

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

Record of the Starling in Arkansas: A Correction.—Regarding Mr. J. D. Black's reference to the January 25, 1930, record of the European Starling from Fayetteville, Arkansas (*antea*, p. 235), the record given in Arkansas Station Bulletin 258 (p. 129) states clearly that a specimen was taken. This specimen is now in the University collection and available for inspection. Mr. Black refers to this record as "a rather uncertain sight observation." I called it the first record because no other record of the Starling in Arkansas had at that time appeared in print.—W. J. BAERG, *University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.*

Some 1931 Middle Western Records of the Starling.—Several observations of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) were made recently in localities in middle western states. While none of these observations extend the known westward range of this species, yet they help in showing the increase of this bird along the western edge of its range, as determined at the present time. Although no specimens were taken, identification in each instance was satisfactory.

On September 27, 1931, six Starlings were seen three miles north of Toulon, Illinois. A flock of fourteen was seen September 28, 1931, ten miles north of Peoria, Illinois. On October 16, 1931, two were seen two miles north of Vinita, Oklahoma. A single Starling was seen with a flock of Red-winged Blackbirds about twenty miles south of Kansas City, near Lewisburg, Kansas, on October 17, 1931. One was seen October 17, 1931, ten miles southwest of Bethany, Missouri, near Pattonburg. A flock of eight was seen November 10, 1931, five miles west of Davenport, Iowa. On November 11, 1931, two miles south of Pana, Illinois, a large flock of at least 150 Starlings was seen. And a flock of twelve birds, November 12, 1931, at Muscle Shoals, near Sheffield, Alabama.—PHILIP A. DuMONT, *Iowa City, Iowa.*

Leconte's Sparrow at Toledo, Ohio.—On September 3, 1932, I was in a marsh along Maumee Bay, just north of the city limits of Toledo, Ohio, looking for Marsh Wrens, when my attention was attracted by a strange sparrow that landed on top of a cat-tail about fifty feet ahead of me. It was followed by two more birds of the same species. These two last birds sought the dense part of the cat-tail growth, and were soon lost to sight, but the first bird remained on top of the cat-tail, affording me an excellent view of it. I succeeded in approaching a little closer, and with the aid of a pair of 8-power glasses and the afternoon sun on my back I was able to carefully study this bird, which was undoubtedly a Leconte's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*). The broad buffy yellow line over each eye and the lighter buff line through the center of the dark crown stood out distinctly. The yellowish buff tinge on the breast and on the faintly streaked sides was also clearly visible. I got a good view of the bird's back when it turned around, which helped in its identification. Upon closer approach all three birds flew across the road into an adjacent marsh where I was unable to locate them. When the birds flew I got an excellent view of the tail. The feathers were narrow with the tips sharply pointed and the outer feathers were much shorter than the center ones. This bird is very rare in Ohio, as far as I know there being only one previous record (Revised List of the Birds of Ohio, M. B. Trautman, 1932).—JOHN H. RITTER, *Dayton, Ohio.*