

(= *F. s. rovuma*, a form of this species with distinct ventral stripes). He remarks that in plumage there is no difference and the type of *spilogaster* differs from *kirki* only in its greater size.

In their later review of this species, Grant and Mackworth-Præd (Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, 66: 74-77, 1946) divide these francolins into two species, on the basis of whether or not they have ventral stripes. Here too, the name *spilogaster* is left in the synonymy of *grantii* and characterized as without chocolate spots or stripes below. Irrespective of the advisability of dividing these birds into two species, which is more than doubtful, both in Salvadori's original description and in Ogilvie Grant's comments on the re-examination of the type, *spilogaster* has brownish stripes on the underparts and is not a "plain-bellied" bird.

A further point must be made. In the case of species, the type (not the description of the type) is all important in determining the allocation of a name, but in the study of subspecies, which deals with populations, it is the composition of the population at the type locality which is important. The type itself may be aberrant, and we must use the average characters of the birds at the type locality.—A. L. RAND, *Chicago Natural History Museum, Chicago, Illinois.*

A Summer Record of Long-billed Curlew, *Numenius a. americanus*, in Florida.—The Long-billed Curlew is now so rarely seen on the Atlantic coast that all records of its occurrence are worth reporting. At approximately 5:15 p. m. on July 8, 1949, the writer, accompanied by Gustav Hall and Dean Leach, observed a curlew on the beach along the Eddie Rickenbacker Causeway which connects Miami, Florida, with Virginia Key across Biscayne Bay. With a 14-power spotting scope this bird was watched for about 15 minutes, after which Leach crawled through scrubby vegetation to within ten feet before it took wing. The large size of this bird, the exceptionally long, decurved bill (about 7 inches) and the absence of a distinct dark line from the bill through the eye served to identify it as a Long-billed Curlew. The bird was feeding with several dowitchers, *Limnodromus griseus*, Ruddy Turnstones, *Arenaria i. morinella*, and Black-bellied Plovers, *Squatarola squatarola*. The curlew was not present on the following morning when the group returned to study it further.—FLOYD B. CHAPMAN, *Ohio Division of Wildlife, Columbus, Ohio.*

Another Nest of the Smooth-billed Ani, *Crotophaga ani*, in Florida.—The only known nesting records of this species in Florida have been published by Sprunt (Auk, 56: 335, 1939) and Dilley (Auk, 65: 313, 1948). Sprunt found it nesting in the Miami area, and Dilley in the vicinity of Clewiston and at Moore Haven. On July 6, 1949, while driving southward on Florida State highway A1A, the writer observed an Ani on a telegraph wire at the Golden Strand Hotel, just north of Surfside and about five miles north of Miami Beach. The bird permitted close observation with binoculars and 14-power telescope for about 20 minutes and it was easily identified. Dean Leach, Gustav Hall and I located the manager of the hotel, Mr. William Myers, and were advised by him that the Anis had a nest in a tree at the southwest corner of the hotel. The nest was rather bulky, appeared to be composed entirely of grasses and was about 15 feet from the ground. Neither of the birds was at the nest. It was impossible to make further observations that day but on the following morning the site was revisited, and Mr. Myers kindly permitted the group to enter the hotel and observe the nest about eight feet from a lower window. One of the birds was sitting on the nest. While the party watched, this bird left for a few minutes, then it or its

mate returned with insect food which was given to young in the nest. The heads of two fledglings could be seen reaching for food.

The Myers' reported seeing about a dozen Anis at the hotel in the spring of 1949, but only one pair remained to nest. The first nest was built in a tree at the rear of the hotel, but it and four eggs, three of them broken, were later found on the ground. The birds then began immediately to build the second nest described above. According to the Myers', both birds built the nests and took turns incubating; occasionally one bird would bring food to the other engaged in incubating. They also observed that the Anis were rather tame but seemed to avoid birds of other species. Anis had not been seen at the hotel prior to 1949.—FLOYD B. CHAPMAN, *Ohio Division of Wildlife, Columbus, Ohio.*

The Flammulated Screech Owl, *Otus f. flammeolus*, in Louisiana.—On January 2, 1949, the writers discovered a small owl at an elevation of 25 feet above sea level in a dense willow thicket along the Mississippi River on Sardine Point in West Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

The bird was collected and taken to the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology where George H. Lowery, Jr. and Robert J. Newman promptly identified it as a Flammulated Screech Owl, *Otus f. flammeolus*; it was an adult male. The specimen was deposited in the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology.

The 1931 A. O. U. Check-List states that this owl is found in the higher mountainous regions of the West from southern British Columbia to Guatemala. An intensive search of the literature failed to reveal records of this bird occurring nearer than Boot Springs in the Chisos Mountains of western Texas as reported by Van Tyne and Sutton ('The Birds of Brewster County, Texas,' Univ. Mich. Mus. Zool., Misc. Publ. No. 37: 36, 1937). Since that locality is approximately 800 air miles to the west, this is believed to be the most easterly record of the Flammulated Screech Owl in the United States. Only one other record was found of the bird having been taken at such a low elevation. J. T. Emlen, Jr. (Condor, 37 (1): 43, 1936) reports capturing one at an elevation of 45 feet in the Sacramento Valley.

Upon being approached, the bird flew only a few feet before alighting on broken willows, always facing the intruders. After the owl had repeated this performance a few times, one person attracted its attention, and another approached from the rear and captured it by hand. Upon capture, it was found that it had been shot in the left wing, although the bird was not seriously wounded and appeared to use its left wing normally.—LESLIE L. GLASGOW, CLAUDE H. GRESHAM AND STEPHEN HALL, *Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge, La.*

Saw-whet Owl, *Aegolius a. acadicus*, in West Virginia.—On November 19, 1948, while driving along the summit of Kennison Mountain at an elevation of 3988 feet, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, Clarence Young of Marshall College saw on the highway a small owl with a damaged wing. He brought it to me, and I identified it as a Saw-whet Owl. It was kept alive for several days but refused to eat and died. On skinning it I found it to be an adult male with the testes measuring about 2 by 3 mm.

Dr. George M. Sutton, to whom I presented the specimen, has added it to his collection of West Virginia birds, now housed at the Museum of Zoology at the University of Michigan. He has identified it as the wide-ranging, well known race, *A. a. acadicus*. The wing measures 133 mm. (primaries pressed flat) and the tail, 70 mm. It is in fresh, unworn plumage. The strongly buffy tone of the flags and