

telephone call told of a flock of twenty-seven, one of which was caught and carried off by a Sharp-shinned Hawk, and on February 24, 1930, one was sent to me from Rutledge, fifty miles northwest of Quincy, by R. H. Ripperdam.

As yet I have been unable to record the nesting of this species in Adams County, but feel confident that with the increase in numbers as evidenced through the late summer and fall, I shall probably have this opportunity shortly.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois*.

Starling in Arkansas.—A European Starling, (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was observed on the University campus at Fayetteville January 25, 1930. The bird was secured for a specimen.

This appears to be the first record for Arkansas.—W. J. BAERG, *University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.*

The Starling in Kansas.—The first authentic record of a Starling in Kansas came to us this month in the form of a bird that was found frozen to death in a silo on a farm in Allen County, just west of the town of Bronson, Kansas.

A student of this institution, O. Ireland, brought it here February 10. It was found at his home about February 1, after an extremely cold spell. The bird is preserved in our collection in the form of a skin.—C. D. BUNKER, *University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas*.

Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) on Long Island, New York.—While cooking lunch on the Long Island Sound beach, below the high sand banks of Wildwood State Park, Wading River, Long Island, on January 1, 1930, I heard a none too familiar whistle, and turned to see a pair of Evening Grosbeaks alight in the scrub growth above. The birds remained quiet, but watchful, while I clambered up toward them and examined them through glasses. Later they flew to the topmost twigs of a tall bare tree, where Mrs. Murphy and I watched them for some minutes.

The Evening Grosbeak has been recorded on Long Island before, though not for a considerable number of years. Moreover, in the visits of this species, "it never rains but it pours," and I suspect that this note will be but one of many sent in from the Eastern States.—ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, *American Museum of Natural History, New York*.

Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) at Cape May, N. J.—On January 14, 1930, an Evening Grosbeak was found dead in a garden in Cape May, N. J., by Mr. Otway H. Brown of that place. He gave it to Mr. H. Walker Hand for transmittal to the Academy of Natural Sciences. Although it had evidently been dead for some days, Mr. Hand was able to skin it and it is now preserved in our collection.

This is not only the first record for the bird for Cape May but apparently a farthest south record for the species in the East, since Cape May is a trifle farther south than Washington, D. C., which so far as I am

aware, formerly held this record.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Nelson's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus nelsoni*) at Waukegan, Ill.—While the type specimen of Nelson's Sparrow was taken in Cook Co., Ill., and a number of others have been secured in the same vicinity, it seems from all accounts to be much scarcer in recent years so that the capture of a specimen at Waukegan, Lake Co., Illinois, on October 13, 1929, seems worthy of record.—JAMES S. WHITE, *1114 Ardmore Ave., Chicago, Ill.*

Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) in South Carolina.—On October 27, 1929, the writer secured a specimen of the Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*), on a rice field bank bordering the Cooper River near Huger P. O., Berkeley County. The bird was on the ground and showed remarkable tameness; one foot was diseased, the middle toe being greatly enlarged. The bird was a male.

Mr. J. H. Riley, to whom the specimen was submitted tells me that there are apparently no previous records from the Atlantic seaboard. This is an addition to the fauna of South Carolina.—E. VON S. DINGLE, *Huger, S. C.*

Note on the Eastern Song Sparrows.—When Ridgway worked up the Song Sparrows for his 'Birds of North and Middle America' he recognized but one form, *Melospiza melodia melodia*, in the eastern United States. It has been known for some time, however, that this form, as currently accepted, is not constant throughout its extensive range, and no less than three names have been proposed for these variants. I have had occasion to go into this matter with some care in connection with my work on the birds of the Labrador Peninsula, and my conclusions may be briefly summarized as follows. True *melodia* (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, accepted as type-locality) occupies the Atlantic watershed, reaching Newfoundland, Quebec, and Lake Ontario. *Melospiza melodia acadica* Thayer and Bangs is the same as *melodia*, in my opinion. The range of *Melospiza melodia atlantica* Todd is strictly littoral, and probably extends as far north as the eastern end of Long Island. West of the mountains is a recognizably different race, which is *Melospiza melodia beata* Bangs, the type of which was an accidental visitor to peninsular Florida. The westward range of *beata* remains to be worked out; it seems however, to be the form of the southern Alleghanies.

This note is published in advance at the request of the A. O. U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. A full discussion will appear in my report on the bird life of the Labrador Peninsula.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

Blue Grosbeak on Cape Cod, Massachusetts.—On October 13, 1929, a Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca c. caerulea*) visited my banding station