

TABLE 3
POSTOCULAR SPOT IN SPECIMENS SCORING "3" FOR THROAT COLOR

Sample	N	Eyespot	
		Present	Absent
♂ ♂	6	3	3
♀ ♀	3	0	3

were referred to this score; these values are two to three times those obtained by Harrison.

The postocular spot is altogether less useful as a diagnostic sexual character, but the trend is certainly clear: males tend to have the spot, females tend to lack it. The possibility of combining the two characters, throat color and eyespot, allows nearly complete separation of the sexes in the present sample (Table 3). It is likely, however, that a few individuals in any sample will prove difficult to sex by plumage alone.

Application of these findings by banders or others handling live juvenile House Sparrows could be along the following lines: a bird with a whitish throat is almost certainly a female, and one with a dusky throat is almost certainly a male. A bird with a faintly dusky throat may be of either sex, but it is likely to be a male if it has a conspicuous postocular spot.

It seems most unlikely, also, that juvenile individuals intermediate in the plumage characters here discussed represent ". . . a degree of intersexuality . . .," as Harrison has put it (*op. cit.*: 97). The probability of finding true postjuvenile intersexes in this species is about $P = 0.001$ (very large sample; Selander, Johnston, and G. Cantu, MS), and nowhere is there an indication that juvenile intersexes can be expected to approach frequencies of 5, 6, 9, or 15 per cent. The specimens that were impossible to sex by plumage characters represent something other than true intersexuality, although the basis for this will be revealed only by further study.—RICHARD F. JOHNSTON, *Museum of Natural History, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.*

Sandhill Cranes and other birds from Bering Strait, Alaska.—We spent from 14 May to 4 June 1964 observing and collecting birds at Wales, Alaska, on the westernmost tip of the Seward Peninsula. Local Eskimos stated that this was an unusually late spring. We observed 57 species, collected specimens of 26, and photographed 32. Since early spring weather conditions at Wales vary greatly from year to year and few observers have reported spring arrival dates, it seems appropriate to report what we considered to be the first spring arrival dates for 1964 (asterisks indicate specimens collected): 21 May, Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*), American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*); 22 May, Wheatear* (*Oenanthe oenanthe*), Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*); 24 May, Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*), White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), Pectoral Sandpiper* (*Erolia melanotos*), Dunlin* (*E. alpina*) (large numbers arrived 26 May), Lapland Longspur* (*Calcarius lapponicus*); 25 May, Ruddy Turnstone* (*Arenaria interpres*), Western Sandpiper* (*Ereunetes mauri*), Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*); 26 May, Rock Sandpiper* (*Erolia ptilocnemis*); 27 May, Baird's Sandpiper* (*E. bairdii*), Red Phalarope* (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) (large numbers arrived 28 May), Northern Phalarope (*Lobipes lobatus*); 28 May, Long-billed

Dowitcher* (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*), Bar-tailed Godwit* (*Limosa lapponica*), Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*); 29 May, Common Snipe (*Capella gallinago*); 30 May, Knot* (*Calidris canutus*); 31 May, Wandering Tattler (*Heteroscelus incanum*), Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*), Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*), Bluethroat* (*Luscinia svecica*), Red-necked Grebe* (*Podiceps grisegena*), Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*), Red-throated Pipit* (*Anthus cervinus*); 1 June, Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Hylocichla minima*), Water Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*); 3 June, Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*).

There are a few published reports (A. M. Bailey, *Condor*, 27: 232, 1925) of Sandhill Cranes, presumably *Grus c. canadensis*, moving westward in spring across the Bering Strait. The large numbers we encountered, however, seemed especially noteworthy. Flocks of 12 to 1,200 birds were seen daily in the area. The presence of pairs and small groups suggested that some might nest locally, but most of the flocks were heading out over the sea ice toward Siberia. On the morning of 23 May the temperature of 30°F, the 30 to 40 mph winds, and a fairly heavy fall of snow combined to produce wintry conditions. We spent the morning on the lee side of a rocky ridge near the top of Wales Mountain. By noon the snow had stopped, the wind abated somewhat, and the sky began to clear. Small flocks of cranes appeared far below us moving out over the sea ice. More and larger flocks began coming from the east along the mountain sides, some flying directly toward us and veering aside to pass around the cliff where we sat. On passing the last point of land, many of the flocks appeared "reluctant" to fly out over the ice-choked Strait at low levels. The cranes broke their formations and began circling, gaining altitude to perhaps 1,000 feet from which elevation the Diomed Islands and the Siberian mainland would be plainly visible. They then re-formed in long lines and proceeded across the Strait. Far out over Lopp Lagoon to the north, other lines of cranes, perhaps as much as two miles long, were also moving westward. Often two or three layers of birds circled above us as the early arriving flocks reached higher levels and the later ones followed. The flight continued throughout the afternoon. Possibly inclement weather had discouraged movements across the Strait during the preceding few days and then, with clearing weather, the flood of cranes was released to pass to nesting grounds in eastern Siberia. We estimated that between 15,000 and 20,000 birds were involved in this flight.—W. J. BRECKENRIDGE and DAVID CLINE, *Minnesota Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota*.

Cory's Shearwaters (*Puffinus diomedea borealis*) off eastern Florida.—On 14 August 1965, at 1300 hours, Lesser saw a flock of approximately 200 Cory's Shearwaters resting at sea about 25 miles east-northeast of St. Augustine, Florida, and throughout the remainder of the day he observed numerous smaller flocks of the same species in the vicinity. He was fishing from a chartered boat and had no means to secure a specimen.

On 21 August 1965, with Richard J. Gouger, we set out for the same area to secure photographs and a specimen. Approximately seven miles east of St. Augustin Light, at 0630 hours, we found Cory's Shearwaters in small groups flying and resting on the water. Several hundred individuals were observed during the two hours we were in the vicinity. We counted more than 200 in view at one time. As we moved in different directions it was apparent that the number seen from any one point was limited only by our range of vision. A specimen was taken, and identified,