white barring to white streaks on single vanes); upper back and shoulders Carbon Gray, tinged with dark Dusky Brown, vermiculated minutely with brown, tertiaries and scapulars narrowly fringed with cinnamon-brown; middle,



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|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Acarigua—34 | La Puerta (Las Mercedes)—37 |
| Adfioora—2 | Las Canales (Las Quiguas)—16 |
| Altagracia—49 | Las Mercedes—37 |
| Arabupu (Roraima)—59 | Las Quiguas—14 |
| Auyan-tepui (Mt.)—56 | Las Trincheras—15 |
| Barcelona—21 | Maipures—55 |
| Barinas—44 | Maripa—50 |
| Barquisimeto—28 | Mérida—42A |
| Bucarito—31 | Moruy—5 |
| Caicara—48 | Ocumare—between 14 and 17A |
| Calabozo—35 | Palenque—36 |
| Camaguan—45 | Palmarito—46 |
| Campamento del Medio—62 | Paraguana (Peninsula)—3 |
| Campo Alegre (Cumaná)—near 22 | Paso Hondo (San Esteban)—13 |
| Caracas—11 | Paulo (Roraima)—58 |
| Ciudad Bolívar—51 | Pedraza (Ciudad Bolivia)—43 |
| Ciudad Bolivia (Pedraza)—43 | Pedregosa (Mérida)—near 42A |
| Colonia Tovar—18 | Philipp Camp (Roraima)—57 |
| Conejos—42 | Piacoa—52 |
| Coro—9 | Puerto Cabello—10 |
| Cumaná—22 | Puerto La Cruz—17A |
| Cumarebo—8 | Punta (Mérida)—near 42A |
| Duida (Mt.)—61 | Quebrada Seca—23 |
| El Cují—32 | Roraima (Mt.)—60 |
| El Limón—17 | San Antonio (Bermudes)—25 |
| El Palmar—53 | San Juan (Perijá)—27 |
| El Planchón—1 | San Miguel (Lara)—30 |
| El Socorro—38 | Santa Ana (Mt.)—4 |
| El Tinasco—33 | Tinaquillo—29 |
| El Valle—19 | Tobasco—40 |
| Escorial (Mérida)—near 42A | Tucacas—12 |
| Esmeralda—63 | Valencia—26 |
| Guácharo (Caripe)—24 | Valle (Mérida)—near 42A |
| Guanare—41 | Vela de Coro—7 |
| Guasdualito—47 | Yaquiho (Paraguana)—5 |
| La Ciénega—20 | Zaraza—39 |
| La Prisión—54 | |

lower back and upper tail-coverts black centrally, becoming narrower posteriorly, feathers on back narrowly fringed with mottled brownish gray, becoming broader and lighter on the lower back and broadest on the upper tail-coverts (on the tail the black central areas take the form of broad shaft-streaks which are widely margined with mottled brownish gray); chest and anterior breast Pale Grayish Vinaceous tinged with brown, showing subobsolete deep brown vermiculations especially on the sides immediately posterior to the collar; breast and flanks Auburn, feathers on flanks with dark chestnut shaft-streaks margined with Seal Brown edgings which are notched with from two to three pairs of white oval spots (the area occupied by the Seal Brown and white decreases toward the central breast where it is replaced with Auburn. On a few feathers, at the mid-line, the white is obsolete and only traces of Seal Brown are seen as a fringing, otherwise the feather is completely Auburn); belly, shanks and crissum dull buff terminally, Seal Brown subterminally, increasing in intensity on the lower crissum; under tail-coverts Seal Brown broadly notched with three sets of paired, buff notches; remiges above Deep Brownish Drab subobsoletely notched on anterior vanes with buff; greater and middle wing-coverts sepia with irregular small white notches, vermiculated with black and minutely mottled with brownish specks; lesser wing-coverts like greater and middle coverts but lacking buff edgings and with a light, more amber vermiculation; under wing-coverts Pale Neutral Gray fringed with dull white especially anteriorly; remiges below Neutral Gray; tail above mottled mouse gray with shaft-streaks dark brownish black; tail below Deep Neutral Gray irregularly vermiculated with light gray. Bill (in life), "black"; legs, "gray." Wing, 100 mm.; tail, 62; exposed culmen, 12.5; culmen from base, 15; tarsus, 29.

Females generally like males on upper surface with the exception of the crown feathers which are dark brownish black, tipped with brownish buff; tail feathers above deep brownish gray, narrowly barred and fringed semi-obscurely with gray-buff; a large irregular brownish black area occurs between each buff bar; feathers of lores, anterior malar region and chin as in male, but with minute dark brown tips; throat darker Ochraceous-Tawny and feathers profusely notched with black (these black areas become enlarged posteriorly in the region of the collar where all feathers are framed with black); dark collar semi-obsolete except in postauricular area; anterior chest and shoulders with edgings as described for the male, but marked subterminally with paired buffy white spots; remainder of chest and upper belly buffy white barred or spotted with dark seal brown; the buffy white barring is uniform at the mid-line but, on the flanks, takes the form of paired spots or notches; the Seal Brown bars are enlarged in the flank area, where the buffy white spots occur, to the extent of joining each other continuously along the shaft. Wing, 91-103.5 mm.; tail, 55-61.5;

culmen from base, 14-15.5; exposed culmen, 11-13.5; tarsus, 27-30.

Males show a range of measurement on both sides of the type. Wing, 98-102; tail, 60-64; culmen from base, 14-15.5; exposed culmen, 11.5-13.5; tarsus, 26-29.

REMARKS.—All of the specimens from the Orinoco River basin east of the mouth of the Apure River to Ciudad Bolivar and one specimen from San Antonio, Bermudez, differ from *sonnini* by having more brownish chests with fewer whitish spots. They differ from *barnési*, the dark race from the upper reaches of the Apure Valley, by being decidedly lighter above and below. It appears that these birds which have been collected at various localities between the type localities of *sonnini* and *barnési* are intermediates more closely related to *sonnini* than to *barnési*.

This new quail is named in honor of Dr. Ventura Barnés, Curator of the Phelps Ornithological Collection, Caracas, Venezuela, the collector of this type.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

C. c. leucotis.—COLOMBIA: Honda, 1 (?), Magdalena River, 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?).

C. c. littoralis.—COLOMBIA: Santa Marta, 2 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?).

C. c. horrethi.—VENEZUELA: near Mérida, 3 ♀.

C. c. cristatus.—CURAÇAO: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 (?); Aruba, 1 ♂, 1 ♀. VENEZUELA: Barquisimeto, 2 ♂; El Cují, 1 ♂; Moruy, 9 ♂, 3 ♀; Adicora, 1 ♀; El Planchon, Buena Vista, 1 ♂; San Miguel, 1 ♂.

C. c. barnési.—VENEZUELA: Guasualito, 2 ♂; Pedrasa (Ciudad Bolívar) Barinas, 2 ♂, 1 (?); Acarigua, 1 ♂, 2 ♀; Palmarito, 1 ♂, 3 ♀.

C. c. sonnini X *barnési*.—VENEZUELA: El Tiraco, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Palenque, 1 ♂; La Ciénega, 1 ♂; Calabozo, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Camaguán, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Valencia, 1 (?); Maripé, 4 ♂, 2 ♀; Altigracia, 7 ♂, 3 ♀; Ciudad Bolívar, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 (?); Cumaná, 1 ♂ (?), 3 ♀ (?); San Antonio, Bermudez, 1 ♂.

C. c. sonnini.—BRITISH GUIANA: Quonga, 2 ♂, 4 ♀; Annai, 4 ♂. DUTCH GUIANA: Surinam, 1 ♀.

C. c. mocquerysi.—MARGARITA ISLAND: 1 ♂, 1 (?).

Speotyto cunicularia arubensis Cory

Speotyto cunicularia arubensis CORY, 1915, Field Mus. Publ. No. 182, Orn. Ser. 1, No. 8, p. 299 (Aruba Island, Dutch West Indies).

A careful study of the type and five paratypes, sixteen specimens from Adicora,

Paraguaná Peninsula, and one specimen from San Juan, Perijá, state of Zulia, Venezuela, reveals that this form, heretofore known only from Aruba Island, is present also on continental South America.

Cory found that *arubensis* (*loc. cit.*) "approached *brachyptera* but is larger and brown markings darker (more umber brown)." In comparing five fresh Margarita Island skins and one old specimen in The American Museum of Natural History collection (No. 485372, coll. 1895) with five old Aruba Island skins, this difference is reversed, with the exception of a faded Margarita Island skin which is similar in intensity of brown to the old Aruba Island specimens (Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Nos. 38122, 23, 24, 25, 26 (type)). It appears that Cory may have compared faded Margarita Island birds with fresh Aruba Island specimens and, in doing so, obtained an inaccurate racial character. This assumption is corroborated by the fact that our fresh *Adscora* specimens (which appear similar to the Aruba birds except that they average darker brown on the upper parts) are close to the five fresh Margarita Island examples.

Cory recognized the following differences in the tail: "Outer tail feather dull white, washed slightly with pale buff on the inner web and having two or three very pale brown irregular spots confined to the middle of the feather." Individual variation in both races tends to lessen the importance of this difference. I have examples before me from Margarita Island which match those from Aruba Island but *arubensis* seems to average slightly more dull white on the inner vane of the outer tail feather. Birds from *Adscora*, Paraguaná Peninsula, and a single female from San Juan, Perijá, agree with those from Aruba Island in this respect. It seems that this character is to some extent influenced by sex. I notice in the *Adscora* series, that seven males have the outer tail feathers lighter (the irregular spotting being more restricted) and eight females average darker. In reference to the rest of Cory's description of the outer tail feather, it seems that too much emphasis has been placed on this feather. He wrote: "... and having two or three very pale brown irregular spots confined to the

middle of the feather; entire outer portion of the outer web white, for at least half of its width, as well as the greater portion of the inner web." This character is present in the type and in one paratype (Field Mus. Nat. Hist. No. 38124) but two paratypes exhibit outer tail feathers which agree with two skins in the fresh series from Margarita Island and with the single museum specimen (W. H. Phelps Coll. Nos. F. 2, F. 155, A. M. N. H. No. 485372). This is made doubly clear by the variation exhibited in the sixteen *Adscora* birds. For example, two specimens (W. H. Phelps Coll. Nos. 648, 638) have the right outer tail feather barred and the left one narrowly streaked with less than the average area of rufous to be seen in the pallid Aruba Island birds. On the other hand, there are at least four *Adscora* females with more rufous and less white than any of the Margarita specimens.

The large series of *Adscora* birds have been difficult to identify because of the large amount of individual (and sexual?) variation which they exhibit. Much of Cory's description of *arubensis*, which was based on a small series, has been nullified by comparison with the many *Adscora* specimens but it can be said of Cory's observation as to measurement that the Aruba Island bird is larger. In average size the *Adscora* birds agree with those from Aruba Island and consequently the range of the subspecies *arubensis* should be enlarged to include the nearby Paraguaná Peninsula.

A single female in worn plumage from San Juan, Perijá, state of Zulia (west of Lake Maracaibo), is provisionally included with this form because of its similarity in size. The significance of the gray cast of the upper parts, perhaps due to the greater amount of white spotting, is impossible to recognize in a single imperfect specimen. In measurement it is smaller than the average of *arubensis* but in length of wing it is matched by one Aruba Island bird (F. M. N. H. No. 38123) and it is slightly larger than the smallest specimen in the *Adscora* series (W. H. Phelps Coll. No. 638). In length of tail and exposed culmen it agrees with the smallest examples from both Aruba Island and *Adscora*.

***Speotyto cunicularia minor* Cory**

Speotyto cunicularia minor CORY, 1918, Birds of Amer., Field Museum Zoological Series, XIII, p. 40. Type from Boa Vista, Rio Branco, Amazonas, Brazil.
Speotyto brachyptera CHUBB, 1916, Birds Brit. Guiana, I, p. 292.

Twenty-eight skins of this species are at hand from various parts of the range Cory records (*minor*—*loc. cit.*) and from Venezuela. Fifteen are freshly collected birds from the middle and lower Orinoco and for a while seemed to be the first recorded specimens to be taken in Venezuela. However, Cory overlooked two skins of *S. c. minor* (Coll. G. K. Cherrie, Altagracia) which Hartert had classified as *S. c. brachyptera*,¹ the Margarita Island form before the northeastern Brazilian race, *minor*, was separated from it. In The American Museum of Natural History, in addition to these two birds, there is still another skin collected by Cherrie at Caicara.

According to Cory, *minor*, described from the Rio Branco region, ranges only questionably to British Guiana. Comparison between eight old British Guiana specimens collected by Whitely and two nearly topotypical birds from Frechal, Rio Surumu, northeastern Brazil, shows that a close affinity exists between the two series in color pattern and in size. (It is impossible to make color comparisons because the skins collected by Whitely are faded.)

Comparing old skins with old, the birds from the middle Orinoco region obtained by Cherrie are similar to Whitely's British Guiana birds, both having reddish brown upper parts as against dull grayish brown in the recently collected nearly topotypical birds. Comparing fresh material, nine lower Orinoco skins in the Phelps Collection have dark grayish brown upper parts similar to the nearly topotypical *minor* but show a slight though consistent tendency to be more rufous.

Apparently the birds from the lower Orinoco and from the middle Orinoco (the latter with the rufous wash even more pronounced) are intermediates between the northeastern Brazilian form, *minor*, and the upper Apure Valley race described in this

paper, which has a rich reddish-brown back. Their relationship is decidedly closer to *minor* than to the new form. Since they are so nearly like *minor*, I think any further separation would be unwise.

***Speotyto cunicularia apurensis*, new subspecies**

Type from Pedraza (Ciudad Bolivia), Barinas, upper Apure Valley, Venezuela. No. 2216, W. H. Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. (Type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History.) Adult male collected March 16, 1939, by William H. Phelps. Altitude, 310 meters.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar in measurement to *S. c. arubensis* from Aruba Island and the adjacent Paraguaná Peninsula but upper surface brighter, being Snuff Brown tinted with Buckthorn Brown instead of Saccardo's Umber. Differs from *S. c. brachyptera* of Margarita Island and *S. c. minor* of northeastern Brazil by reason of greater size and much brighter upper parts. (Wing averages 8 mm. longer than in *brachyptera*, 4 mm. longer than in *minor*.)

RANGE.—Venezuela: southern foothills of the Andes flanking the upper Apure River Valley on the north and northwest, south to the Apure River. (From Pedraza (Ciudad Bolivia), Barinas, on the northwest, to Tinaquillo, Cojedes, and Valencia, Carabobo, on the north, to Palmairito, Apure, on the south.)

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Upper surface Snuff Brown (becoming slightly darker, Bister, between the shoulders) irregularly spotted with large dull white, buff and Clay Color spots. Crown similar to back but spotting smaller and more extensive giving it a brighter appearance. Lores whitish with long black tips (a few short brownish-black feathers cover the longer feathers at their bases); auriculars Tawny-Olive becoming lighter more buffy at base; forehead, supra-ocular stripe, area immediately posterior to the auriculars and chin, silvery white; malar region and postauricular region white, connecting sub-obsolete with pale supra-ocular stripe. Center of chest white, and unlike chin, with gray bases to the feathers. This area, roughly oval in shape, is separated from the silvery white throat by an irregular brownish band which continues to sides of neck. The feathers which form this band are Bister on their basal halves and tipped with light cinnamon-buff or subterminally with paired spots. Breast Pinkish Buff fading to dull buffy white on crissum and under tail-coverts. Each breast feather bears two Cinnamon-Buff and two light bars, one of the latter being terminal (all are anterior to the gray basal feather-halves). Across the breast behind the white chest spot, chiefly on the sides, the brownish bars become broader and darker giving the appearance of a Snuff Brown crescentic band. The brown bars decrease uni-

¹ 1902, *Novitates Zoologicae*, IX, p. 116.

fermly in intensity of color and in width posteriorly, becoming obsolete on the crissum and under tail-coverts. Remiges drab brown with from six to seven pairs of buffy notches becoming increasingly larger on the inner vane. Greater and middle wing-coverts near snuff brown irregularly notched with buffy white. Lesser wing-coverts Sayal Brown becoming duller, more drab, on the portion between the elbow and the wrist where almost obsolete gray-buff terminal markings appear. Tail above like lower back, with five pairs of buff spottings and notchings except on central rectrix which is too worn for description (the spots are on outer vanes and large notchings are on inner vanes). Outermost feather on left side with whole inner web and basal half of outer web creamy whitish. Right outer feather with traces of brown bars on terminal third of inner web. Bill (in life), "Yellow-green"; iris, "yellow"; feet, "olive." Wing, 162.5 mm.; tail, 69; exposed culmen, 14.5; tarsus, 50.5.

REMARKS.—Females are as described for the male. Range of measurement in seven adult males: wing, 153–162.5 mm.; tail, 61.5–69 mm.; exposed culmen, 13.5–15 mm. A Mocquerys skin collected in 1893 at Valencia,¹ state of Carabobo, appears to belong to this new race despite its faded condition. (Valencia is about thirty-five miles from Tinaquillo where two specimens of *apurensis* were collected.)

On the upper aspect the series of sixteen skins averages Snuff Brown. The extremes in color variation are slight and all are decidedly brighter than any other specimens examined. One specimen from Tinaquillo (W. H. Phelps Coll., No. 2221) is cinnamon-snuff-brown as opposed to one from Palmarito (W. H. Phelps, No. 2215) which appears duller, more umber. The light spotting appears quite variable on both the back and head. Some specimens have a great deal of it, for example, one from El Tinaco, Cojedes (W. H. Phelps Coll., No. 2223), has buffy white spotting on about a third of the total feather area of the crown. At the opposite extreme, one from Palmarito (W. H. Phelps Coll., No. 2212) bears only a few flecks of white and almost obsolete terminal fringes on the crown. The average is as described for the type.

The tails show great variation ranging from one extreme in which the outer tail feather is plain creamy buff on the inner vane (W. H. Phelps Coll., No. 2217) to the

other in which this same feather bears three broad brownish bars (W. H. Phelps Coll., No. 2212). The average is as described for the type.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

S. c. arubensis.—ARUBA ISLAND: 2 ♂, 3 ♀ (including type). VENEZUELA: Adicora, Paraguaná Peninsula, 8 ♂, 8 ♀.

S. c. brachyptera.—MARGARITA ISLAND: 4 ♂, 2 ♀.

S. c. minor.—BRAZIL: Frochal, Rio Surumu, 1 ♂, 1 ♀. GUIANA: Annai, 2 ♂, 2 ♀; upper Takutu Mts., 1(?). VENEZUELA: Piacos, 1 ♂; Tobasco, 5 ♂, 3 ♀; La Puerta, Palenque-Mercedes, Guárico, 3 ♂, 3 ♀; Altagracia, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Caicara, 1 ♀.

S. c. apurensis.—VENEZUELA: Pedrasa (Ciudad Bolívar), 2 ♂, 2 ♀; Palmarito, 4 ♂, 3 ♀; El Tinaco, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Tinaquillo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Valencia, 1(?).

S. c. tolimae.—COLOMBIA: plains of Tolima, 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1(?).

Centurus subelegans subelegans Bonaparte

Centurus subelegans BONAPARTE, 1837, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 109 ("Mexico," i.e., Venezuela).

There still remains some question as to what form Bonaparte applied his original description.² In the first description he gave "Mexico" as the type locality and in the second, which embodied nearly the same description,³ he corrected the type locality to "Venezuela."

In attempting to affix the original and abridged descriptions, our observations seem to parallel those of Mr. Richmond,⁴ who is satisfied that, "the proper name for the present bird [El Valle, Caracas] is without doubt *M. subelegans* of Bonaparte, although some ornithologists, principally the English, have for a long time relegated this name to the synonymy of *M. aurifrons* (Wagler); probably following Sclater, who seems to have been the first to make the mistake."

The case in point is particularly interesting because of the discovery of a second Venezuelan coastal form, there being, of course, the possibility that Bonaparte's description might apply to it and not, as Mr. Richmond thinks, to the long familiar Venezuelan race.

¹ 1837, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, p. 109.

² 1850, *Consp. Av.*, 1, p. 119.

³ 1896, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVIII, p. 666.

⁴ Specimen in American Museum of Natural History, No. 485375.

In the original description, Bonaparte neglected to mention the color of the abdomen, but in the second, gave it as red. This can be seen in the following in which both of Bonaparte's descriptions of *M. subelegans* have been merged. (Brackets signify the additions which appear in the second description.) "[Minor], albonigroque fasciatus; subtus, cum capite, dilute cinerascens: vertice [abdominisque medio] rubris; fronte et cervice subauratis: [macula oculari nigra nulla]." This character, the red abdomen, seems sufficient of itself to exclude the new race of any suspicion that it might have been the form originally described.

Richmond notes a discrepancy in the descriptions of *subelegans* as applied to his El Valle specimen. Bonaparte wrote, "fronte et cervice subauratis." In Richmond's specimen the nape was red, "paler than the crown and separated from it." Considerable variation is shown by the large series at hand. All of the birds have the forehead yellow but the nape is primarily red, lighter than the crown. In many specimens, the red of the crown is disconnected with the red of the nape, but the majority of the males are solid red. (Two excellent examples of this variation from the same region can be seen in The American Museum of Natural History, catalogue numbers, 487625-28.) The yellow of the nape, mentioned in Bonaparte's description, is a subobsolete character in all but a few specimens and, when present, is seen as a golden hue on the posterior nape. Whatever this discrepancy may mean, there is no apparent reason for presuming that, if the original description of *subelegans* was based on a Venezuelan specimen, it applies to the new form to be described. The characters consistently are more applicable to the known form, and, as has been shown, the color of the abdomen of the new race does not agree with Bonaparte's description.

Wetmore, in his paper¹ entitled "Observations on the Birds of Northern Venezuela," uses the specific name *rubricapillus* instead of *subelegans*. His preference is in a line

with that of Hellmayr and Seilern² who do not accept this much older name because of the uncertainty of the type locality. I have chosen to follow Cory in this case because he studied both the Hellmayr-Seilern and the Richmond claims and then proceeded to provisionally accept the latter and to suggest Caracas, Venezuela, as the type locality of *subelegans*. His example is followed in the determination of the following new form.

Centurus subelegans paraguanae, new subspecies

Type from Cerro Santa Ana, Paraguana Peninsula, Venezuela; No. 673, W. H. Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. (Type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History.) Adult male collected October 22, 1938, by the W. H. Phelps Paraguana Peninsula Expedition. Altitude, 550 meters on Cerro Santa Ana.³

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *C. s. subelegans* of "Venezuela" but Scarlet-Red of crown less extensive and obsolete on nape where it is replaced by Buckthorn Brown; Antimony Yellow area at base of upper mandible more restricted, partially replaced with Light Buff; abdomen washed strongly with Primuline Yellow, subobsoletely tipped with rose instead of with brilliant red.

RANGE.—Venezuela: The Paraguana Peninsula and adjacent region of the mainland (Coro to Cumarebo).

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Crown patch Scarlet-Red; forehead supra-ocular stripe, lores and malar region Light Buff; base of upper mandible, posterior to nostrils, Antimony Yellow; nape and sides of crown posterior to eyes Saccardo's Umber; a faint fringe of Buckthorn Brown with traces of rose fringing, forming an indistinct collar on the posterior nape; auriculars Light Buff, darker than the forehead; back, tertiaries and lesser wing-coverts with uniform alternate black and white bars, the latter being terminal; barring becoming subobsolete on lower rump; upper tail-coverts white, lighter than the forehead, but with small concealed black spots and notchings; tail, black with soiled white markings; central pair of rectrices with six square-cornered light notches on inner vane, outer vane with irregularly light-shaped areas enclosed by narrow black fringing; first and second rectrices from central pair black finely tipped with soiled white; third rectrix with a narrow soiled-white fringing along the outer vane, broadest on tip, and with a small light spot on the inner vane near the tip; outer rectrix like third but with five small soiled-white notches on outer vane, one larger notch near the tip of the inner vane, and with spot on inner vane larger; chest, Dark Olive

¹ 1939, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., p. 150.

² This is the only important elevation on the Peninsula. The mountain is 864 meters high.

³ 1939, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 3073, LXXXVII, p. 213.

Buff; throat, Deep Olive Buff; upper breast and flanks like chest; lower chest and abdomen washed with Primuline Yellow and, subobsoletely, with rose; posterior flanks, crissum and under tail-coverts with black barring similar to back but with a buffy cast to the whitish barring; shanks dull buffy gray with subobsolete barring; tail below deep brownish black with soiled-white markings as described for the upper surface; remiges below Mouse Gray notched with white, more extensively on the inner vane; the white notches restricted to the basal halves of the outer four primaries, become more extensive on the remainder of the remiges which, in addition, are tipped with white; remiges above Deep Mouse Gray with white markings as described for the under surface; greater and median coverts black irregularly notched with white. Bill (in life) "black"; legs, "green"; wing, 102.5 mm.; tail, 56; exposed culmen, 24.5; culmen from base, 28; tarsus, 20.5.

In addition to the type, there are four topotypical specimens from the peninsula proper; four of these when compared with five from Coro and Quiragua, Cumarebo (two towns located within fifteen kilometers of the base of the narrow strip of land, about twenty-five kilometers in length, which "bridge-like" connects the peninsula proper with the mainland) show the mainland form to be a partial intermediate between the typical and the new form because, while those from the peninsula proper show no trace of the vivid red posterior nape collar, all of the mainland birds have a slight indication of it. The fifth specimen from the peninsula proper, however, is comparable to two slightly marked mainland birds. The abdomen patches of all are decidedly amber yellow while all other specimens at hand from other localities are strongly red.

A comparison of females impressively indicates the validity of the new race. Those from the peninsula proper are completely devoid of any yellow or tint of red on the nape. However, both of the adjacent mainland females at hand (Coro and Santa Rita, Cumarebo) have a faint wash of red on the posterior nape. Thus, the females corroborate the observation made for the males, that mainland birds in the vicinity of the bridge are intermediate between *subelegans* and *paraguanae*, though much closer to the latter. Below all specimens appear amber yellow as against red in

females at hand from other regions of Venezuela.

Males show a range of measurement on both sides of the type. Wing, 101-110 mm.; tail, 50-60; exposed culmen, 22.5-26.5; culmen from base, 25.5-29.5.

The *paraguanae* specimens are similar to *subelegans* in measurement, both being very variable and with tails and culmens (from base) averaging slightly larger than the averages observed from the large series of *rubricapillus* listed below.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

(American Museum Specimens)

C. s. rubricapillus.—COLOMBIA: Siru River, 2 ♀; "Bogota," 2 ♀, 4(?); Honda, 2 ♂, 1 [♂], 1 ♀; Bonda, Santa Marta, 1 ♂, 5(?).

C. s. subelegans.—VENEZUELA: Mérida, 1(?); Pedregosa, 1 ♀; Punta, near Mérida, 1 ♂, 3(?); Conejos, near Mérida, 1 ♂; Escorial, near Mérida, 1(?); Inland of Puerto Cabello, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Quebrada Seca, Estado Cumaná, 1 ♂, 2 ♀; Valley of Campos Alegre, Estado Cumaná, 2 ♂, 1 [♀]; El Limón (valley of Puerto La Cruz) 2 ♂; Tucacas, Estado Falcon, 1 ♂; La Vela de Coro, Estado Falcon, 1 ♂; Las Trincheras, Estado Carobobo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Ciudad Bolívar, 4 ♂, 1 ♀(?); Altagracia, 1 ♀; Caicara, 2 ♂, 1 ♀ imm.; Maripa, 1 ♂; Maipures, 1 ♀. BRITISH GUIANA: 1 ♀.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

(W. H. Phelps Collection)

C. s. subelegans.—VENEZUELA: La Ciénega (near Caracas), 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Colonia Tovar, 1 ♀; Ciudad Bolívar, 1 ♀; El Socorro, 1 ♂; Zaraza, 1 ♂; El Palmar, 1 ♀; Camaguan, 2 ♂, 1(?); Acarigua, 2 ♀; Valle, near Mérida, 1 ♂.

C. s. paraguanae.—VENEZUELA (Paraguana Peninsula): Cerro Santa Ana, 2 ♂ (including type), 1 ♀; Yaquibo, 1 ♀; Moruy, 2 ♂, 3 ♀. (Mainland): Coro, 3 ♂, 2 ♀; Cumarebo, 2 ♂.

Ochthoeca diadema towarensis, new subspecies

Type from Colonia Tovar, state of Aragua, Venezuela; altitude, 1950 meters; W. H. Phelps catalogue No. 1498 (type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History); adult male, January 2, 1939, obtained by the W. H. Phelps collectors.

DIAGNOSIS.—Nearest to *O. d. diadema* (Hartlaub) of the eastern Andes of Colombia and western Venezuela (Andes of Táchira and Mérida) but distinguishable by the more olivaceous crown and nape, less suffused with sooty brown, and by a deeper brownish-olive back and tertials.

RANGE.—The Andean coast range at Colonia Tovar (probably the coast range from the state of Yaracuy to the state of Miranda).

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Top of head and nape dark olive with a slight suffusion of sooty-olive feather centers appearing on the anterior feather halves; concealed basal halves, at margin of Lemon Chrome forehead, whitish; these concealed white areas decrease to slenderly tapering shaft streaks throughout the remainder of the crown, nape, back and rump; back, tertiaries and rump brownish olive with an amber cast; lores black; forehead Lemon Chrome, continued over the eyes to the supra-auriculars in broad superciliary stripes; subobsolete dusky tipping inconspicuously present in the superciliary stripe chiefly over the eye; postocular space like crown; auriculars dusky olive with yellowish shafts strongest basally; throat Citron Yellow, duller than forehead or superciliary streaks; chest at mid-line slightly darker than the throat; sides of chest and flanks washed with Yellowish Citrine; abdomen bright lemon yellow similar to posterior superciliary stripes; shanks like flanks. Remiges Deep Mouse Gray, externally margined with dull olive-gray on the outer six feathers, the remainder, with broader margins more amber-olive in tone, approaching the color of the back; upper wing-coverts like the remiges, fringed with light olive like the back, forming two indistinct wing-bars; under wing-coverts citrine, brightest on the wrist; axillaries buffy, faintly washed with citrine; remiges below Pallid Neutral Gray; inner margins of remiges subobsolete light gray; tail above like upper remiges, externally margined with subobsolete olive; tail below like under remiges. Wing, 63.5 mm.; tail, 56; exposed culmen, 7.5; culmen from base, 12; tarsus, 19.

REMARKS.—No females were collected but, judging from the sizable series of *diadema* at hand, the females of this new race are probably indistinguishable from the males.

In measurement the new race is essentially the same as a series of six topotypical birds from Bogotá, Colombia, and a series of five from Mérida, Venezuela, with the exception that the bill may average a little shorter. The following range of measurement is recorded for the type and two topotypical partially young birds. Wing, 58.5–63.5 mm.; tail, 50.5–56; exposed culmen, 7.5–9; culmen from base, 12. . . .

In November, 1937, the two partially young birds were collected by the Phelps-Venezuela Expedition of The American Museum of Natural History when a part of the personnel made a short visit to Colonia Tovar. These specimens constituted an extension of range for the species from Mérida. Mr. J. T. Zimmer suspected that they represented an undescribed race and

suggested that more specimens be collected. Fortunately in January, 1939, W. H. Phelps sent his collectors to Colonia Tovar and they procured an adult male (the type) which confirmed Mr. Zimmer's hopes.

The name *tovarensis* seems appropriate because it gives a geographical picture of the region inhabited by this new race. The village of Colonia Tovar was established in the year 1841 and named in honor of Count Martin Tovar, a Venezuelan statesman of great wealth who encouraged the immigration of German stock to this region high in the Andes.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

O. d. towarensis.—VENEZUELA: Colonia Tovar, 2 ♂ (?) juv.

O. d. jesupi.—COLOMBIA: Santa Marta; San Lorenzo, 1 ♀ (type), 1 ♀; Valparaiso, 1(?); El Libano, 1(?).

O. d. diadema.—COLOMBIA: Bogotá, 6(?). VENEZUELA: Mérida, 2 ♂, 2 ♀, 1(?).

O. d. gratiosa.—ECUADOR: Verdacocha, Pinchicha, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Guales, 1 ♂. COLOMBIA: Cerro Munchique, coast range west of Popayan, Cauca, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Santa Elena, Antioquia, 1 ♂; El Roble, Eastern Andes, 1 ♀; western Quindio Andes above Salento, Cauca, 1 ♂; La Guneta, western Quindio Andes, 1 ♀.

A NEW SPECIES OF *Phylloscartes* FROM THE SUBTROPICS OF MT. RORAIMA, VENEZUELA

Two males from Arabupu, Mt. Roraima, after lengthy comparisons with each of the many kinds of small flycatchers, have been found to be a new species of *Phylloscartes*, most nearly related to *P. ventralis angustirostris* of the subtropical zone of Peru, Bolivia and northern Argentina. It is noteworthy that *P. ventralis virescens* of French and British Guiana does not agree nearly so closely with the new species as does *angustirostris*, being generally lighter and less distinctly marked especially on the facial parts. Mr. Zimmer informs me that it is not uncommon for birds from Roraima and Duida to show closer affinities to Peruvian birds than to those from nearby regions.

Phylloscartes chapmani, new species

TYPE.—From Arabupu, Mt. Roraima; altitude 4200 feet. No. 4894, W. H. Phelps Collec-

tion, Caracas, Venezuela. (Type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History.) Adult male collected December 29, 1938, by A. S. Pinkus.

DIAGNOSIS.—Superficially resembling *P. ventralis angustirostris* but median and greater wing-coverts broadly tipped with Ochraceous-Buff (forming two distinct wing-bars) instead of pale citrine yellow; facial pattern generally similar to *angustirostris* but more contrasted, the white of the superciliary streak being lighter and more extensive; the dark loreal spot and the postocular area decidedly darker, more blackish, less gray.

RANGE.—Subtropics of Mt. Roraima (Arabupu), Venezuela.

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Upper parts Hellebore Green, becoming darker more Elm Green on the crown; forehead at base of upper mandible, dull gray-white, connecting with grayish-white superciliary streak and continuing to hind crown midway over auriculars; lores Dark Mouse Gray; filoplumes at sides of lower mandible, black except for indistinct bone-white bases; eye-ring narrowly white; auriculars pale yellow with sooty gray tips; postocular space like lores; subocular region grayish white with narrow sooty edgings; chin light gray; throat and malar region pale gray washed with citrine, the sooty gray of the basal feather halves being faintly visible and giving a mottled appearance; chest centrally Citron Green washed with olive, sides darker, continuing broadly down flanks; belly medially bright Reed Yellow; tail below Hair Brown; primaries below like under tail, edged with Marguerite Yellow on inner vanes (the first six primaries from outside have edgings partially obsolete on their outer halves); under wing-coverts Reed Yellow with a few dusky edgings (a dull olive-gray spot appears near base of first primary); wrist like under wing-coverts; primaries above Dark Neutral Gray, edged on outer vanes with Courage Green. The outermost primary is solid Dark Neutral Gray and the next five primaries have subobsolete Courage Green edgings on their outer halves; outer vanes of innermost six secondaries are tipped with ochraceous buff (this marking becomes larger inwardly and on the innermost secondary occupies the anterior third of the outer vane); greater and median coverts Deep Mouse Gray basally, broadly tipped with Ochraceous Buff, forming two distinct wing-bars; lesser coverts Dark Dull Yellow-Green; tail above dull Mouse Gray, narrowly edged with yellowish green, darker than outer edgings of primaries. Bill, black; feet, dark gray. Wing, 61 mm.; tail, 53; exposed culmen, 9.5; culmen from base, 12; tarsus, 16.

We take great pleasure in naming this new species in honor of Dr. Frank M. Chapman, a privilege best expressed in a letter from Mr. William H. Phelps, dated Maracaibo, Venezuela, November 11, 1939: "I would like the best bird of all named for our mutual, great and good friend, Dr. Chapman."

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

P. chapmani.—VENEZUELA: Arabupu, Mt. Roraima, 1 ♂.

P. ventralis vireacens.—BRITISH GUIANA: Potaro Landing, 1 ♂; Rockstone, Essequibo River, 1 ♂.

P. v. angustirostris.—BOLIVIA (Prov. Cochabamba): Incachaca, 1 ♀, 1(?); Locotal, 2 ♂, 1 ♀.

P. v. ventralis.—BRAZIL (Macieiras): Serra do Itatiaya, 2 ♂, 4 ♀; Itarare, S. Paulo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Roca Nova, S. de Parana, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

Sakesphorus canadensis paraguanae,
new subspecies

Type from Moruy, Paraguana Peninsula, Venezuela, No. 725, W. H. Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. (Type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History.) Adult male collected October 14, 1938, by the W. H. Phelps Paraguana Peninsula Expedition. Altitude 110 meters.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *S. c. pulchellus* but forehead with more white notchings, both larger and more extensive; back paler, more Ochraceous-Tawny, less streaked with brown; chin and throat lighter, the black feathers with white terminal edgings decidedly broader. Differs from *canadensis*, *trinitatis* and *intermedius* by being much brighter above and by having extensive white markings on forehead and throat while others have these markings only subobsoletely, if at all.

RANGE.—Venezuela: the Paraguana Peninsula and adjacent mainland (Cumarebo).

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Upper surface Ochraceous-Tawny, darker on center back and sides of neck, with faint blackish shaft-streaks on anterior feather halves; crown black; forehead posterior to center crown flecked with paired white notches; crest like crown but with outer feathers occasionally fringed broadly with white; short posterior crown feathers black with broad white terminal edgings; superciliary stripe and postocular region black, broadly notched and infrequently barred with white; lores silvery white with black hair-like tips; auriculars black, subterminally barred with buffy white; malar region like lores; chin and throat black on partially concealed basal halves, exposed halves broadly barred with white; upper chest at mid-line black with broad white subterminal barring (the white barring on the type appears to be terminal but is fringed minutely with black. . . I notice that several topotypical males do not exhibit the black tipping, presumably their plumage is worn); indistinctly, a long narrow black patch extends along the mid-line of the chest to the upper abdomen, the individual feathers which combine to form it are inconsistent in pattern, all are gray on their basal halves but along the sides of the patch many feathers are streaked with black on their anterior inner vanes and are pure white on their outer vanes; a number of feathers directly

at the mid-line are gray basally and solid black terminally; sides of neck with subobsolete hair-like tips, becoming gray above the shoulder where the outer feather halves are narrowly shaft-streaked with black; sides of chest soiled white becoming gray beneath the wing; posterior flanks and abdomen white washed with buff, more strongly on tips; under tail-coverts white with gray concealed basal halves (an indistinct narrow sooty bar separates the white and the gray); shanks black with broad white tips; tail below, black with broad white tips, the central pair of rectrices are fringed narrowly with white, the first, second and third rectrices toward the outside from the central pair are sub-obsolete fringed with white basally, the white becoming obsolete along the outer feather halves, the fourth is narrowly fringed like the central pair, the outer tail feather is pure white on its outer vane except for a small area at its base; all are broadly tipped with white but, beginning at the central pair, the white increases in area outwardly. (One of the central pair of rectrices is worn. Evidence of the presence of a white tip in the fresh plumage is shown only by the presence of a stubby subobsolete white border.) Under wing-coverts buffy white; primaries below gray with soiled-white edgings along inner vanes (as seen on exposed under aspect of folded wing), these edgings being restricted to the basal halves of first four primaries, the white extending slightly beyond the middle of the inner vanes on the fifth and sixth primaries and on the remainder continuing to the tips of the feathers; primaries above Dark Mouse Gray, the first three are lighter than the rest, being Mouse Gray, narrowly fringed with buffy white on outer vanes. (The wings of this specimen are partially in moult. Primaries one, two and three are probably in old plumage; primary four is not quite full grown, being still encased in its wax sheath basally and all but two of the remainder appear to be in fresh plumage.) Primaries four, five, six and seven are fringed with white on outer edges; primaries eight, nine, ten, and secondaries one and two are fringed with buffy brown and tipped over the outer vane with white, secondaries three and four are in old plumage (they indicate how completely worn plumage changes the wing pattern during the year) and show no sign of any fringing; the last secondary is broadly fringed with white except over inner vane where tipping is subobsolete; greater wing-coverts sooty black broadly fringed with white on outer edges, subobsolete on inner edges; median coverts black broadly tipped with white; lesser coverts black narrowly tipped with white; wrist like median coverts; rump Ochraceous-Tawny with a golden wash, posteriorly tipped with buffy white; upper tail-coverts black with white tips; tail above black with light areas as described for the under surface. Bill (in life), "black"; feet, "gray"; iris, "brown." Wing, 75.5 mm.; tail, 62; culmen from base, 22; exposed culmen, 19; tarsus, 28.

REMARKS.—Males show a range of meas-

urement on both sides of the type. Wing, 71-76; tail, 59-64; culmen from base, 21-24.5; exposed culmen, 19-22.5; tarsus, 25-28. Females similar in size to males.

Females as described for the type but with black areas of forehead, crown and crest reddish brown; lores, auriculars, malar region, chin and throat with black portions as described for the type, light portions sub-obsolete and tinted with buff; chest without black patch; chest, flanks, abdomen and under tail-coverts strongly washed with cinnamon.

Two males from the state of Lara (The American Museum of Natural History, No. 150318, El Cují, and No. 150324, Barquisimeto) are rather similar to the series of *pulchellus* from Santa Marta though they may average slightly more pallid, less bright rufous, above. These two males are quite different from upper Apure birds and even from a single male from Acarigua which is hardly fifty kilometers distant as the crow flies. The key to this situation is easily seen on a topographical map. The backbone of the Andes separates these two places and the two races of birds; *pulchellus* inhabits the northwestern slopes of the barrier, as shown by the specimens from El Cují and Barquisimeto, and *intermedius* inhabits the southeastern slopes.

Specimens from Acarigua, Camaguan and Calabozo are similar to a series of *intermedius* from La Priçon and from Ciudad Bolívar. The only skin (male) from Guasualito appears to be more richly colored above than any other from the Apure or Orinoco basins. In fact, this specimen, collected farther from the type locality of *trinitatis* than any other in the Phelps Collection, is very similar to that form. Mr. Zimmer pointed this out to me. No attempt to explain this phenomenon is made because of lack of conclusive material.

Wetmore¹ observes that males from near Ocumare (a seaport east of Pto. Cabello), situated on the northern slope of the coastal Andes about one hundred miles east of Barquisimeto, probably "represent an undescribed form" because they are "de-

¹ 1939, U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 3073, LXXXVII, p. 220.

cidedly grayish brown on the back and have under tail-coverts white without black at the base" while specimens of *intermedius* from El Sombrero, just across the backbone of the Andes, "have larger bills and are lighter, brighter brown on the back." He further notes that considerable variation in the color of the back, in both sexes, is exhibited but that his specimens from El Sombrero and from near Ocumare "are distinct from the brighter brown *S. c. pulchellus* of farther west." It is probable that the Ocumare birds, which Wetmore believes are distinct from both *intermedius* and *pulchellus*, are at least intermediates most nearly related to the new race here described as *paraguanae*, which is also recorded from the coastal mainland (Cumarebo), hardly one hundred miles from Ocumare.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

(American Museum Collection)

S. c. pulchellus.—COLOMBIA: Santa Marta, 4 ♂. VENEZUELA: Barquisimeto, 1 ♂; El Cují, 1 ♂.

S. c. intermedius.—VENEZUELA: La Prisión, Caura River, 4 ♂, 1 ♀; Ciudad Bolívar, 7 ♂.

S. c. trinitatis.—TRINIDAD: Chaguaramas, 1 ♂; Pointe Gourde, 3 ♂; Lulet, 2 ♂; Trinidad, 2 ♂.

S. c. canadensis.—FRENCH GUIANA: Cayenne, 6 ♂.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

(W. H. Phelps Collection)

S. c. paraguanae.—VENEZUELA: Moruy, Paraguaná Peninsula, 8 ♂, 1 ♀ (?); Cumarebo, 2 ♂.

S. c. intermedius.—VENEZUELA: Guasualito, 1 ♂ (?); Acarigua, 1 ♂, 1 ♂ imm., 1 ♀, 1 (?); Camaguan, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Calabozo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

Emberizoides herbicola

I have at hand two adult topotypical males of *sphenurus* from Surinam (A. M. N. H. Nos. 519741, 313645) and two males from Annai, British Guiana (Nos. 519735, 36), which are precisely similar. These four, compared with series from various parts of Venezuela, seem to show that the wide-ranging subspecies, *sphenurus*, is very variable and very possibly in need of further separation. This paper deals only with the status of two skins of *E. herbicola* obtained in the upper Apure Valley (a

region never collected in before) which appear clearly to be a new form.

Emberizoides herbicola apurensis, new subspecies

Type from Pedraza (Ciudad Bolivia), Barinas, upper Apure Valley, Venezuela, No. 3196. W. H. Phelps Collection, Caracas, Venezuela. (Type on deposit at The American Museum of Natural History.) Adult male collected March 16, 1939, by William H. Phelps. Altitude 310 meters.

DIAGNOSIS.—Similar to *E. a. sphenurus* but distinctly darker, more grayish on upper surface, less brownish and without an Amber Yellow tint; rump duller Mouse Gray with a brown wash, less cinnamon-brown; outer edges of tail Pale Mouse Gray, less olivaceous; black feather centers on crown, rump and tail broader and darker, less brownish, giving the upper aspect a consistently darker appearance; subocular stripe extending from anterior loreal area to auriculars, darker, less gray-brown; auriculars deeper sooty gray, less buffy gray; ocular ring more broadly white, especially below orbit.

RANGE.—The upper Apure Valley at the southern base of the Venezuelan Andes (Pedraza [Ciudad Bolivia] and Guanare).

DESCRIPTION OF TYPE.—Crown streaked broadly with black; narrow lateral Hair Brown X Drab edgings becoming subobsolete on forehead; broader with a consequent decrease of black on hind neck; tertiaries and center back feathers to anterior rump with wide black areas centrally, fringed with Light Grayish Olive (a few edgings are tinted subobsoletely with amber yellow); rump and upper tail-coverts with narrow black shaft-streaks, broadly fringed with Drab on anterior rump, becoming richer more Ochraceous-Tawny on upper tail-coverts; lores whitish with black hair-like tips, becoming darker (more profuse) at junction of upper mandible; a narrow whitish superciliary streak, subocular space and narrow eye ring (except posteriorly) white, broadest below orbit; malar region dusky black fading gradually below to merge with buffy white throat; auriculars Mouse Gray contrasted with bone-white shafts; middle chest and upper abdomen at mid-line soiled white faintly washed with buff; sides of throat, chest, flanks and lower abdomen Smoke Gray, becoming darker, more brownish, on inner posterior flanks and lower abdomen; under tail-coverts buff tinged with brown (a number of the feathers on sides of chest, flanks, lower abdomen and under tail-coverts are streaked narrowly with dark brown); tail below Mouse Gray; shanks grayish on inside, tinged with greenish buff on outside; under wing-coverts white, becoming strongly Citron Yellow on wrist and elbow; axillaries white washed with yellow; primaries like under surface of tail but edged on trailing vanes with Pallid Mouse Gray, most prominent on basal halves, becoming subobsolete on anterior halves; pri-

primaries above Clove Brown narrowly edged with amber yellow on outer vanes, becoming sub-obsolete on anterior feather halves where it is replaced with light brownish gray (the first primary lacks any trace of yellow, being edged with white along the outer vane), last three secondaries display no yellow but instead are fringed with soiled brownish gray; wing-coverts Clove Brown centrally, broadly fringed with amber yellow; tail above, like primaries with brownish-gray edgings on outer vanes; central pair of rectrices edged on both vanes. Bill (in life), "black"; feet, "olive-black"; upper mandible, "black"; lower mandible, "yellow"; iris, "brown." Wing, 69 mm.; tail, 90.5; exposed culmen, 13.5; culmen from base, 15.5; tarsus, 23.

REMARKS.—Males of *sphenurus* (based on 22 skins) show the following range of measurement: wing, 63–71.5; tail, 87–105; exposed culmen, 11.5–14; culmen from base, 15–18; tarsus, 22.5–25.5. This indicates that the new race here described is similar in size to *sphenurus*.

Females probably like males. The single female (Guanare, No. 3197) when compared with the type has dark feathers of upper parts lighter brownish, less blackish;

lores, superciliary streak and subocular area buffy white and almost subobsolete; malar region only faintly tipped with black instead of being heavily margined. The feathers composing the ocular ring are in moult, probably accounting for the lack of white in that area.

Females of *sphenurus* (based on 13 skins) show a range of measurement similar to that of the males, as follows: wing, 62–68.5; tail, 87.5–96.5; exposed culmen, 12.5–14; culmen from base, 15–17; tarsus, 22.5–24.5.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED

E. h. duida.—VENEZUELA: Mt. Duida Plateau, 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

E. h. sphenurus.—DUTCH GUIANA: Surinam, 2 ♂. BRITISH GUIANA: Annai, 2 ♂, 1 ♀. VENEZUELA.—MT. RORAIMA: 1 ♂; Arabupu 2 ♂; Paulo, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Philipp Camp, 1 ♀. MT. AUYAN-TEPUI: 6 ♂. MT. DUIDA: Campamento del Medio, 1 ♂, 1 ♀; Esmeralda, 2 ♂, 4 ♀. CARACAS: 2 ♂, 3 ♀. SAN ANTONIO, BERMÚDEZ: 1 [♂]. Guácharo: 1 ♂.

E. h. apurensis.—VENEZUELA: Pedraza (Ciudad Bolivia), Barinas, 1 ♂ (the type); Guanare, Portuguesa, 1 ♀.