

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

The Starling in Day County, South Dakota.—I have two records of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in this vicinity. On May 14, 1933, I saw one in company with some blackbirds near Lake Minnewashta, Day County, South Dakota. On December 27, 1933, I shot one across the alley from the Hospital here in Webster, also in Day County.—ARTHUR R. LUNDQUIST, *Webster, S. D.*

The Starling at Sioux City, Iowa.—On October 1, 1933, I saw four Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in North Morningside, Sioux City. This is the first record that I have of the species in Woodbury County. A pair of the birds was seen on April 22, 1933, near Ida Grove, Iowa, which is about fifty miles southeast of Sioux City.—WM. YOUNGWORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa.*

The American Egret in Martin County, Minnesota.—During August, 1932, the Rev. Harold W. Wager, of Dell Rapids, South Dakota, while visiting at his father's farm, eight and one-half miles southeast of Fairmont, Martin County, Minnesota, saw eight American Egrets (*Herodias alba egretta*) associating with Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*) at a small lake on the farm. The night herons were nesting, but there was no evidence that the egrets were. However, he did state that both species were roosting at night in the same trees.—W. H. OVER, *Museum of the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, S. D.*

Field Notes from the Sioux City, Iowa, Region.—On July 4, 1933, I found a pair of the Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) at Yankton, South Dakota. This town is about fifty air miles from Sioux City. The actions of the birds indicated nesting, and brings the species still closer to the Iowa border, as a summer resident. A male Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*) was noted at Honey Creek, Iowa, on July 24, 1933. This location is a short distance north of Council Bluffs, Iowa. The Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) has been found at Sioux City again this year, and since young birds have been seen, the writer has put the species down as a regular summer resident, although it is found in but very limited numbers.—WM. YOUNGWORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa.*

Migrant Nelson's Sparrows in Central Iowa.—Six Nelson's Sparrows (*Ammodramus caudacuta nelsoni*) were collected by the writer at Little Wall Lake, Hamilton County, Iowa, September 30, 1933. Of these six, a juvenal and an adult male are now mounted in the Bullock collection, Des Moines, and the other four, an adult female, two juvenal males, and a juvenal female, remain in my collection. Eight others were identified but not collected. These birds were found among the wild rice and cat-tails. When flushed, they usually flew but a short distance, towards deeper cover, alighted in the tops of the vegetation, and almost immediately dropped to the lower stalks.—PHILIP A. DUMONT, *Des Moines, Iowa.*

A Late Iowa Record for an American Bittern.—About 11 A. M. on November 11, 1932, I encountered an American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) near the northwest shore of Spirit Lake, in Dickinson County, Iowa, not far from the Minnesota line. It was perched in brushy vegetation in the lee of a cut bank, and was partially covered with drifting snow. Suspecting that the bird might be a cripple I collected it for examination, but a thorough plucking and post-mortem failed to reveal any sign of injury; indeed, the specimen was in

very good condition. The stomach was about half full of fish remains in a rather advanced state of digestion. At this time the lakes were well frozen over, with the exception of occasional patches of open water.—PAUL L. ERRINGTON, *Ames, Ia.*

Some Bird Notes from Idaho.—On July 31, 1933, I noted five or six Snowy Egrets (*Egretta thula* subsp.) and a single White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*) at a ditch along a road near Roberts, Idaho. Three days later, on returning to the same locality with O. J. Murie, the egrets and the ibis were again seen along the same ditch. After being flushed several times, the egrets finally took refuge in an adjoining reed marsh. The ibis did not tarry, but at once flew off into the distance. In a flooded grain field near by we noted several Ring-billed Gulls and Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, a single Western Willet and a Solitary Sandpiper.—ADOLPH MURIE, *Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.*

An Odd Result of a Kinglet's Accident.—I collected near Benicia, Solano County, California, on October 22, 1933, a female Western Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Corthylio calendula cineraceus*) from a live oak tree, where it was flitting about with several of its companions. I found that the bird had at one time suffered a broken right leg about one-fourth inch above the hind toe. The fractured bone had completely healed together, but in nearly reverse position, so that the hind toe served as a front toe and the three front toes were in the position of the hind toe. I was unable to determine whether or not the bird, when grasping a twig, was able to manipulate the toes of this injured foot. However, the toes had not stiffened and the tendons appeared to be functioning satisfactorily. The left leg was normal.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, Calif.*

Early Fall Migration Notes from Virginia.—There is still much to be learned concerning the southward migration of birds in the fall, so the following brief notes from the northeastern corner of Virginia may be of interest. On August 16, 1933, while passing through the military reservation at Fort Humphreys, approximately ten miles south of Alexandria, my attention was attracted to a restless flock of warblers feeding on a wooded ridge facing the Potomac River. After following them for a short distance, I was able to identify them as being largely early fall migrants, relatively few being species that nest here. Chestnut-sided Warblers were the most numerous, while Golden-winged Warblers were noted several times, and a male Blue-winged Warbler and a Canada Warbler in immature plumage were likewise seen. A small stream flowed through a ravine here, and feeding at the water's edge, I found three Northern Water-Thrushes. One of these last was collected, and proved to be the western form, *Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis*.—THOS. D. BURLEIGH, *Asheville, N. C.*

The Western Harlequin Duck in Central Iowa.—An adult male Western Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus pacificus*), in full breeding plumage, was collected by Mr. James R. Harlan, December 27, 1932, on the Des Moines River, southeast of Adelphi, Polk County, Iowa. The bird was alone when killed. The specimen was mounted by Prof. J. Steppan, and is now contained in the State Historical Museum, at Des Moines.

Since *H. h. pacificus* was described by Brooks as recently as 1915 (*Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, LIX, No. 5, p. 393), the previous Iowa records were all recorded under the binomial *Histrionicus histrionicus* Linn. Until this specimen was secured there were no Iowa specimens. Measurements in millimeters of this specimen taken by the writer are as follows: wings (chord), 209 and 210; ex-