

White-throated Sparrow in Virginia in June.—At 1 P. M. June 13, 1930, while in the Appomattox river low grounds, on the boundary line between Amelia and Powhatan Counties, Va., I heard three times repeated, the clear, loud “pee-pee-peebody-peebody-peebody” of the White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). A few minutes search gave me a good, clear look at a beautiful, full plumaged male of the species, at a distance of about thirty-five feet. A half hours search did not reveal any more individuals. This is twenty-five days later than my latest previous record, which is May 19, 1926, in Brunswick County, Virginia. The last flock of White-throats for the spring was recorded May 6. The average date of lasts in Brunswick County is about May 11.—JOHN B. LEWIS. *Amelia, Va.*

A Shufeldt's Junco (*Junco oreganus shufeldti*) in Ipswich, Mass.
—In December, 1930, among the dozen or more Slate-colored Juncos at a feeding station at my house at Ipswich, Mass., I noticed one that was plainly different and evidently a western form. I was on the point of collecting it when it disappeared. I was away most of January, but on my return, I found the western Junco still in attendance, and noted his points before collecting him on January 30, 1931. The most noticeable ways in which he differed from *Junco hyemalis hyemalis* were buffish pink sides instead of slate-gray; a black head and neck especially in front instead of a slate-colored one; a slightly brownish back contrasting with the black head instead of a uniform slate color for both as in the adult *hyemalis*, and a slightly pinkish instead of a white bill. The lower edge of his dark bib seemed to curve downwards instead of cutting straight across as in *hyemalis*. He was often attacked by our home Juncos as if they recognized his alien character, but as the group was very quarrelsome I can not state positively that he received more vicious thrusts than the others although this seemed to be the case.

At the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Mr. Outram Bangs and Mr. Ludlow Griscom identified the specimen as Shufeldt's Junco, and I have presented it to the Peabody Museum in Salem for the collection of Essex County birds. It proved to be an adult male. It is a new bird to Essex County and the second record for New England. The first was taken by Albert P. Morse on January 28, 1919 at his feeding station at Wellesley, Mass. and was reported under the name of *Junco oreganus couesi* in 'The Bulletin of the Essex County Ornithological Club,' II, 1920, p. 13. The specimen is now in the collection of the Boston Society of Natural History.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *Ipswich, Mass.*

Abert's Towhee, A New Bird for Texas.—While collecting birds for the study of their ectoparasites about ten miles east of El Paso, Texas, on April 19, 1930, I shot an Abert's Towhee (*Pipilo aberti*). This is the first record of this species for the State of Texas. On April 20 I collected another of the same species near the western edge of the Hueco Mountains, about twenty-five miles east of El Paso. Unfortunately, neither specimen was

preserved, but the identification (based on field notes and measurements) was verified by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey.—**HAROLD S. PETERS**, *Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C.*

Varied Bunting in New Mexico.—Throughout the week of July 20–26, 1930 the Varied Bunting (*Passerina versicolor*) was frequently seen and heard in Rattlesnake Canyon, approximately thirty-five miles S. W. of Carlsbad, New Mexico. Two males and two females were collected at this time. This is not only a new species for New Mexico, but is also a considerable extension of its range as given in the 1910 A. O. U. 'Check-List.'—**H. WALLACE LANE**, *Museum of Birds and Mammals, Lawrence, Kansas.*

Second Occurrence of the Snow Bunting in South Carolina.—The second record of the appearance of the Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*) in South Carolina was made on December 21, 1930 on Morris Island at the entrance to Charleston Harbor, when two specimens were procured. The birds belonged to a flock which numbered about six or eight individuals and which was seen at 11 a. m. on the hard sand of the sea beach. Upon the approach of Mr. A. B. Mikell and the writer the flock rose at a fair distance and winged its way southward along highwater mark, coming to rest again at the edge of the sand dunes possibly a quarter of a mile away. As the observers approached once more, the feathered wanderers seemed less shy, grouping themselves together in a most sociable manner on a miniature sand ridge and seeming without suspicion. A single discharge, directed at one which had remained separated a short distance from its companions however, resulted in the death of a male and a female.

An interesting incident related to the taking of these buntings was a description made by Mr. Mikell to me of an experience of the previous Sunday, December 14. On this occasion he had gone to Morris Island alone and had anchored his motor boat near the jetty on the front beach. As he was making fast, a flock of small birds "about the size of English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) and with a lot of white on them" alighted on the awning frame at the after end of the boat, opposite from where he was, and remained for several minutes. These were, almost beyond question, the same Snowflakes encountered on December 21, only a few hundred yards from the old anchorage.

In this connection it is recalled by Alexander Sprunt, Jr., who made the first record of the Snow Bunting in South Carolina several years ago, and into whose possession the two specimens recently secured have been given, that his bird also evinced a remarkable preference for a prescribed locality. He saw it one day close to the motor highway in the northern part of Charleston County and on returning the following day for the purpose of taking it, started it from beneath the same bush. The taking of the birds lends strong confirmation to a sight record of three Snow Buntings made on November 12, 1930 in a vacant lot in the city of Charleston, S. C., by Mr. Herbert R. Sass. Mr. Sass flushed the birds near the Battery while riding along the riverfront in his car and the pale brownish plumage heavily