

is probable that these specimens from the Pliocene of Texas and Nevada would prove to be different from the existing species if more material were available for study.

The age of this avifauna is probably late middle Pleistocene or early upper Pleistocene. Hibbard (1952, *op. cit.*:11) regarded the stream deposit from which the Kentuck assemblage was collected to be younger than beds containing the Borchers faunule of Meade County, Kansas. Some of the mammals in the assemblage suggest an age roughly near that of the Cragin Quarry faunule and other fossils from the Kingsdown, or lower Sanborn, formation. The bird bones listed here provide no evidence of having been associated with the fossils of pre-Borchers age that Hibbard thinks were redeposited with the younger post-Borchers fossils to make the Kentuck assemblage. In any event, without better faunules for correlation it is enough to say that the deposits containing this avifauna are probably late Yarmouthian or Illinoian in age.

This collection is of interest because there is nothing in it to show that there have been any great and profound changes in the avifauna of the High Plains since the end of the middle Pleistocene. The five species have been inhabitants or migrants in the High Plains within historic times. The similarity of all seven of the fragments to the corresponding parts of Recent species increases the probability, in my opinion, that the species had attained, or were near, their present form by mid-Pleistocene time. With a collection as small as this one such a view would not exclude the presence of now extinct species or the possibility that slight morphological differences existed.—EDWIN C. GALBREATH, *Department of Anatomy, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, August 6, 1954.*

An early seasonal record of the Swallow-tailed Kite in Florida.— A Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) was seen by the writer on February 6, 1954, flying over Payne's Prairie four miles south of Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida. The bird was sighted about 8:00 a.m. and was watched through 7 × 50 glasses for about 40 minutes as it circled overhead. The bird then flew southeast. According to the weather station at the University of Florida, at Gainesville, the temperature was 47° F. at 8:30 a.m. The weather was clear following a heavy frost and there was a slight wind from the northwest.

The species is a rare summer resident in this area, and as far as can be ascertained, this is the earliest record of its occurrence in Florida. Howell (1932, "Florida Bird Life," p. 164) gives the earliest record as February 28, 1920, at St. Marks, or the "last week in February, 1876" at Panasoffkee Lake.—THOMAS W. HICKS, *University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, August 10, 1954.*

Red Phalarope in Ohio.— On May 1, 1953, while flying through a rapidly moving storm system near Columbus, Ohio, our crew noticed clouds of dust blowing along at 8,000 feet above sea level. Later we learned that the system had caused dust storms in the Great Plains and tornadoes in Macon, Georgia, and other places as it moved eastward.

An hour before sunset on the next day, I found a Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) swimming on a small pond in the Game Preserve in Area C, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. The bird was busily snapping up black "flies" which were numerous within three inches of the surface of the water. The bird must have been starving, for it paid little attention to my family and nearby fishermen as it darted after the insects. It came within 25 feet of me as I watched with 8 × 30 binoculars. The yellow, dark-tipped