Molothrus ater. Brown-headed Cowbird. A singing male taken by Phillips 4 miles west of Holbrook on April 25, 1948, is *artemisiae.* The museum series from the northeast slopes of the San Francisco Mountain region, however, is *obscurus.* The line of separation of the two races thus appears to be a north-south one in the western part of the Navajo country.

Spinus pinus. Pine Siskin. The large autumn flocks have been seen as early as August 6, 1937 (about 30 in Tsegi Canyon), and September 27, 1937 (about 20 in Kiet Siel Canyon, Tsegi Canyons) by Wetherill, and as late as November 14 and 15, 1947, by Phillips (about 45 at Lupton and about 10 near Holbrook). No specimens are available to determine the race or races represented.

Spinus tristis. American Goldfinch. Probably winters at Lupton, where about five were seen with Siskins on November 14, 1947, and near Holbrook, where up to about eight birds were seen on all Phillips's visits (November 15, 1947, and April 25-26, 1948). There are few previous records for the region at any season.

Pipilo fuscus. Brown Towhee. Up to six birds were seen regularly at Lupton in the winter of 1946-47 (Wetherill). A pair was seen in the same vicinity on November 14, 1947 (Wetherill, Phillips), and one was taken, which proved to be typical *mesoleucus.* Probably the species is a permanent resident there, although not yet detected in summer. The species is not mentioned by Woodbury and Russell.

Calamospiza melanocorys. Lark Bunting. A male was seen by Phillips on April 26, 1948, on the south side of the Little Colorado River 3 miles west of Holbrook. This is the third individual reported in the entire region.

Junco oreganus. Oregon Junco. Woodbury and Russell assign their birds to the race *shufeldti,* as defined by Miller. While this may be true of the migrants in the University of Utah collection, the winter birds in the Museum of Northern Arizona are his *montanus.* The only one that is at all doubtful is no. Z8.267, which appears to be a female *montanus,* although sexed as a male. Also, a female taken by Wetherill near Farmington, northwestern New Mexico, on December 14, 1940, is evidently a small specimen of *montanus.* With further collecting, a small proportion of *shufeldti* may be found wintering, but it is certainly not the common race at that season.

Junco caniceps. Gray-headed Junco. The earliest record for transients is September 29, 1937, when Wetherill saw three in Betatakin Canyon. The "September" records cited by Woodbury and Russell are misprints for October.

Melospiza melodia. Song Sparrow. Woodbury and Russell, in the absence of specimens, assigned their Song Sparrow records to the race *montana.* The correctness of this prediction is proved by two winter specimens taken east of Farmington, New Mexico by Wetherill, and one from west of Holbrook, Arizona by Phillips. In the latter locality, two birds were still present on April 25, 1948. —MILTON A. WETHERILL and ALLAN R. PHILLIPS, *Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona, July 25, 1948.*

Early Sexual Behavior in Flocking Robins.—Large flocks of migrating Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) gather on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley, in January and February. The flocks soon strip berry-laden bushes (chiefly *Pyracantha, Cotoneaster,* and *Photinia*) and then concentrate for feeding on the lawns. Here they space themselves evenly, reaching a maximum observed density of about 0.07 birds per square yard. Dominance is constantly in evidence; too close passage results in a peck and retreat by one of the birds. This behavior contrasts with an awakening territorial defense which is shown less frequently by a bird defending its little area of lawn with a threatening display consisting of crouching with tail feathers spread and of occasional fighting. The fighting usually consists of a rush by one of the birds, at the end of which the two birds fly up vertically, squawking, pecking, and clawing each other as reported by Price (Condor, 35:52-54). On January 25, 1949, the first of three attempts at copulation was observed. The two birds were in the top of a low bush. The top bird grasped the neck feathers of the other in its bill and mounted while the lower bird fluttered in resistance. The top bird then flew off a few feet, wiggled its tail, and commenced feeding. February 2 and 9 the same behavior was observed, this time on the lawn. The sex of these birds was not known except in one case where the coloring of the top bird was deep enough to indicate definitely that it was a male. It is regrettable that the preliminary steps in this behavior, which would have made these notes more valuable, were not observed. Blanchard (U. C. Publ. Zool., 46(1), 1941:41-42)

found no behavior of this sort in flocks of migratory White-crowned Sparrows prior to departure but had no data on behavior during migration.—HENRY E. CHILDS, JR., *University of California, Berkeley, California, February 22, 1949.*

The Name for the Wryneck Recorded from Alaska.—The first record of the Wryneck for the North American continent is that of A. M. Bailey (Birds of Arctic Alaska, Colorado Mus. Nat. Hist., pop. ser. no. 8, 1948:270) who reported one found dead on September 8, 1945, near the village of Wales at the end of the Seward Peninsula, Alaska. The specimen was sent to the United States National Museum for determination, was identified as *Jynx torquilla harterti* (Poliakov, Mess. Orn., 6, 1915:135), and was so recorded.

Several geographic races in the species *Jynx torquilla* have been proposed recently, the form *harterti* being only one of half a dozen, and there has been uncertainty as to the number that merited recognition. In view of this we have taken opportunity to revise the fairly extensive series (65 specimens) in the National Museum with results of interest. It may be observed that our results, reached independently, coincide except in some details of range with those registered recently by J. L. Peters (Check-list of Birds of the World, 6, 1948:86-87). It must be noted that the forms that can be recognized at best are only slightly differentiated and that there is a considerable range of individual variation that obscures their characters.

Briefly, there are two main groups of populations, a pale colored, larger one in the west, extending from the western countries of Europe east to Lake Baikal, Tian Shan, and Pamir, including thus Poliakov's supposed race *harterti*. This name, therefore, is to be listed as a synonym of *Jynx torquilla torquilla* as has been stated by Steinbacher (Vög. pal. Fauna, Ergänzungsband, Heft 4, January, 1935: 377). To the east is a darker group of smaller size that divides into two races. One of these, *japonica* (Bonaparte), breeding on Hokkaido and found in migration to southern Japan, is of smaller size (wing 77.5-79-1 mm.), and warmer brown color. The other, *chinensis* Hesse (Ornith. Monatsb., 6, 1911:181), breeds over a wide area from northern Manchuria, Amur and Sakhalin south to Kashmir and western and central China, in migration reaching Siam and Indochina. This is somewhat duller than *japonica* and is larger (wing 79-2-88.6 mm.). Parenthetically it is interesting to note that the resident race of Italy, *tschusii,* belongs also in the smaller, darker group, differing from the distant *chinensis,* to which it is similar in size, only in slightly warmer brown color.

The specimen from Wales, Alaska, agrees both in color and size with *chinensis,* the wing measuring 83.5 mm., and is identified now as a vagrant of that race.—ALEXANDER WETMORE *and* HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C., December 23, 1948.*

A Hummingbird Casualty.—On April 13, 1947, I was observing the display antics of several male Allen Hummingbirds (*Selasphorus sasin*) in Tilden Regional Park, Contra Costa County, California. Directly above my point of observation was a series of telephone wires which at that point were about 20 feet above the road. Every few minutes one of the males would pass between the wires on a power dive downward. As I watched one bird, it dove straight at one of the wires and, never wavering perceptibly, struck it with an audible impact, bounced off, and fell to the road about eight feet from where I stood. Apparently death had been instantaneous.

Upon examination, the bird's left eye was found to be partially collapsed and exuding fluid. Whether this should be considered a contributory cause of the accident or a result of the impact was not clear. It seems hard to believe that a bird recently so blinded would be engaged in apparently normal courtship behavior, yet it is just as hard to visualize such tremendous concentration on the object of its diving as to cause it to fly full force straight into the relatively large wire without seeing it in time to swerve out of harm's way.—JOHN R. HENDRICKSON, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, November 22, 1948.*