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A NEW SOLITARY VIREO FROM BRITISH
HONDURAS

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THE "pine ridge" areas of British Honduras and Guatemala are especially known for the number of temperate zone birds of which they harbor resident tropical representatives. These sharply defined regions of open pine forest are apparently due to soil conditions and are found in British Honduras at altitudes ranging from sea level at Belize to perhaps two thousand feet in the western part of the country. Some of the better known northern birds represented in the "pine ridge" fauna are: the bluebird (*Sialia sialis*), ant-eating woodpecker (*Balanosphyra formicivora*), grasshopper sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*), rusty sparrow (*Aimophila rufescens*), chipping sparrow (*Spizella passerina*), and Grace's warbler (*Dendroica graciae*). In 1931 the University of Michigan expedition to British Honduras made a notable addition to this list by the discovery of a resident form of the solitary vireo¹ which may be known as

¹ For photographs of the habitat of this vireo and a brief account of the expedition see *Report of the Director of the Museum of Zoology for 1930-1931*: 18.

Vireo solitarius notius, subsp. nov.

Type.—No. 69972, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, adult male, from the "pine ridge," altitude about 1,200 feet, 12 miles south of El Cayo, British Honduras; collected March 4, 1931, by Josselyn Van Tyne (original number 2389).

Characters.—An apparently resident form, most like *Vireo solitarius cassini* (Xantus) but characterized by a very short, rounded wing and proportionately longer tail. Wing very short and so rounded that it violates Ridgway's diagnosis² of the genus *Lanivireo*. Wing tip shorter than the tarsus. Fifth primary longer than the ninth. Tenth (outermost) primary decidedly larger than in the other known forms of the species.

Colored like *Vireo solitarius cassini* but the upper parts, especially the crown, darker. Crown and auricular region pure gray, not washed with green. Outer web of the outer tail feathers more extensively white.

 Measurements in millimeters

Male (type),	wing—63	tail—48.5	tarsus—17	weight—12.7	grams.
“	“ —65	“ —49	“ —17.5	“ —12.5	“
“	“ —64	“ —50	“ —18	“ —12	“
Female	“ —65	“ —50	“ —17.5	“ —13	“
“	“ —66	“ —50	“ —18	“ —13	“

Range.—Known only from the type locality.

Remarks.—At the time of my visit to the "pine ridge" these vireos were in full song and apparently about to breed. Specimens were taken February 16 to March 4.

This new vireo does not even fit into the current concept of the subgenus *Lanivireo*, and it is separated by many hundreds of miles from the most nearly related form, yet it is clearly a geographical representative of *Vireo solitarius* and is therefore best considered a subspecies of that group.

² *Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 50 (pt. 3): 129 and 161-2.

