

The A.O.U. Check-List (1931:69) gives American Rough-legged Hawk as ranging south in winter to "southern California, southern New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, and North Carolina." However, Sprunt (1940. *Auk*, 57:564-565) mentions a number of sight records from Florida; and there is a record from Thomasville, Georgia (about 50 miles north-northeast of St. Marks) of a Rough-legged Hawk shot in February, 1925 (Stoddard, 1928. *Auk*, 45:211).—RICHARD A. HERBERT AND KATHLEEN GREEN SKELTON, *Linnaean Society of New York*, November 11, 1952.

Bird notes from the Grand Prairie of Arkansas.—Since the publication of Baerg's "Birds of Arkansas" (1951. *Univ. of Arkansas, Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull.* 258, Revised), we have had opportunity to clarify the status of a number of species about which little was known in east-central Arkansas, and to add a few species to the State list. From a considerable mass of observations the following have been selected.

These records are entirely from Arkansas, Lonoke, and Prairie counties, the section of Arkansas commonly known as "the Grand Prairie," and from the lowlands of the Arkansas and White Rivers and the Bayou Meto, which adjoin Arkansas County on three sides. Observations by the senior author have been nearly daily since May, 1950, while those of the junior author have been intermittent but total almost 24 months since the spring of 1948. Several short notes on specific subjects have already been published. Where specimens were taken these have been sent to the U. S. National Museum.

Colymbus grisegena. Holboell's Grebe. One was seen on a flooded area near Humnoke, Lonoke County, October 21, 1951.

Podilymbus podiceps. Pied-billed Grebe. On October 12, 1952, we found a Pied-billed Grebe incubating four eggs near Lonoke. Incubation continued through October 21. The last week of October brought freezing weather and the nest was deserted.

Guara alba. White Ibis. Baerg listed one record by Van Huizen in Arkansas County, September 10, 1950. Van Huizen again saw White Ibises in 1951, and on September 15, 1952, Neff saw an immature White Ibis flying along a rice field canal 4 miles east of Stuttgart.

Dendrocygna bicolor. Fulvous Tree Duck. First recorded in Arkansas near Lonoke by Marshall, Coffey, and Block (Baerg) on September 20, 1950; a flock of eight was reported to us from the same area in September, 1952, and a male was taken there on September 17.

Ictinia mississippiensis. Mississippi Kite. Along the lower reaches of the Bayou Meto, the Arkansas River from the mouth of Bayou Meto downstream, and probably along the lower White River, this kite is a fairly common breeding bird. During May and June kites are often seen catching dragonflies just a few feet over the water in the rice fields adjoining the bottomland forests.

Since we discovered this species south of Gillett in the summer of 1950 we have seen it on numerous occasions. During the summer of 1952 fourteen pairs were under observation; most of the nests are high up in the tall bottomland cottonwoods. Earliest spring date was May 5, 1951, while the latest autumn date was at Nady, Arkansas County, September 13, 1952, recorded by Anna G. Meanley.

Buteo lineatus texanus. Texas Red-shouldered Hawk. A female taken near Hazen

on December 10, 1951, with cinnamon rufous breast, and conspicuous dark shaft lines in the breast feathers, was identified by Meanley at the U. S. National Museum as of this race, not previously reported in Arkansas.

Rallus limicola. Virginia Rail. Baerg listed only two sight records. An adult male was taken in a rice field near Hazen, Prairie County, on November 15, 1952.

Porzana carolina. Sora. This species is an abundant migrant through the eastern Arkansas rice country, especially in autumn. A dead male, frozen into the ice along a roadside ditch on February 3, 1951, proved at least occasional wintering, and three seen in a rice field on July 12, 1951, indicate possible breeding.

Coturnicops noveboracensis. Yellow Rail. The third State record is based on a bird flushed from a rice stubble field south of Stuttgart on October 9, 1952.

Gallinula chloropus. Florida Gallinule. Although this species was already known to breed in the Lonoke area, a nest with six eggs was noted on a fish farm near Lonoke on September 9, 1952 and four downy young not over one week old were seen on a neighboring farm on September 17, 1952.

Pluvialis dominica dominica. American Golden Plover. Although known as a common spring migrant through Arkansas, its occurrence as a common autumn migrant in the Grand Prairie area is apparently unrecorded. Small flocks were seen each day through November, 1951, and single birds were seen near Stuttgart as late as December 1 and 3 of that year. Specimens were collected on November 16, 1950, and November 2, 1951.

Columbigallina passerina. Ground Dove. A single bird was flushed from a farm road five miles southwest of Stuttgart on September 15, 1952, but managed to escape. This appears to be the first record for Arkansas.

Crotophaga sulcirostris. Groove-billed Ani. A new State record was established when a male was collected about seven miles southeast of Stuttgart on September 21, 1952. The bird was discovered perched in a dead tree about 20 feet high in a brushy field border. Its stomach was full of grasshoppers.

Limnothlypis swainsonii. Swainson's Warbler. We have been able to locate Arkansas records from only three localities in earlier literature. Along the lower White and Arkansas River bottomland forests adjoining Arkansas County the species is fairly abundant in May and June. Five singing males were heard in a canebrake east of Tichenor on May 9, 1951. Four singing males were heard in timbered areas near Nady during May and June, 1952. A male was collected on June 12, 1952.

Spiza americana. Dickcissel. One of the most common breeding passerines in the area, the Dickcissel is apparently unrecorded as a winter resident. During the winters of 1950-51 and 1951-52 we found single Dickcissels associating with the flocks of English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) about the farmyard of a majority of the farms visited. They fed with the sparrows in the barnlots, on straw stacks, and in open sheds. Dates ranged from mid-January to April.

Zonotrichia querula. Harris's Sparrow. In east-central Arkansas this species appears to be rare. C. M. Owen (now deceased) banded one at DeWitt some 18 years ago. We banded one near Stuttgart on November 27, 1950, and collected an immature male near Nady on November 3, 1952.—BROOKE MEANLEY AND JOHNSON A. NEFF, *U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Stuttgart, Arkansas, and Denver, Colorado, December 8, 1952.*