

**The Blue-winged Warbler near Boston.**—Walking in dry, scrubby woods in the town of Brookline, Mass., May 19, 1918, Dr. Charles W. Townsend and I found a Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) singing the typical song of the Golden-winged Warbler (*V. chrysoptera*). The bird had the bright-yellow throat, breast, belly, and crown and the black line through the eye, and we had no hesitation in pronouncing it a Blue-winged Warbler. As this species is regarded as extremely rare in Massachusetts (see note by Mr. Horace W. Wright, Auk, 1917, pp. 482, 483), the bird was afterwards visited by other observers, some of whom saw it to better advantage than we did and discovered that its wing-bars were yellow, not white as in typical examples of the species. Among these observers were Mr. Charles J. Maynard, Judge Charles F. Jenney, Dr. John B. Brainerd, Mr. Barron Brainerd, and Mr. Henry S. Shaw. Mr. Maynard, who visited the locality June 15 in company with Judge Jenney and Mr. Shaw, wrote me under date of July 31, 1918: "I saw the bird very distinctly a number of times and clearly saw that it had decidedly yellow wing-bands, not as yellow as those of the Golden-winged, yet decidedly yellow, and we heard no other song than the one indistinguishable from that of the Golden-wing. . . . I was interested in trying to find whether the bird was mated, but we did not succeed in finding any mate." None of the observers saw anything of a mate, and none heard any other song from the bird than the Golden-winged Warbler song. Illness in my family prevented my visiting the locality again until July 10, when the bird was not to be found, and the Golden-winged Warblers, two of which had been found there before had also stopped singing.

Forms of the Blue-winged Warbler with yellow or yellowish wing-bars are not very rare in collections, and Dr. Louis B. Bishop, who has a large series of this species, makes particular mention of them in his paper on 'The Status of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis* and *Helminthophila lawrencei*' in 'The Auk,' 1905, XXII, p. 21-24. In the light, however, of Dr. Walter Faxon's discovery of the hybrid nature of Brewster's Warbler it seems probable that these non-typical examples are really of mixed ancestry and possess a modicum of *chrysoptera* blood. This seems the more likely in the case of our Brookline bird because it sang the *chrysoptera* song, as do most, if not all, of the *leucobronchialis* found in this region. Mr. William Brewster permits me to cite him in support of this theory, and Dr. Bishop writes me, "I think it quite possible your bird had a '*lawrencei*' as a more or less remote ancestor, which means *chrysoptera* of course farther back, added to its predominant *pinus* blood."

Though our bird was found, as I have stated, in the town of Brookline, the cities of Boston and Newton also corner near by, and, as Judge Jenney has pointed out to me, it doubtless had in its daily range not only these three municipalities but also the three counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Middlesex to which they severally belong.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*



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