

Knowledge of the fall migration of all forms of cranes is very slight in Nebraska, mainly because large concentrations seldom occur in the fall and the birds fly at extreme heights. The report of the Committee on Bird Protection of the American Ornithologists' Union (1944. *Auk*, 61:632-633) states that during the 1942 fall migration 11,000 cranes were seen at Crescent Lake Migratory Bird Refuge in Garden County. This report suggests that the fall migration does not follow the same routes as the spring migration. During fall the birds seem to be widely dispersed, as there are numerous reports of individuals or small groups of three and four visiting farm ponds and other small bodies of water throughout the state.

There is very little possibility that Sandhill Cranes breed in Nebraska at present. There have been no positive breeding records since the 1880's. However, it should be pointed out that there are suitable breeding areas for these birds in the sandhill lake region and there are now extremely few bird students working in this area. As it is very evident that the Sandhill Crane is increasing in abundance, there is an excellent possibility that it will once again nest in Nebraska.—WILLIAM F. RAPP, JR., 430 Ivy Avenue, Crete, Nebraska, August 17, 1953.

The Lark Bunting in Utah.—The occurrence of 51 (4 collected and 47 observed) new Utah records of Lark Buntings (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) for the years 1951-1953 has prompted us to compile all available information, in an effort to determine the status of this species in the state. Woodbury, *et al.* (1949. *Bull. Univ. Utah*, 39:33) give the status of the Lark Bunting in Utah as a "Sparse summer resident and migrant through the western half of the state (not known Colorado Basin), probably breeding in open plains-like desert or cultivated fields, known from May 15 to October 11." Since then, Killpack (1951. *Condor*, 53:99) has reported collecting and observing this species in the Uintah Basin. Additional records for the Uintah Basin and other parts of Utah are reported here. The earliest date is May 6, and the latest corresponds to that given by Woodbury.

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Specimens referred to are in collections of the University of Utah Museum of Zoology (UUMZ); Brigham Young University (BYU); Utah State Agricultural College (USAC); and Weber College (WC).

The first record of a Lark Bunting in Utah was a specimen collected by J. H. Simpson (1876. "Rept. Expl. Great Basin, Territory of Utah," 1859. Gov't Print. Office, Appendix K, p. 379) from an unknown locality about 1859. Since then, records for this species have varied noticeably over the years. This variation might reflect population fluctuations, changes in migration routes, or lack of observational data. Between 1859 and 1939, Lark Buntings were reported only four times. Sixty-one buntings were recorded in the period 1940 through 1942. Only one bird was noted from 1943 to 1949, but this may have been due in part to lack of observers in the field because of the war. Sixty Lark Bunting records occurred between 1950 and 1953.

In making this compilation we found approximately 126 records (98 observations, 28 specimens) of Lark Buntings from fourteen counties of Utah of which 47 observations and 5 specimens were unrecorded in the literature. Ninety-three of these records are for the month of May; 19 for June; 2 for July; 5 for August; 5 for September; and 1 for October. Although 42 records occurred during the second week of May, they represent only 4 observations in 3 counties, while the 29 records for the third week of May represents 11 observations from 6 counties. Thus, the middle or third week of May appears to be the peak of spring migration.

A few of the records are scattered throughout the spring and summer, indicating possible nesting of this species in Utah. In addition, Woodbury, *et al.* (unpublished MS) mention a nest containing 4 eggs, near American Fork, Utah County, May 15, 1898 (UUMZ). They also state that Treganza found 2 nests, each with 4 fresh eggs, between Garfield and Saltair, Salt Lake County. No date was given. Further, Behle (1942. *Condor*, 44:231) and Behle and Selander (1952. *Wilson Bull.*, 64:31) have also suggested that this bunting nests in Utah on the basis of enlarged testes of two specimens collected during nesting season. Following is an account by counties of the known occurrences of Lark Buntings in Utah.

Box Elder County.—A specimen (USNM) was collected in greasewood opposite Hansen's Ranch near the Bear River Marshes, June 1, 1916 (Woodbury, *et al.*, unpublished MS). Records from the Bear River Marshes are: One seen by Cecil S. Williams, August, 1940, and 2 seen by Lindheimer, June, 1942 (Woodbury, *et al.*, *op. cit.*) and one collected by John B. Van Den Akker, May 25, 1946 (UUMZ). R. M. Hansen collected a male (UUMZ), May 8, 1952, 10 miles south of Grouse Creek. R. J. Erwin observed 12 near Promontory, May 16, 1952; 7, May 30, 1952; and one, May 31, 1953.

Cache County.—Three pairs were observed 2 miles south of Cache Junction, May 30, 1951.

Carbon County.—One male was seen by R. M. Hansen, 10 miles east of Price, May 17, 1952.

Duchesne County.—Two males (BYU) were collected and one female observed, May 26, 1950, 4 miles south of Roosevelt (Killpack, 1951:99). Killpack collected another male (John B. Hurley Collection, Yakima, Washington), May 18, 1952, 5 miles west of Roosevelt.

Juab County.—Knowlton (1947. *Auk*, 64:627) reported collecting one near Nephi, May 19, 1941, where he found buntings moderately abundant. Lockerbie and associates observed one male in the old Sevier River channel valley, May 17, 1952; and 2 more males in the same area, May 18, 1952. They also recorded one male 5 miles east of Topaz Mountain, May 18, 1952. A male bunting was seen July 6, 1952, about 3 miles west of Nephi.

Millard County.—Fautin took a male bunting among greasewoods near Tule Springs in White Valley, May 13, 1940; and another male in greasewoods at Desert Range Experiment Station in Pine Valley, August 8, 1940 (Woodbury, *et al.*, unpublished MS).

Salt Lake County.—Behle (1942. *Condor*, 44:231) reported a Lark Bunting shot at the Jeremy Ranch, 4,300 feet, on the Jordan River west of the Cudahy Packing Plant, May 19, 1941. H. Higgins watched a single bird of this species being chased through the trees of the University of Utah campus by House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) on October 11, 1941 (Woodbury, *et al.*, unpublished MS). Behle and Selander (1952:31) reported the collection of an adult male, June 11, 1950 from Murray.

Sanpete County.—Woodbury, *et al.*, (unpublished MS) list 4 specimens (USAC) from Manti and Manti Canyon collected on June 22, August 1, 2, and 21, 1940. These specimens could not be located. On May 21, 1941, Knowlton (1947:627) collected one of

5 birds observed 4 miles north of Fountain Green (BYU). According to Woodbury, *et al.* (*op. cit.*) Knowlton observed 2 more near Moroni on the same date.

Summit County.—Ridgway (1877. *Ornithology, in Clarence King's report, "U.S. Geol. Expl., 40th Parallel," U.S. Army, 4:487*) took a juvenile male at Parley's Park near Kimball Junction, 6,400 feet, July 30, 1952.

Tooele County.—An immature was observed in greasewood and shadscale on the east side of Camel Back Mountain, September 12, 1952. A male bunting was seen near the Iosepa Ranch, Skull Valley, September 30, 1952.

Uintah County.—Killpack (1951:99) took 2 males 2 miles south of Gusher, May 21, 1950. He collected an immature female from a group of 3 on Diamond Mountain Plateau, 30 miles north of Vernal, September 9, 1950. A male was collected by Lynn Nielson along the Green River 5,500 feet, June 10, 1952 (UUMZ). On June 12, 1953, Killpack saw 7 males and 3 females in greasewood and shadscale about 11 miles east of Jensen.

Utah County.—On May 29, 1937, Fautin observed a male bunting feeding in a pasture near Lakeview (Woodbury, *et al.*, unpublished MS).

Washington County.—Hardy and Higgins (1940. *Utah Acad., Sci., Arts and Letters*, 17:109) list 4 taken from a flock of about 40, May 10, 1940 (2 males, one female, USAC). On May 6, 1941, Behle (1942:231) reported collecting the male of a pair from a cholla cactus on the west slope of the Beaver Dam Mountains, 3,300 feet, 5 miles north of the Utah-Arizona border (UUMZ).

Weber County.—A Lark Bunting was collected at Farr West, 4,200 feet, May 28, 1951, (WC); and, June 2, 1952, 3 males were seen in the West Warren, Reese and Little Mountain section of the county. This locality is just across the Great Salt Lake from where Erwin saw 7 on May 30 of the same year.—RICHARD D. PORTER AND HAROLD J. ECOSCUE, *Department of Zoology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, November 23, 1953.*

Pine Siskin nesting in eastern South Dakota.—The literature on the status of the Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) as a breeding bird in South Dakota is meager indeed. Over and Thomas (1946. "Birds of South Dakota." Revised, *Univ. S. Dak. Mus., Nat. Hist. Studies* No. 1:161) list it as "a winter resident." Roberts (1936. "Birds of Minnesota." Vol. 2, p. 365) reports it as a common migrant in Minnesota but has only one record of a nest — from the northern part of the state. There are numerous sight records for South Dakota but only two published items which relate to breeding. Larabee (1937. *Wilson Bull.*, 49:116) reported a nest in Yankton County and Youngworth (1936. *Wilson Bull.*, 48:311) noted a pair nesting in Yankton.

Although I have checked every available item in Stephens' "An Annotated Bibliography of South Dakota Ornithology" (1945. Privately printed, Sioux City, Iowa), I have found no published records of the hatching of young of the Pine Siskin in South Dakota. Letters from Drs. W. J. Breckenridge and O. S. Pettingill, investigators in the state, who report sight and collection records but no breeding records, seem to bear this out.

The following observation therefore is probably the first record of the Pine Siskin hatching young in the state—certainly in the eastern part of the state. I have been collecting data on this species at Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County, since 1948, and have sight records for all months of the year, excepting June, July and August.

Although I was certain in 1949 that this species nested in the area, it was not until May 19, 1951, that I discovered the first nest in Sioux Falls. Mr. and Mrs. Herman F.