

shown in utilizing the arrangement of the vines and in construction of the nest to produce a result comparable to the structure placed in the usual location.—WENDELL P. SMITH, *Wells River, Vermont*.

The Golden-crowned Sparrow in Illinois.—What appears to be the first Illinois record for the Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia coronata*) is that of a bird taken, November 28, 1935, at Waukegan, Lake Co. It was an immature female and was found by W. I. Lyon, together with several White-throated Sparrows, in one of the traps used at his bird banding station.

The only other record for the Chicago region refers to a male taken in Racine Co., Wis. in April 1858, by Dr. Hoy. The species has been reported also from Massachusetts.—EDWARD R. FORD, *Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Ill.*

The Distribution of the Atlantic Song Sparrow.—The Atlantic Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia atlantica* Todd), described from Smith's Island, on the ocean side of the northern peninsula of Virginia, has been supposed to range only along the beaches and marshes bordering on the Atlantic Ocean. On March 20, 1932, during a considerable migration of Song Sparrows in the marshes at Cornfield Harbor, Maryland, near the point where the Potomac River enters Chesapeake Bay, I collected two males of this race, and later found it to be the breeding form in the marshes near the beach there. A breeding male taken May 26, 1935, definitely establishes that fact. This led to consideration of the breeding Song Sparrows elsewhere along the lower Potomac with the result that I find the Atlantic race nesting as far up river as one and one half miles above Morgantown, Maryland, where a breeding male was taken July 14, 1935. This point is distant in an airline only a little more than forty miles from the city of Washington.

It is evident that *atlantica* has a somewhat extended range along the lower part of Chesapeake Bay and its larger tributaries and it appears possible that it may range along the beaches as far as there is definite influence of salt water. At Morgantown and Cornfield Harbor it is partial to growths of *Baccharis*.

It is interesting to observe that while in mannerisms and notes the Atlantic Song Sparrow does not differ appreciably from the inland *Melospiza melodia melodia* to an accustomed eye it appears distinctly larger, and duller, less rufescent in color. In fact the two seem more distinct when seen in life than when examined in the form of museum specimens.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Eastern Snow Bunting at Harrisburg, Pa.—On February 13, 1936, I found an Eastern Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*) feeding with twenty-one Prairie Horned Larks (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*) in open fields within the city limits of Harrisburg, Pa. With them were numerous Eastern Tree Sparrows, all feeding on the seeds of tall grasses and goldenrod projecting above a foot of snow. At a distance of about fifty feet the Snow Bunting was distinctly identified with 8x binoculars. It (probably she) was less timid than the Prairie Horned Larks. On February 7 I had seen a flock of nineteen Prairie Horned Larks in a field directly back of my residence in Harrisburg. They paid no attention whatever to automobiles on the main street only thirty feet away. This is the first record, as far as I could ascertain, of a Snow Bunting being seen in the Harrisburg area, and the first appearance of such large flocks of Prairie Horned Larks within the city limits.—HAROLD B. WOOD, M.D., *Harrisburg, Pa.*

Snow Buntings in Harrison County, West Virginia.—During the very heavy

snows, with sub-zero weather, that came during the week of Christmas, 1935, there were notable concentrations of birds at points in central West Virginia where cattle were being fed. We found, in looking for birds at this time, that our best method was systematically to visit such spots.

On January 1, 1936, Mr. A. S. Margolin, Miss Dorothy Brooks, Mrs. Brooks, and the writer were driving near Romine's Mill, Harrison County. Our attention was called to a flock of small white-appearing birds in flight, and when we stopped we found a flock of six Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*) feeding with a large flock of Prairie Horned Larks. The birds were examined with good glasses, their general white appearance in flight making them unmistakable. We particularly noted the pure white underparts as they flew whistling above us.

The only previous record for this species in West Virginia was made by Mr. Earle A. Brooks at French Creek, Upshur County, on December 21, 1886. We still do not have, so far as I know, a specimen taken in the state, but it seems well to publish this sight record, since it was made under favorable circumstances.—MAURICE BROOKS, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

New Birds for Churchill, Manitoba.—The observations recorded below were made at Churchill, Manitoba during the summer of 1934.

Hydroprogne caspia imperator (Coues). CASPIAN TERN.—In 1931 Twomey (Taverner and Sutton, the Birds of Churchill, Annals of the Carnegie Museum, Vol. 34, p. 58) took a male of this species but no other observations have been recorded. On the evening of July 2 three of these birds flew over the town of Churchill and on August 4 and again on August 9 one of these large Terns was seen over Hudson Bay near the town site. No specimens were secured but the notes, size and coloration of this species are quite distinctive.

Sitta canadensis Linnaeus. RED-BREADED NUTHATCH.—One was observed on August 4 in a heavy stand of spruce near the gravel pit about six miles from Churchill. It was not collected but permitted a close approach so that there could be no mistake as to its identification. Taverner and Sutton (p. 66) mention a very early observation of this species fifty-five miles south of Churchill and suggest the possibility of its occurrence.

Spizella passerina arizonae Coues. WESTERN CHIPPING SPARROW.—This record is based on a specimen collected by the author on July 11 in a spruce woods near Lake Isabelle, about four miles from town. The skin was prepared by Miss A. M. Heydweiller and is now in the Cornell University collection. Its measurements (W.-73.25, T.-59.8, and B.-9.4) and coloration are typical of the western race. Judging from the normal range this form must be considered as an accidental or at most a casual visitor in the vicinity of Churchill.

The writer wishes to thank Mr. James L. Peters, Curator of Birds, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy at Harvard College, who was kind enough to examine this specimen and determine its subspecific status.—FREDERICK M. BAUMGARTNER, *Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University.*

Connecticut River, New Hampshire, Notes.—I can find very few notes relative to the Connecticut River as a Duck migration highway. Glover M. Allen in his 'Birds of New Hampshire' has given a few records embracing ponds and lakes in this and nearby vicinities. Hence it seems that the following notes, made in 1935, might be worthwhile.

Anas p. platyrhynchos. MALLARD.—One April 7.

Anas rubripes tristis. BLACK DUCK.—By far the most common species on the river