

seen many times and the species is not one which is readily confused; besides, Mr. Birdsall is an experienced student of wild life in various parts of the country, accustomed to careful observation. Mrs. D. K. Birdsall, as well as others, who are interested in birds, watched the pair closely. They were singularly tame in the presence of humans, allowing the latter to approach within eight or ten feet; toward other birds, however, the male was extremely "bossy," not permitting any to come near the bird-bath while the female was using it. A nest was begun and completed, about fifteen feet from the ground, in a red cedar not far from the house. For some undetermined reason, however, about June 11 both birds abandoned it and disappeared. Whether or not the weather had any influence or not, it happens that the departure of the birds, accustomed usually to high altitudes and northern temperatures, coincided with a most abnormal heat wave of several days' duration. As far as I can discover from numerous sources, there is no record of this bird attempting to breed in Connecticut, or, possibly, in New England, save in the White Mountains of New Hampshire above 3,000 feet altitude. Winter visitations, of course, are not uncommon.—DEVERE ALLEN, *Wilton, Conn.*

**Apparent Range Extension of the Eastern Savannah Sparrow.**—Recently two notes have appeared in 'The Auk' recording the Eastern Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*) in West Virginia during the nesting season. Just how widely it ranges in the state has not, perhaps, been sufficiently emphasized.

During the summers of 1932 and 1933 I have spent much time in the northern West Virginia region, and points adjoining it and have noted the Savannah Sparrow in Ohio, Brooke, Marshall, Randolph, Preston, Tucker, Monongalia, Grant, and Mineral Counties in West Virginia, and from Garrett County, Maryland. It has also been reported from Upshur County, West Virginia.

So far as I know, no nest has yet been found, but I recently watched a pair of these birds in Canaan Valley, Tucker County, West Virginia, exhibiting every sign of alarm. Later a young bird was seen.—MAURICE BROOKS, *French Creek, W. Va.*

**Gambel's Sparrow in Ohio.**—During the period from May 2 to 11, 1933, twenty White-crowned Sparrows were either banded or collected, at my home near Leetonia, Columbiana County, Ohio. Each member of this group was carefully examined for white lores which resulted in the finding, on May 8, of a seemingly pure specimen of Gambel's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*). This bird was taken in a banding trap, together with four other White-crowns, and was sufficiently distinct for its separation to require only a desultory glance over the lot of captives.

In view of the rarity of this western variety so far east, this bird was not banded, but was collected, and its skin deposited in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. My identification was verified by Mr. J. W. Aldrich

who, in his letter of June 7, advised that "this specimen has been compared with a large series of *gambeli* from Idaho and is just as typical of that form as the average of this series."

Apparently this constitutes the first noted appearance of this form in Ohio, but its occurrence was to be reasonably anticipated since a neighbor state, Michigan, up until May 12, 1929, boasted eleven records, representing six different years, and involving both migratory periods (Van Tyne, in *The Wilson Bulletin*, June, 1930, pp. 95-97).

During the past six years I have banded 92 White-crowned Sparrows, and this is the first *gambeli* which has been detected, though I had observed a couple of what I regarded as tendencies in their direction.

The bird was a male, in good flesh, and weighed 33.25 grams, which is above the average (29.01) taken from 36 *leucophrys* weighings obtained during both spring and fall, but chiefly the latter, and mainly immatures.—PAUL A. STEWART, *Leetonia, Ohio*.

**Notes from the Coast of Connecticut.**—As the guest of Dr. E. G. Rowland of Norwich and Mr. A. P. Brockway of Hadlyme—who, since the passing of J. N. Clark and J. H. Sage, best knows the birds of the southernmost part of the Connecticut Valley—I was taken on June 6, 1933, to Menunketesuck Point in Westbrook, a rocky islet connected to the sandy coast by tidal flats. Some of the birds we observed there were new to my hosts; others seem worth noting because of the late date.

*Phalacrocorax a. auritus*. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—One, on an out-lying rock.

*Mergus serrator*. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.—Four, quite well inshore; one of them apparently a male, but in indistinct plumage.

*Charadrius melodus*. PIPING PLOVER.—One, behaving as if its mate were incubating, somewhere among the pebbles. Said to be very rare on this coast.

*Charadrius semipalmatus*. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER.—Eight.

*Squatarola squatarola*. BLACK-BREASTED PLOVER.—One.

*Arenaria interpres morinella*. RUDDY TURNSTONE.—Seven.

*Calidris canutus rufus*. AMERICAN KNOT.—Five or six, quite tame and approachable.

*Pisobia fuscicollis*. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.—One, studied at very close range, and also heard.

*Pelidna alpina sakhalina*. RED-BACKED SANDPIPER.—One, in striking spring plumage.

*Limnodromus griseus*. DOWITCHER.—One. This bird bathed and preened, in company with four Knots and two Turnstones, within a few feet of us. All its markings were scrutinized through 8-power binoculars, and accorded perfectly—especially the very scanty spotting of the underparts, and pale buff crissum—with Prof. Rowan's new "inland" subspecies, *hendersoni*.

*Sterna h. hirundo*. COMMON TERN.—A few pairs were breeding; Mr. Brockway found eggs.