

nestlings, their eyes just opening. While I looked at them the male sang a clear, sweet warble, but very low and lacking in volume. Since the birds were not collected, they are referred to the form *eurhyncha* on the basis of geographic probabilities.—ALEXANDER F. SKUTCH, *Tecpam, Guatemala*.

Molt of the Nonpareil.—I have had a male Nonpareil in my aviary since June, 1927. Last summer after returning from a six weeks absence I was surprised to find that the golden green of the back had changed to chocolate brown. This spring the color had brightened to coppery red which in certain lights appears as brilliant as the scarlet underparts. There is no trace of green in the plumage and the bird appears red with blue head and dark brown wings and tail. The plumage is bright and glossy. With the exception of the first spring when the red of the underparts changed to yellow—which in turn changed back to red the next season—the bird has always been lively and active.

In the same aviary are three waxwings: a Cedar-bird and European and American Bohemian Waxwings. The American Waxwing is a trifle larger and has the tail somewhat longer. The color is somewhat deeper and in the European bird the rusty flush on the forehead extends to the sides of the neck. The rump is much paler gray in contrast to the grayish-brown of the back. It appears a brighter colored bird than the American. It has been much attracted to the Cedar-bird and puffs out the feathers of the rump, breast and crest until it seems twice the size. It dances about on the perch and occasionally reaches down and takes the beak of the other bird in its own. This must be the display dance practiced by the bird during the mating season. The Cedar-bird though in adult plumage lacks the wax-like appendages on the wings.

In the same enclosure are a Turnstone, Virginia, Sora and Yellow Rails. The first three birds roost on branches eight or nine feet above the ground while the Yellow Rail roosts in the underbrush.—KARL PLATH, 2847 *Giddings St., Chicago*.

Lark Sparrow Breeding in West Virginia.—Within the past few years Lark Sparrows (*Chondestes grammacus grammacus*) have become very rare in West Virginia, so it seems worth recording that the species bred during the 1932 season at French Creek, Upshur County, W. Va.

On June 27, 1932, I observed a female repeatedly feeding young birds which had left the nest. The male bird sang on a nearby telephone wire. All offered a fine opportunity for observation. Later, birds were seen in two other localities close to French Creek, so they may have bred quite generally throughout this territory.

Twenty years ago Lark Sparrows became abundant over this entire region, but those seen this year were the first I have observed in the last five years.—MAURICE BROOKS, *French Creek, W. Va.*

Seaside Sparrow at Revere, Massachusetts.—On the morning of July 3, 1932, I went to the Revere marshes to look for Sharp-tailed Spar-

rows. On entering the marsh I was greatly surprised when the first bird on which I was able to focus my glass proved to be a Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritima maritima*) a species that I had seen many times in southern Connecticut and Virginia. On July 5, Messrs. Francis H. Allen, John H. Conkey and Ludlow Griscom went to the place, found the bird without difficulty, and confirmed the identification. It was subsequently seen several times and as late as August 7, but only one bird was observed and it gave no indication of having a nest or young there.

I have been able to find but one definite record of this species north of Boston,—a specimen taken at Nahant in August, 1877 (Brewer, Bull. Nuttall Orn. Club, vol. III, p. 48). Forbush (Birds of Massachusetts, etc.) says, however, that he has had reports of it along the coast as far north as Ipswich, and Dr. John B. May writes that one was reported to him as seen at Plum Island last spring.—GEORGE L. PERRY, 68 Thurston Street, Winter Hill, Somerville, Mass.

Acadian and Nelson's Sparrows in the Connecticut Valley.—

Until this fall, the Acadian Sparrow had been found but once in the Massachusetts section of the Connecticut valley, and then close to the southern state-line. In 'The Auk' (Vol. 26, 1909, p. 84) the late R. O. Morris, in recording this specimen (now preserved in the Springfield Museum of Natural History) as collected at Longmeadow on October 6, 1908, remarked "I believe it is not so rare in this vicinity as is supposed." Nevertheless, no more were reported until September 18, 1932, when Mr. Eliot found one in a patch of boggy grass near the Ox-bow at Northampton. From then till and including October 16, one to six or more could almost always be found in this same grass-patch (about 75 feet square)—mostly adults, but some young.

On September 22, the first Nelson's Sparrow was observed at this same place, and on September 29 we fortunately found individuals of both the races there, so that comparisons and distinctions were positive. On several subsequent dates, however (notably October 9), the birds observed seemed intermediate in coloration between the two. We note in the 1931 'Check-List' an enormous gap between their breeding-ranges (Minnesota to southeastern Quebec), and therefore wonder if our intermediate-looking birds may not have come from some unknown breeding-station between. The richly colored Nelson's Sparrows doubtless came from the west, bound for the coast. It is curious that the race seems never to have been found in Massachusetts away from the sea-shore, for it probably crosses the state from end to end in getting to the coast.—S. A. ELIOT, JR., Northampton, and A. C. BAGG, Holyoke, Mass.

Late Nesting of the Carolina Junco (*Junco hyemalis carolinensis*).

—Messrs. Pearson and Brimley, in their 'Birds of North Carolina,' p. 247, state that the eggs are laid "from May to July." I have several nesting records for mid-July and the end of that month, and last summer (1931) found a nest which held three eggs on the first day of August; these hatched