

## GENERAL NOTES

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### STARLING IN MICHIGAN

On September 14, 1924, the writer found a flock of ten Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) near Ann Arbor. An adult female was collected from this flock by J. Van Tyne on September 17.

CLAUDE H. VAN TYNE II.

### ENGLISH SPARROW EATEN BY SHRIKE

While going over some of my field notes I noticed a record of my having observed a Shrike eating an English Sparrow, and since in this connection I recalled Mr. B. F. Mounts' article in *The Bulletin*, December, 1923, p. 221, I am submitting my notes, which were taken at Norman, Oklahoma, March 23, 1915.

I saw a Shrike (presumably the White-rumped, *L. l. excubitorides*) eating the rear half of a small bird and since I had never witnessed this supposedly frequent performance I was very much interested. Presently the Shrike hung the remains of its victim on a thorn of the hedge tree in which it was perched and flew to another bough about a foot away. As I drew nearer the scene the Shrike evidenced a desire to regain its prey, and before I could interfere it seized the remains of the bird in its claws and was about to fly away with it. By this time I had picked up some small stones which I threw at the Shrike and caused it to drop its prey. I lost no time in picking up the mutilated carcass and to my surprise I found that it was the remains of an English Sparrow which had been so recently killed that its flesh was still warm. While I was thus engaged, the Shrike sat nearby and watched me very closely. When I tossed the remains of the Sparrow on the ground by the bush in which the Shrike sat, it immediately regained its prey and mumbling a few discordant notes bore the mutilated body away in its claws.

E. D. CRABB.

Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.

### LITTLE BLUE HERONS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

The presence of the Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*) in Montgomery County, Ohio, throughout the month of August, was the most interesting local ornithological event of the summer of 1924. I first saw this species, eight birds in the white plumage, at a small artificial lake about eight miles north of the city of Dayton, on the 2nd of August. Ten visits to this lake were made during the month, and on each occasion from three to twelve of these herons were seen; the last were observed on the 31st of August.

Never as wary as the Great Blue Herons, these birds became tamer at each visit, and toward the end of their stay often would allow me to approach within a hundred feet without showing signs of fear; the con-