

1935, Mr. John Patek described to me a bird he had seen the previous day in Riverside Park, Milwaukee. It was entirely different from any native bird with which I was acquainted. The song, he said, was like that of a Goldfinch. With this clue, I suspected an escaped cage bird. Going to the park, I found and collected the bird, which my father, a man not at all interested in ornithology, recognized as a "Stieglitz" or European Goldfinch. He had known the bird some fifty years before as a boy in Czecho-Slovakia. Subsequent identification proved he was right.

Inquiry has been made at most of the pet stores in Milwaukee and also at the Zoo if such a bird had escaped. None reported having had any of this species in their possession for a number of years.

The plumage of the bird when collected was quite sooty, indicating that it had not been caged recently. I therefore feel that this bird may be reported as an accidental straggler in Wisconsin.

The skin is now in the Milwaukee Public Museum.—CLARENCE S. JUNG, 4612 N. Bahland Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni exilipes*) in New Hampshire.—On January 12, 1936, while observing birds near the Connecticut River about four miles north of White River Junction, Vermont, I saw a single Hoary Redpoll in company with three Common Redpolls. The bird was an adult male, I believe, and was easily recognized.

Forbush cited one record for this bird from the state of Vermont in his 'Birds of Massachusetts' (vol. 3, p. 20), but to my knowledge there are no other definite records from the state.—WILLIAM C. VAUGHAN, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.

The Cape Sable Sparrow and Hurricanes.—At the southern end of the Florida mainland, between Cape Sable and the heavy mangrove forest that fringes the edge of the Everglades, lies a low ocean prairie extending in a narrow strip for twenty miles parallel to the coast. Scattered here and there over this area are large patches of switch grass, the home of the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow (*Ammospiza mirabilis*). This species, peculiar to the Cape Sable prairie, is non-migratory, and remains in its limited range the year round, finding its food among the roots of the tall grass, and building its nest in some thick shady clump. But what happens when the awful hurricanes come? Where then do these little birds go? How can they survive?

On the second day of September, 1935, the most devastating hurricane ever recorded in this section swept over the entire range of the Cape Sable Sparrow. The low ocean prairie was completely covered with six feet of water, its surface lashed into great waves and spray by a gale of one hundred and thirty miles an hour. In the mangrove forests the trees that were large and not flexible enough to bend with the storm were torn to pieces; only the smaller ones, by bending to the water, escaped. Many large birds, Pelicans, Cormorants, Egrets, and Herons, which had gone to roost on the near-by keys were beaten down and killed. The Great White Herons suffered heavy loss. The storm continued throughout the night, leaving death and destruction in its path. Several human bodies from the Keys, thirty-five miles across the bay of Florida, were found after the storm, wedged in the mangroves that fringe the Cape Sable prairie. It is a wonder how this frail little Sparrow, with its weak, uncertain flight, could possibly survive. But it did. In the ensuing month of April (1936) I found it again in the switchgrass, pursuing, manifestly, its normal, unbroken course of life.—JOHN B. SEMPLE, Sewickley, Pennsylvania.

Harris's Sparrow again in Luce Co., Michigan.—Since recording this species (*Zonotrichia querula*) near my home here (Auk, January, 1925 and July, 1932) in