

flow of tropical air northwestward from Yucatan into south Texas and on northward into Oklahoma between 19 and 24 April 1961. Thus, conditions favorable to rapid north-northwestward movement from the known wintering areas of the species involved occurred at about the time of our unusual observations. It would seem that these weather conditions might have been the cause for the displacements in direction, distance, and time which are described above.—W. MARVIN DAVIS, *College of Pharmacy, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, 23 October 1961.*

Grasshopper Sparrow wintering in central Missouri.—On 14 January 1961, David Snyder, James Gilmore, and I visited an area approximately 16 miles south of Sedalia, Benton County, Missouri, for the purpose of listing birds wintering in grassland.

A visit to a one-half acre pond surrounded by tall grasses and weeds located in the center of a timothy (*Phleum pratense*) stubble field, revealed the presence of two Grasshopper Sparrows (*Ammodramus savannarum*). A male was mist-netted, photographed, sacrificed for food habits study, and preserved as a study skin. According to Widmann (1907. "Birds of Missouri," *Trans. Acad. of Sci., St. Louis*, 17:1-296) and Bennitt (1932. "Check-list of the Birds of Missouri," *Univ. of Mo. Studies*, 7(3):1-81) this seems to be the first record of a Grasshopper Sparrow wintering in Missouri. The area of collecting had a great variety of tall and short grasses and many weeds and herbaceous plants. The dominants were: foxtail (*Setaria*), millet (*Echinochloa*), spike-rush (*Eleocharis*), Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*), cord-grass (*Spartina*), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), big bluestem (*Andropogon Gerardi*) and false loosestrife (*Ludwigia*).

On a subsequent visit to the area on 24 January 1961, when the temperature was -10 F, we found one Grasshopper Sparrow, which again eluded our nets.—DAVID A. EASTERLA, *Missouri Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Stephens Hall, Columbia, Missouri, 15 December 1961.*

Red Phalarope in West Virginia.—On 3 November 1961, I was informed by Mr. Norville Hall that he had just seen a phalarope on one of the ponds in Oglebay Park, near Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia.

Later, in the company of James Denham, Miss Dorothy Broemsen and Mr. Hall, I observed the bird at close range. It was identified as an adult Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) in winter plumage.

The next morning, Mr. Denham returned to the impoundment, was unable to locate the bird at first, but eventually found it dead at the mouth of the spillway of the dam. The specimen was retrieved and put in refrigeration.

Several days later a study skin was prepared and internal examination revealed that the bird was a female showing signs of emaciation. The identification was verified by Dr. Kenneth C. Parkes of The Carnegie Museum, where the specimen has been deposited.

So far as is known, this is the first record of the Red Phalarope for West Virginia.—GEORGE H. BREIDING, *Oglebay Institute, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, 20 March 1962.*

Specimens of unusual Indiana birds.—Over the past several years, the Purdue University Wildlife Laboratory Collection has acquired a number of interesting bird specimens from Indiana. Some of these represent first records (those marked with an asterisk), and others are of birds sufficiently uncommon in the state to warrant notice.