

Zonotrichia atricapilla. Golden-crowned Sparrow. In Utah this sparrow is known from two specimens (Long, Condor, 38, 1936:89, and Greenhalgh, Condor, 50, 1948:46) and two observations, one by Greenhalgh (*loc. cit.*) and another by Grater (Woodbury *et al.*, unpublished manuscript). A third specimen was recently collected by Harold Egoscue at Cane Springs, 4800 feet, west side of Cedar Mountains, Tooele County, on October 13, 1952.

Zonotrichia albicollis. White-throated Sparrow. Woodbury *et al.* (Bull. Univ. Utah, 39, 1949:35) list this bird as a casual winter resident of northern Utah on the basis of six observational records. An immature female collected at Orr's Ranch, Skull Valley, Tooele County, on October 12, 1953, is apparently the first specimen of the White-throated Sparrow known from Utah.

Calcarius ornatus. Chestnut-collared Longspur. An immature male longspur, which was collected near Government Creek, 4 miles north of Camel Back Mountain in Tooele County on October 14, 1953, proved to be of this species. This species has not been taken previously in the state.

Calcarius lapponicus. Lapland Longspur. Since Killpack (Condor, 55, 1953:152) acquired the first specimen (*C. l. alascensis*) of this species in eastern Utah, two additional specimens have been collected in western Utah. An adult female, which was captured during banding operations by W. G. Denzer on April 13, 1953, was put up as a study skin. It was trapped in a marshy area at the end of Government Creek, 4 miles north of Camel Back Mountain in Tooele County. This specimen was assigned to *C. l. lapponicus* by G. M. Bond and probably should be considered as an accidental visitant in Utah. On November 3, 1953, an adult male, which Bond identified as *C. l. alascensis*, was also collected near Government Creek. This specimen and the aforementioned Chestnut-collared Longspur were both collected in sparse vegetation along the creek. None of these longspurs appeared to be among the numerous flocks of Horned Larks present in the area. These birds were collected during apparent migration. Further collecting is required, however, to determine the true status of this species in Utah.
—RICHARD D. PORTER, *University of Utah, Dugway, Utah, May 21, 1954.*

Nomenclature of the Black-throated Sparrows of Chihuahua and Western Texas.—In 1934 van Rossem (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 77:487) described a race of the Black-throated Sparrow from Chihuahua, designating it *Amphispiza bilineata confinis*. It was based solely on specimens collected by M. Abbott Frazar at or near the type locality, Chihuahua City. Burleigh and Lowery (Occas. Papers Mus. Zool., no. 8, 1940:146) correctly pointed out that the Frazar specimens are faded, a situation subsequently well understood by van Rossem. Indeed it is now generally recognized that all of Frazar's material was prepared in some way which led to fading and that they are quite unreliable for color comparisons. I have seen samples of the original material of *confinis* in the Dickey Collection and concur with van Rossem that they are much paler than specimens of nearby races of the species, but of course they are meaningless because of the postmortem alteration. Burleigh and Lowery surmized that nonetheless *Amphispiza bilineata opuntia* of western Texas and *confinis* might be different but implied correctly that no definite statement about this matter could be made until recently collected specimens from Chihuahua were available.

Through the efforts of Robert K. Selander, whose field work in México has been supported by the Associates in Tropical Biogeography, I now have at hand a male and a female Black-throated Sparrow taken 16 miles southeast of Chihuahua City on March 11, 1954. These near topotypes are in no sense pale like the type series of *confinis*. They are in fact dark above and match fairly closely the race *grisea* of the Mexican plateau to the southward. They are not the extremely dark manifestation of that race but they are quite readily allocated to it. I have examined similar birds from Camargo in southern Chihuahua. The dark coloration of these normal Chihuahuan specimens contrasts with the lighter-backed *A. b. opuntia* of western Texas and the light warm brown *deserticola* of northwestern Chihuahua. The size differentials among the races mentioned are not in any sense complete and the somewhat short wings (♂ 64.0 mm.; ♀ 63.4) and tails (♂ 59.5; ♀ 58.2) of the recently taken pair are not considered significant, as *opuntia* and *grisea* may at times be this small. The pair was not in full breeding condition (testis 2.5 mm. long), but the birds can hardly be construed as migrants as no dark population exists to the north from which they could be derived.

We may conclude, therefore, that the diagnostic characters claimed for *confinis* are wholly attributable to the extreme postmortem fading of the Frazar specimens and that the population of the area concerned is referable to the race *grisea*, *confinis* thus becoming a synonym. *Grisea*, then, extends north from Hidalgo to central Chihuahua and at least southern Coahuila. The clarification of this

situation in Chihuahua means that the well differentiated form of west Texas can be designated neither *grisea* nor *confinis* (see Twentieth Suppl. A.O.U. Check-list, Auk, 62, 1945:448-449) and should bear the name *Amphispiza bilineata opuntia* Burleigh and Lowery (Occas. Papers Mus. Zool., no. 6, 1939: 68).—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, September 16, 1954.*

Notes on the Occurrence of Birds in Chiapas, Mexico.—Some of the following species apparently have not been recorded from Chiapas and others are supposed to be rare or else their ranges are poorly known.

Falco peregrinus. Duck Hawk. Occasionally I have seen individuals in spring, mainly near the seacoast, at Arriaga and Tonalá. I collected one adult female at Tuxtla Gutierrez on March 14, 1953.

Amaurolimnas concolor. Uniform Crane. On December 15, 1951, I found a half mummified specimen of this rare rail on the dry shore of a large brackish swamp near La Gloria, Arriaga. It is now specimen no. 357 in my collection.

Caprimulgus salvini. Tawny-collared Nightjar. I collected one female on June 18, 1949, at Rancho Santa Julia, Ocozocoautla. I am much indebted to Dr. Frank A. Pitelka and Dr. Robert A. Norris for the identification of the specimen.

Streptoprocne semicollaris. White-naped Swift. Although I have been unable to obtain specimens, large swirling flocks of this species were watched with binoculars several times during the fortnight I spent at ranch Nuevo Mundo, Pueblo Nuevo Solistahuacan, altitude 1900 meters, April 15 to 30, 1952.

Catherpes mexicanus. Canyon Wren. The species is sedentary on the cliffs and canyons around Tuxtla Gutierrez and other regions of Chiapas. The following are some of my sight records: Three individuals were seen on March 8, 1946, at Cerro Mactumatzá; four individuals were seen on April 28 and three more on June 24, 1947, at Arroyo San Roque, Tuxtla Gutierrez. Several individuals were seen during my stay at Rio de la Venta, selvas de El Mercadito, Cintalapa, from May 16 to 30, 1949. One pair was seen on November 22, 1950, at Cerro de la Sepultura, Arriaga. I collected one female on February 4, 1948, at Loma Larga, Tuxtla Gutierrez.

Melanotis hypoleucus. White-breasted Blue Mockingbird. This species is a fairly common resident in suitable localities at altitudes from 1000 to 2000 meters. I have found it very common near Ocozocoautla (ranchos Meyapac, Santa Julia, and El Resinto), Tuxtla Gutierrez (Cerro del Sumidero, La Chacona), Pueblo Nuevo Solistahuacan (Rancho Nuevo Mundo). I collected one male on September 18, 1945, at Montecristo, one female on June 2, 1954, at El Sumidero, Tuxtla Gutierrez, two males and one female on March 23, 1946, at Rancho Meyapac, and one male and two females on July 5, 1949, at Rancho Santa Julia, Ocozocoautla.

Granatellus venustus. Red-breasted Chat. Occasionally it is possible to encounter small flocks or lone individuals of this species in the hills around Tuxtla Gutierrez. From a flock of six birds I collected one male and one female on May 29, 1946, at El Zapotal. I collected another male from a flock of three on April 28, 1947, at Arroyo San Roque. Three more males and one female were collected on June 10, 1947, at Cerro Mactumatza; one male was alone and the female of the pair had a well developed brood patch. Aside from this record I have found occasional flocks or lone individuals, but because of the rarity of the species I have not collected more specimens. I have noted that the species gathers in flocks of up to eight birds, the sexes mixed, that break into pairs at the breeding season.

Icterus maculi-alatus. Bar-winged Oriole. I have collected the following specimens: One male, August 18, 1945, one female, May 12, 1951, Rancho Meyapac, Ocozocoautla; one male, April 24, one immature male and one adult male, July 15, 1949, Santa Julia, Ocozocoautla; one female, three adult males, and one immature male, May 22, 1954, Cerro Omblogo, Villa Allende; two females and three males, June 2, 1954, Cerro del Sumidero, Tuxtla Gutierrez. I found the species fairly common at Cerro Omblogo and Cerro del Sumidero, at least during May and June.

Passer domesticus. English Sparrow. Four years ago I recorded the first appearance of the species in Chiapas (Condor, 52, 1950:166). At present it has increased and is well established in Tuxtla Gutierrez, where there are about fifty birds living and nesting in the central park.

Passerina leclancherii. Orange-breasted Bunting. I watched several pairs and small flocks of three to five individuals feeding on the ground in March of 1950 and again in April of 1951 near the seacoast at La Gloria, Arriaga. I collected three here on March 23, 1950.—MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Instituto Zoologico del Estado, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, México, June 25, 1954.*