

of the opinion that Tree Sparrows occasionally visit his vicinity, but in his years of collecting he has not succeeded in recording any.—AARON C. BAGG, *Holyoke, Mass.*

**The Nesting of Henslow's Sparrow in Southern Connecticut.—**

On May 19, 1921, while observing the migration, then at its height, I found a male Henslow's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus henslowi henslowi*). The bird was in a field near the Hemlock's Reservoir, Fairfield, Conn. At the time I was in the company of five others, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Waldo of Bridgeport, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Glynn of Fairfield, and Mr. Frank Novack of the Fairfield Bird Sanctuary. All of us observed the bird from a very short distance and in a clear light. I was first attracted to it by the song, the short one that has been written "fleezick." To me it sounded more like "tillip." I made a record of it, which, unless one considers a single "chebec" of the least Flycatcher a song, is the shortest bird song I have recorded, occupying but two-fifths of a second.

The bird was not in the sort of locality in which it is usually described as nesting, so that no thought of a possible nest entered my head at the time. Returning to this area alone on June 4, 1920, I found the bird still there, so that the possibility of finding its nest occurred to me. The area had been the usual typical dry field, with sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*) and the common white daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) the most conspicuous forms of vegetation at that season. The Bridgeport Hydraulic Company, however had planted the area, a few years ago, with white pine (*Pinus strobus*). These trees had reached a height of two to four feet, and the bird was first found singing in their tops. Hunting about not far from the tree in which the male sang, I heard a slight sparrow "tsip." I should ordinarily have passed the note for that of a Field Sparrow, but being on the lookout for Henslow's Sparrow I thought I detected a slightly different quality in the note, and soon found it a second Henslow's Sparrow, evidently the female, for the male was still singing where I had first observed him.

I sat down to watch this bird, and waited for nearly an hour. The bird was evidently disturbed at my presence, and kept up a continual "tsipping," balancing herself in the top of a pine, and facing a strong wind that was blowing so hard as to almost unseat her. Little by little she approached a spot about which my suspicions centered, and finally ceased her "tsip" and dropped to the ground. I went to the spot and found the nest, with four young birds, so well grown that they left at my approach, and I was only able to catch one. This bird was essentially like its parents in most particulars, but had a pale gray colored down adhering to the feathers of the head and upper back. The down was so light in color that it may have been white when the birds were first hatched.

The nest was in a hollow of the grass on the ground. It was not under one of the pines, as I had rather expected it would be, but was more than

two feet from the nearest pine. It was made entirely of grasses, those of the lining finer than the others. On the south side it was roughly arched, like the nest of a Grasshopper Sparrow, but so crudely that I did not feel sure whether the birds had actually constructed the arch, or only built the nest in the shelter of a tuft of dead grass that already happened to be there.

The young were evidently expert at hiding in the grass, for after releasing the bird I had caught I could neither find it again, nor any of the other three birds. This is my first experience with this species, though farther north in Connecticut it is reported locally to be common. On my two visits the male sang only the short song, so that I have yet to hear the longer song described for this species.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Fairfield, Conn.*

**Albinism in the Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Passerherbulus caud-acutus*).**—In 'The Auk' for October, 1921, pp. 604-605 I have a note under the above caption.

On December 16, 1921, I visited the place for the first time this season where I have recorded so many albinistic Sharp-tailed Sparrows. A short search among the multitudes of Sharp-tail, Acadian, Nelson's and Seaside Sparrows revealed the presence of two albinistic Sharp-tails, one with a pure white tail-feather and the other a mottled bird with white also in wing and tail-feathers. I went again to the place on December 31, and seeing again the two albinistic birds, shot the mottled example. This one, like all the others recorded has the abdominal and ventral region profusely spotted with black. This makes an uninterrupted strain of albinism for twenty-two years.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**An Albino Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*).**—On December 8, 1921, while collecting in a large field of broom grass in search of Leconte's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus lecontei*) I saw a pure white sparrow among a flock of Swamp, Song and White-throated Sparrows. By its flight I could readily identify it as a Swamp Sparrow and when I secured it I found that I had made no mistake. This bird was exceedingly shy and I flushed it repeatedly before I finally procured the specimen. It is entirely pure white with the exception of one normal rectrix, which is concealed by the other feathers overlapping it and another normal scapular feather. It is an adult male and was very fat.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**Note on the Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireosylva philadelphia*).**—In a recent note (*Auk*, Vol. XXXVIII, No. 4, p. 607) Mr. H. Mousley comments on the absence from my paper 'A Nesting of the Philadelphia Vireo' (*Auk*, Vol. XXXVIII, No. 2, p. 202) of any reference to his published records of the species. The absence of any such reference is due to the fact that it was in October, 1919, (*Auk*, Vol. XXXVI, No. 4, p. 486) that Mr. Mousley's first record of this species was published, while