

having no competition at this time. Later, when the grackles, woodpeckers, and other birds commence to feed, the jays come at the break of dawn. We often have as many as eight of the last at one time. The larger jays seem to realize their physical superiority, frequently driving the smaller form away from the food.

My wife was able to separate the two subspecies, as she would often tell me which and how many of each were on the shelf eating when I was unable to watch them. I have studied the skins of both varieties.

We went north May 7, 1943 and May 12, 1944. After these dates, three jay's nests were built in our small back yard citrus grove. I assume these nests were constructed by *semplei* but it would be interesting to have the proof.—CHARLES L. PHILLIPS, 236 Oak St., Sarasota, Florida.

A spring record for the Arkansas Kingbird in southern Mississippi.—On May 6, 1945, while I was passing a partially overgrown field three miles north of Gulfport, an Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) was observed in the top of a large bush a short distance from the road. After verifying its identity with my binoculars I left the car with my gun, anticipating no difficulty in collecting it, but the bird immediately flew, circled overhead, and then was almost at once out of sight, flying slightly south by west. During eight years of intensive field work on the Mississippi Gulf Coast I found the Arkansas Kingbird of casual occurrence as a fall transient (Occas. Papers Mus. Zool., La. State Univ., 20: 399, 1944), but this is the first instance in which I have noted this species in the spring. This is apparently also the first spring record for the state.—THOS. D. BURLING, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlanta, Georgia.*

Lark Bunting records for Ohio.—On August 6, 1945, Clyde Wheeler and the writer were inspecting legume seedings in Henry County, Ohio. About five miles northwest of Deshler, we got a momentary glimpse of two Lark Buntings (*Calamospiza melanocorys*). Returning the next day with collecting equipment, we could find no trace of them. After searching nine hours, we finally located the birds in a small aspen thicket on an adjoining farm. The bird collected, a second-year male, is now in the Ohio State Museum collection. It was in worn plumage with molting of some of the head feathers in progress. The testes were so small the bird could hardly have bred in 1945. The secondaries and all but the four outer (black) primaries and their coverts, as well as the central pair of tail feathers, were brown.

The taking of this specimen was preceded by several sight records in the same general area. Robert H. McCormick and the writer spent the night of July 27, 1930, at Napoleon, in Henry County, while making Ohio wild life surveys. The next morning, while on an early bird trip along the Maumee River just east of town, we saw a flock of seven dark birds with white wings. Notes taken at the time well describe the Lark Bunting.

During August, 1934, following one of the dust storms which swept through the East as an effect of the drouth cycle, a farmer living in Plain Church Township, Wood County, reported "bobolinks with white in the wrong place" which behaved strangely. These birds remained several days but were gone before I could locate them for positive identification.

In early August, 1937, a farm boy living in eastern Henry County, who had observed flocks of Snow Buntings at a distance the previous winter while assisting the writer in game-bird censuses, wrote of seeing "some more of those white-winged birds." On August 9, 1937, when I was able to visit his home in northern Jerusalem Township, three Lark Buntings were found. "Several times as many" were reported

to have been present the week before. These birds evaded collection by flying low over a large corn field and could not be found again.

Why have these waifs from the west turned up on at least four occasions during the last 15 years in a 20-mile-long strip of dry prairie-lake plain in northwestern Ohio? There have been a number of other reports from eastern states during the same period but the only other Ohio record is of a juvenile male found dead on September 6, 1944, by Merit B. Skaggs, near Cleveland (*Auk*, 62: 313, 1945). The five records all fall during a 40-day period in late summer (July 28 to September 6).—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*.

Additional notes on the Arkansas Kingbird in Luce County, Michigan.—Since sending in my date of observing the Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), which appears in Dr. Josselyn Van Tyne's list of Michigan records of this species (*Auk*, 50: 107, 108, Jan., 1933), I have seen this species on nine more dates. These are: September 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 30, and October 1, 1945. Only one bird was seen on each day, and as all observations were within a small area, it seems certain that it was the same bird. It was first noted in a lane on the place where I formerly resided, two miles south and between one-half and three-fourths of a mile east of McMillan, Luce County, Michigan, and it was very near the same place on the next two days. On September 30, it was on a fence by a corn field not over 50 feet from the east side of a large area of hardwood forest. This is the nearest to any woodland that I observed it. On each of the other five days, it was seen at various places about the farmyard. The entire area is not over 40 rods north and south, and 70 rods east and west. The bright yellow on the breast and some of the other under parts and the light-colored head and neck were among the chief field marks used in identification.

This bird encountered most unfavorable conditions for capturing insects on the wing during the time it was at this locality. The first two days were the best, with fair weather and a temperature ranging from 32° to 61° F. From September 22 to 28 there were snow storms and cold weather so that very few if any insects were flying about. Snow fell on each of these days, covering the ground at times, but usually gone by sundown. Rain also fell on each of these seven days, except the 27th, and the temperature ranged from as low as 25° F. on the 25th to as high as 49° on the 23rd. On three of these days, I did not see the temperature above the 30's. September 29 was mostly cloudy and cold (35° to 43°). On one day of this cold period, September 27, I was fortunate in seeing the kingbird feeding on mountain ash berries on a tree in the yard; it took at least two berries. It would be of interest to know to what extent this wild fruit served for food for this bird when flying insects were scarce. Natural feeding conditions were very much better on the last two days (September 30, October 1), when fair weather prevailed and the temperature ranged from 36° to 67° F.

Readers may note that this bird was last seen on a day when natural feeding conditions were favorable. It remains a mystery to me why it remained at this locality during unfavorable weather and at a time which seems to be unusually late for this species in the northern part of its range, judging by Mr. A. C. Bent in his "Life Histories of North American Flycatchers, Larks, Swallows and Their Allies" (*U. S. National Museum Bulletin No. 179: 69, 1942*).—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, *Three Rivers, St. Joseph County, Michigan*.

Migration of the Sooty Shearwater off the Washington coast.—On September 2, 1945, Earl J. Larrison, Jr. and I observed a large migration of the Sooty