

fixed, the system of the dance gradually became apparent, and the gyrating torches were resolved into caps of scarlet. Then I knew that the dancers were Tangarás. There were only three, yet so rapidly did they move that the circle seemed almost unbroken. Bowing low, with beak outstretched, a Tangará would sidestep swiftly until it seemed that he must surely knock the judge (just a demure female) into the aqueduct, leap over her, hover on fast-beating wings facing her a moment, and then begin again the quick sidewise run up the branch. Each was closely followed by the other two, while all three kept up a perfect din of chatter sounding something like *trā, trā, trā*, rapidly repeated. At intervals a sharp signal note was given, upon which all would stop for a moment's rest, only to begin all over again before they could conceivably have caught a breath. How long this game would have continued one can not conjecture, for there had been no lag, no loss of enthusiasm, when some movement apprised them of my presence, and judge and contestants shot away into the jungle.—ERNEST G. HOLT, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

**White-crowned Sparrow at Charleston, S. C.**—On May 5, 1925, a White-crowned Sparrow was observed repeatedly in my garden in the city of Charleston, S. C. I had the bird under observation for at least an hour, and several times I viewed it at a distance of not more than eight feet as it fed on Chicken feed scattered on the ground just outside my study window.

Audubon says of this species in 'Birds of America': "In the winter of 1833, I procured at Charleston in South Carolina, one in its brown livery."

Arthur T. Wayne in 'Birds of South Carolina' says: "Audubon must have been mistaken in his identification and have failed to recognize the White-throated Sparrow in its immature plumage, since the White-crowned Sparrow is a very rare bird in the South Atlantic States and does not winter. On October 26, 1897, I secured a young male of this beautiful species near Mount Pleasant. . . . This is the only specimen I have ever seen or taken, and as yet remains the only valid record for the State."

Since there is no doubt whatsoever about the identification of the White-crowned Sparrow observed by me on May 5 last, another valid record has now been added.—HERBERT RAVENEL SASS, *Charleston, S. C.*

**Henslow's Sparrow in Helderbergs, N. Y.**—Henslow's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus henslowi*) is recorded by Eaton in 'Birds of New York' as "breeding in Albany County, 1908," while in the Albany County list of the same work he lists it only as "T. V., rare."

It really is a common breeding species at Thacher Park twenty miles south of Albany. Here, at an elevation of 1000 feet, it is found in three old fields, rather damp soil, and in mid-July, hip-high with white and yellow Bush clover and carpeted with hop clover. Pine seedlings and Goldenrod are also features of these fields. The colony consists of at least twenty pairs and is on the Crevice road.

At the foot of the Meadowdale-Indian Ladder road a mile from the above colony is another colony of many pairs, in fields of the same nature, rolling, barren, weedy, uncultivated waste-land. Bush clover is absent here, the fields being mainly covered with cinquefoil and Goldenrod.

The birds are very shy, yet allow an approach to within thirty feet. They stop singing about 7 a. m. and do not start again until evening. One male, however, sang every five seconds "*flee-sic*" for at least 24 hours during a rain spell on July 26, 1925, that is, all night as well as all day. "*Flee-sic*" seems to be sung normally at the rate of sixteen times a minute. A person acquainted with the song cannot overlook these species.

"*Flee-sic*" is a song, not a call note. The male seeks a spray of weeds and with drooping tail lifts his bill straight up, to violently jerk out its chebec-like song. If suddenly frightened from the ground it gives the faint "*flee-sic*."

The bird has also a full, long, song, almost identical with that of the Grasshopper Sparrows without the two starting notes: just a low crescendo buzz—like an insect's call. The only other call is a sharp "dzit" or "psit" given in alarm by male and female.

The songs are just as loud three hundred yards away, and the bird will usually sing until you are very close, then he dives with a fluttering, pumping, flight into the grass to lie quiet until one almost steps on him. If persistently stalked they usually fly into a shrub and "freeze."—EDGAR BEDELL, *Schenectady, N. Y.*

**English Sparrows and Robins.**—During the latter half of May, 1925 a pair of Robins built a nest in a locust tree in front of my house. Four eggs were laid and in due season four young appeared. The parent birds have since been busy feeding the young. A pair of English Sparrows discovered the Robin's nest and saw the process of feeding. Now for about two weeks the Sparrows have been watching the Robins closely, and whenever one of them flies down on the lawn in search of food for the young the Sparrows will follow it. As soon as the Robin captures a grasshopper or a worm and flies to the nest, the Sparrows will follow and alight on the rim opposite the Robin. As soon as the Robin has placed the food in the open bill of one of the youngsters, one of the Sparrows reaches over and pulls the food out and flies away to a quiet place to devour it.

The young Robins do not seem to suffer from lack of food, so I imagine the parents may have to work harder to offset the robberies of the Sparrows.—J. K. JENSEN, *Santa Fe, New Mexico.*

**Yellow Throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica dominica*) on Quaker Ridge, Mamaroneck, N. Y.**—On May 18, 1925, I was attracted, early in the day by a song, at once familiar yet unfamiliar to me; a song suggesting a combination of an enthusiastic Indigo Bunting and a subdued Water Thrush (*Seiurus motocilla*) which seemed to come from a close twenty year stand of Norway spruce (*Picea excelsa* Link) on the