

into a near-by glass, it occurred to me to try to ascertain how many more there might be. I had placed the bird on a newspaper and noted that none of the lice would leave its host via newspaper but readily transferred to my hand. Therefore it seemed unlikely that few, if any, would have left via highway or the rubber-covered floor of my car. The bird now being cold, all of the parasites appeared to be in the feathers instead of on the body, the majority continually appearing exteriorly on the feathers about the neck and head. What seemed at first to be nearly a hundred proved to be approximately fifty-five individuals, counting one or two which escaped up my sleeve and proceeded to annoy me after I had dressed in the same clothing the next morning. I searched for over an hour in making this count in an effort to make my census as complete as possible, and I believe that few escaped my attention.

A few of the specimens were sent to the United States Bureau of Entomology and were identified as the Biting Owl Louse (*Philoaterus syrni* Packard).

Incidentally, the Burrowing Owl had fed upon Jerusalem Crickets (*Stenopelmatus*), a favorite food with hawks and owls here, five of these large insects being represented by the segments and parts which were in the stomach.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California, May 25, 1932.*

Snowy Egret at Monterey, California.—On May 19, 1932, near the lighthouse at Pacific Grove, California, a Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula brewsteri*) was observed under such favorable conditions that, although sight records are usually not considered reliable, I feel it worth recording. Between the lighthouse and the ocean there is a small pond, with a building near-by. We noticed a white object on the far side of the pond, which upon closer investigation proved to be a bird. Soon it began moving about, and presently passed within a few feet of a resting Black-crowned Night Heron, which gave us an excellent chance to judge of size. We walked around toward our bird, and were able to get very close to it. When it finally flew its yellow feet and black legs formed a startling contrast.

The black bill was plainly seen. The bird lit some distance away, but with the 8x glasses which we were using we could still see the black legs and bill. We again walked toward the bird, but when we were still some distance from it, it flew again and finally disappeared over the bay. I have never had a better chance to observe any bird than I had with this one. Every possible point was checked with the aid of Hoffmann's "Birds of the Pacific States", which I had with me at the time, and later with colored illustrations in other books. The black legs and yellow feet of this bird, found together in no other heron in the United States, were plainly visible to the naked eye when the bird first flew, and for some considerable distance with the glasses.—CLARENCE F. SMITH, *San Francisco, California, June 24, 1932.*

An United States Record of the Timberline Sparrow.—On October 13, 1931, at an altitude of 4000 feet, one-half mile southwest of Escondida, Otero County, New Mexico, Mr. Seth B. Benson shot a specimen of *Spizella breweri taverneri* which gives important indication of the course of migration of this subspecies far to the southward of its restricted breeding ground in northwestern British Columbia. The bird, a female, apparently adult and in complete winter plumage, was prepared by Miss Louise Kellogg (her field number 1201) and by gift from her and Miss Annie M. Alexander is now number 59014 in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. The collector recognized this bird before it was shot, as differing from the Brewer Sparrows (*Spizella breweri breweri*) which were common at the same time and place.

In every single character ascribed to *taverneri* by the original describers (Swarth and Brooks, *Condor*, XXVII, 1925, pp. 67-69) the specimen here recorded is in perfect agreement. I have also compared it with the topotype series. Briefly and especially, it stands out from *breweri* by reason of its small, blackish bill, darker colored feet, broader black streaking on upper surface, generally grayer, less clay-color or buffy toned ground-color both above and below, and, notably, by reason of the decided indication of shaft-streaking on the chest and sides.

In the *Auk* (XLV, 1928, pp. 509-510) Mr. Ludlow Griscom published a note concerning "*Spizella taverneri* on Migration in Montana." Since this was the first ascription of this form to the United States, my curiosity to see the specimen upon which it was based led me at once to ask for the loan of it. This, Mr. Griscom kindly saw