

south of Gunnison on May 7, 1950. No others of this species were seen or reported to me in the course of this spring. According to local observers neither of these species has been reported from the Gunnison area previously. Neither does examination of literature reveal any previous records. The elevation of Gunnison is approximately 7500 feet on the western slope of the continental divide.—A. SIDNEY HYDE, *Western State College, Gunnison, Colorado, November 9, 1950.*

**Lark Bunting in Uintah Basin, Utah.**—According to recent literature (Twomey, Ann. Carnegie Mus., 1942, 28:468; Woodbury, Cottam, and Sugden, Univ. of Utah Bull. No. 16, 1949, 39:33), there are no records of the Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) from the Uintah Basin, Utah.

I have had the opportunity to take five specimens of this species in this area in 1950. Two males were collected on May 21 two miles south of Gusher, Uintah County, Utah. No others were observed on this date. Two males were taken on May 26 four miles south of Roosevelt, Duchesne County, Utah. These, a female, and several male and female Yellow-headed Blackbirds were eating grain spilled in the corner of a field by a farmer. An immature female was taken September 9 on Diamond Mountain Plateau 30 miles north of Vernal, Uintah County, Utah. Two others in light plumage were observed feeding with this bird in the sage.

Apparently the birds observed were only passing through, as none of them showed any indication of nesting. The testes of the males were enlarged, measuring 11 and 12 mm. in length and indicating that the birds were well into the breeding season.

All the birds observed were in the *Atriplex-Tetradymia* community (Twomey, *op. cit.*: 346) near cultivated or once cultivated fields.—MERLIN L. KILLPACK, *Biological Department, Roosevelt High School, Roosevelt, Utah, November 13, 1950.*

**Variation in Skeletal Measurements of the Common Murre.**—Measurements of length and width of the long bones of the Common Murre (*Uria aalge*) were made on a rather large number of specimens. Material used in this study was recovered from Indian middens on Southeast Farallon Island approximately 27 miles off the coast of San Francisco County, California. The bones were collected in 1949 by Mr. F. Fenenga of the Department of Anthropology, University of California, while he was engaged in an archeological survey. Judging from the following historical background, the bones are between 110 and 140 years old. From approximately 1809 to 1832 the Russians maintained a colony of Aleut men on the Farallon Islands to hunt seal; these men were brought mainly from Kodiak Island. The Indians also killed murrelets and other sea birds for their feathers which were shipped to China. The bones used in this study are from a portion of the skeletons resulting from this activity. The skeletons were of course disarticulated and the bones mixed. In many instances the specimens were discarded because they were broken or were excessively worn, but from thirty to over two hundred specimens, respectively, of the various elements were measured. Since perhaps the largest breeding colony of *Uria aalge californica* in existence is on the Farallon Islands, it is doubtful that the Indians killed birds away from the islands; it is therefore assumed that all the specimens are from birds of this breeding population and that a representative sample was obtained. One of the purposes of this study was to learn the variations in this race so that comparisons may be made with the northern race *Uria aalge inornata*.

This study was a part of a research project carried on by the writer at the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology under the direction of Dr. Robert W. Storer. Acknowledgment is made to Dr. Storer for help and for the use of the Farallon material.

Measurements were made of the following elements: radius, ulna, carpometacarpus, femur, tibiotarsus, tarsometatarsus, and coracoid. Those made of the humerus previously by Dr. Storer are included in the tabulations. The length of the bones was taken to be the total length with the back of the calipers held parallel to the long axis of the bone. An exception to this was the measurement of the length of the tibiotarsus which was measured from the articular surface of the knee joint to the distal end. The widths of the shafts of the radius, ulna, and femur were taken as the minimum diameter of the bone near the middle of the shaft. The width of the tarsometatarsus was taken as the minimum width of the shaft, that is, in a plane at right angles to the vertical when the bone is in its natural position. The width of the distal end of the tibiotarsus was taken as the distance between the outer surfaces of the external and internal condyles. The width of the head of the femur was considered to

be the diameter of the head with the back of the calipers held parallel to the long axis of the bone. All measurements were taken with calipers accurate to 0.1 mm. Measurements of the left and right elements were originally tabulated separately, but no significant differences were found in the means and they are therefore grouped together.

The measurements are given in the accompanying table. The number of specimens, the mean, observed range, standard deviation, and the coefficient of variation are given in each case. It will be noted that the coefficient of variation ranges from 2.10 to 3.49 for the lengths and from 3.62 to 5.54 for the widths. The explanation for the greater coefficients of variation for the widths is not evident

Item	Number of specimens	Lengths			
		Mean	Observed Range	Standard deviation	Coefficient of variation
Humerus*	205	84.78±.12	80.8-89.5	1.79±.09	2.10±.10
Ulna	180	64.92±.12	61.4-69.6	1.61±.08	2.42±.13
Radius	127	61.95±.13	57.7-65.9	1.52±.09	2.45±.15
Carpometacarpus	145	43.29±.10	39.5-46.0	1.22±.07	2.81±.16
Coracoid	69	40.67±.12	37.4-42.4	1.02±.09	2.50±.21
Femur	72	47.42±.14	45.1-50.6	1.21±.10	2.55±.21
Tibiotarsus	30	85.25±.44	80.7-89.2	2.42±.32	2.84±.36
Tarsometatarsus	37	37.31±.21	34.7-40.3	1.30±.15	3.49±.40
		Widths			
Ulna shaft	119	3.75±.01	3.4-4.2	0.143±.01	3.81±.25
Radius shaft	126	2.51±.01	2.2-2.9	0.095±.01	2.78±.24
Tarsometatarsus shaft	35	3.62±.03	3.3-4.0	0.154±.02	4.26±.51
Tibiotarsus distal end	17	7.82±.07	7.1-8.2	0.291±.05	3.62±.62
Femur shaft	62	3.76±.02	3.2-4.1	0.174±.02	4.68±.42
Femur head	66	4.38±.03	3.9-4.8	0.243±.03	5.54±.48

\* Measurements by Storer.

unless the mechanical error of measuring was proportionately greater. The humerus is the least variable element and the tarsometatarsus shows the greatest variation. The coefficients of variation for the lengths of the leg bones are greater than for those of the wing bones, but since fewer leg elements were measured this difference may not be significant. Not only do the distal elements show more variation in length than do the proximal ones, but there is a gradual increase in the variation from the proximal to the distal elements. However, the differences between the coefficients of variation for any two adjacent elements in the gradient are not significant. The diameter of the head of the femur and the width of the shaft had a high coefficient of variation whereas that of the distal end of the tibiotarsus was the lowest of the widths.

Since it is often difficult to secure such a large number of specimens for a study of this type, this data may add to the general knowledge of the variation in the measurements of the various elements of the avian skeleton as well as prove useful in the study of the races of this species.—WILLIAM GOODGE, *Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 16, 1950.*

**A Record Specimen of the Indigo Bunting in California.**—As Bruce E. Cardiff and I were collecting in a small undisturbed area of chaparral west of Rialto, San Bernardino County, California, on May 27, 1950, we heard a song that was not familiar to us. On examining the singing bird at close range, we found it to be a beautiful adult male Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*). The bird was taken and is now no. 1422 in the Cardiff Collection.

There are three sight records for the San Francisco Bay region (Grinnell and Miller, *Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 27, 1944:574), but heretofore no record for California has been supported by a specimen.—EUGENE E. CARDIFF, *Bloomington, California, July 26, 1950.*

**Parula Warbler Nesting in Kansas.**—In searching the literature I can find no record of the Parula Warbler (*Compsothlypis americana*) nesting in Kansas. While fishing along Wildcat Creek, Riley County, Kansas, May 9, 1947, I observed a pair of birds of this species at close range. Their nest was located in a collection of cornstalks, roots, grass, and other trash that hung from the lower branches of a sycamore tree (*Platanus occidentalis*) about four feet above the water. This had col-