

may show that in certain areas this hazard is serious enough to warrant consideration of preventive measures.—A. E. BORELL, *Soil Conservation Service, Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 19, 1938.*

Remarks on Alaskan Savannah Sparrows.—In the recent revision of the Savannah sparrows by Peters and Griscom (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. 80, 1938, pp. 445–478), the name *Passerculus sandwichensis crassus* is given (p. 459) to a medium-sized, stout-billed bird, the breeding range of which is said (p. 460) to be “Islands in the Alexander Archipelago from Chichagof Island to Prince of Wales Island; also on the adjacent mainland at the Chickamin River.”

An examination of southeastern Alaskan specimens collected by the writer demonstrates that, while there are numerous examples of migrants that answer the description of *crassus*, six breeding birds, three males and three females (L. A. Mus., nos. 18627–18632), from Petersburg, Mitkof Island, taken between June 27 and July 1, 1936, are clearly not of that form, their bills being much too slender. These specimens were submitted to Mr. Griscom and examined by him and Mr. Peters, both of whom agree that they are not examples of *crassus* but of the bird they call *anthinus* (*alaudinus* of the 1931 A.O.U. Check-list). As Petersburg is almost in the center of the breeding range ascribed to *crassus*, it would seem that the limits of this range require redetermination.

While Peters and Griscom list birds taken on Kuiu Island as breeding examples, they do not give dates of capture. Swarth (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., vol. 7, 1911, p. 85), referring to specimens taken by the 1909 Alexander Alaska Expedition in this locality May 3, apparently regarded them as migrants, which they undoubtedly were at this early date. However, Swarth does consider specimens taken at Chickamin River, on the mainland, in June, breeding birds, but Peters and Griscom do not mention these as among the materials they examined.

It might be well here to call attention to an error in the range of *Passerculus s. sandwichensis* as given by Peters and Griscom (*op. cit.*, p. 449). This should read: “Not definitely recorded from any of the Aleutians west of Unalaska,” not “east” of that point. In this connection the writer is able to record a slight extension of the range of *sandwichensis*. While on Umnak Island, the next island west of Unalaska, the summer of 1926, the bird was found to be breeding rather commonly. A juvenal (no. 3621, coll. G. W.), still unable to fly, was taken August 18.—G. WILLET, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, January 5, 1939.*

Two New Bird Records for Utah.—The names of two species of birds may now be added to the list of those collected in the State of Utah. One male Indigo Bunting, *Passerina cyanea*, in the collection at Dixie College was taken July 11, 1937, at Saint George, Utah, by Floyd Atkin, a student.

May 20, 1938, two boys, Ralph Hafen and the late Richard Klenk, obtained a Least Bittern, *Ixobrychus exilis*, from one of the small marshes near the Rio Virgin at Saint George. The skin is in my personal collection.—ROSS HARDY, *Dixie College, Saint George, Utah, December 20, 1938.*

Notes on Shorebirds from the San Francisco Bay Region.—*Steganopus tricolor*. Wilson Phalarope. Approximately two miles northeast of the Mackay Radio towers near Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, there was a group of large ponds kept at constant level by dikes originally erected by a salt company. These ponds were rather shallow with large areas covered by an inch or less of water. On July 30, 1937, when the writer was with E. W. Martin, numbers of Wilson Phalarope were noted, and during the following two weeks, until August 14, they were seen practically every day. Some days their numbers were estimated at five or six hundred, wading for the most part in the shallow portions of the ponds. A few could sometimes be seen swimming with the Northern Phalaropes in the deeper parts of the pools. There were large numbers of Western Sandpipers feeding along the edges of the water, and the Wilson Phalaropes were scattered among them. Because of their seemingly infrequent occurrence in the Bay region, some were collected and one of these, a male, is now number 74515, Mus. Vert. Zool. It might be added that these ponds have been drained by a new system of water channels, and this year no Wilson Phalaropes were seen.

Numenius hudsonicus. Hudsonian Curlew. Observed on the mud flats east of the Mackay tower near Palo Alto, until June 4, 1937, which appears to be a late record (see Grinnell and Wythe, Pac. Coast Avif. no. 18, 1927, p. 71). One, a female, obtained June 2, 1937, is in my collection.

Limosa fedoa. Marbled Godwit. Noted until June 5, 1937, near Palo Alto, on which date a female was collected.

Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus. Western Willet. Seen on the mud flats near Palo Alto until June 5, 1937, on which date several were collected, which seems to be a late record (Grinnell and Wythe, *op. cit.*, p. 70).