

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

at any time, and incidentally breeds. Fifty-four seen March 31; one hundred and seven plus, April 7; about thirty April 14.

*Nettion carolinense*. GREEN-WINGED TEAL.—Ten April 7.

*Spatula clypeata*. SHOVELLER.—A single male flying past April 7.

*Nyroca marila*. GREATER SCAUP.—One seen March 31; thirty-three April 7, a flock that flew up-river when flushed from mid-river.

*Glaucionetta clangula americana*. AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE.—Two, a male and female, watched close to shore April 14.

*Somateria mollissima dresseri*. AMERICAN ELDER.—Three each date, March 31 and April 7, all males.

*Oidemia americana*. AMERICAN SCOTER.—A single male April 7.

*Mergus merganser americanus*. AMERICAN MERGANSER.—Three males, April 14.

*Mergus serrator*. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.—Three, April 7.

*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*. HERRING GULL.—Four adults stayed about the mouth of Mill Brook emptying into the river, from about March 25 and for the month following. On March 17, a single adult bird was seen riding a debacle ice floe in mid-river between Westminster, Vermont, and Walpole, N. H., heading down river toward Westmoreland where the above Gulls were recorded.

All the Duck notes herein were made at Westmoreland, at one spot in the river embracing not over two hundred yards along shore.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, *East Westmoreland, N. H.*

**Some Wintering Birds of Franklin County, Mass.**—Slightly eastward of Mt. Hermon School in East Northfield, the farm piggery is located, a building of several sheds in a pasture. Garbage of the school is fed to a mixed herd in the large, open pen. Starlings and Crows in considerable numbers are attracted by the constant feast, which probably accounts for a flock of Cowbirds and a single Red-winged Blackbird that lingered throughout the fall of 1935 and are now remaining for the winter. Up to January 11, 1936, the winter was quite an open one with very little snow and but one cold period. My brother, John L. Bagg of Greenfield, first noticed the unusual visitors on December 12, 1935.

The Cowbirds he found remained fairly close to the neighborhood, sometimes flying to nearby cowbarns of the school, at other times along the open roadside. On December 22 he counted nine males and seven females or immature birds on the ridgepole of the sheds. While mingling with the Starlings, they kept for the most part in a group by themselves. Associating with them the female Red-wing could usually be seen.

On January 25 wondering whether they were able to survive the unusually severe snowstorm of January 11 when two feet or more of snow fell, followed by sub-zero temperatures, we visited the piggery. As we approached the pen, Starlings were flying back and forth, dropping to feed among the pigs, some of them frequently alighting on their backs. One medium sized animal, we noted, held six Starlings, others three or four. On this occasion, two male Cowbirds and the single Red-wing were all we could find.

Suddenly our attention was riveted to a large bird, gliding swiftly on outstretched pointed wings, about six feet over the pen in our direction. As it swept up overhead, the black mustachios confirmed our suspicions of a Duck Hawk (an adult male judging by the size and plumage). Back and forth he wheeled several times before making off, the large yellow feet showing plainly. We have had records of this Falcon in our valley for every month of the year with the exception of January, chiefly in the vicinity of the Mt. Tom ledge. The nearest nesting ledge, to our