

male and two female *Molothrus bonariensis minimus* (Dalmas). A succession of heavy showers was occurring, and the few cartridges I had with me were so wet and swollen that it was impossible to collect the birds. This was much to my regret, as it is apparently the first time that the species has been recorded from St. Lucia. However, its occurrence is not surprising, as it seems to be rapidly extending its range in the West Indies. Originally a resident of South America and Trinidad, within recent years it has invaded Grenada, where the exact date of its first occurrence is not recorded; then the Grenadines, where according to Wells (Auk, 1902, p. 347), it was first seen on Carriacou in June, 1899; and then Barbados where Wood (Auk, 1923, p. 128) states on the authority of Mr. H. P. Bascom of Bridgetown, Barbados, that it was first seen in 1916.—STUART T. DANFORTH, *College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.*

Occurrence of the Eastern Savannah Sparrow in West Virginia and Maryland in Summer.—During the course of investigations into wild life relationships under the McSweeny-McNary Act, I spent two weeks this past June in West Virginia and was rather interested to find the Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*), a common summer resident both in the northeastern corner of this state and in the adjoining part of Maryland. On June 20, while eating lunch at the edge of the swamp in the Glade at Cranesville, Preston County, W. Va., I heard the first bird singing in an open field close by. Being unfamiliar with the song, I at first thought that a Grasshopper Sparrow had developed a little originality in expressing itself, but this idea was dispelled on collecting the bird. Later in the day I heard others at frequent intervals in the open fields and pastures about Cranesville and at Terra, Alta, females being seen at the latter spot carrying food for young that apparently were hardly out of the nest. The following day I was sufficiently interested in the status of this sparrow here to search more or less thoroughly the open fields about Oakland, Garrett County, Maryland, approximately ten miles east of Terra Alta, and I found my suspicions justified when few fields proved to be without at least one pair of these birds. This is, I believe, the first record for the occurrence of this species in West Virginia during the summer months.—THOS. D. BURLEIGH, *U. S. Biological Survey, Appalachian Forest Experiment Station, Asheville, North Carolina.*

The First Eggs of Scott's Seaside Sparrow.—Twenty-one years ago this last spring I made my first attempt to find a nest of Scott's Seaside Sparrow. I had just made the acquaintance of the veteran ornithologist R. D. Hoyt, of Clearwater, Florida, and in checking over with him the desirable nests yet to be found he spoke very enthusiastically about Scott's Sparrow. It seems that when Mr. Scott was collecting in Florida many years before he had given him the exact location of the marsh in which the type specimen had been taken. Hoyt and I made a trip in May, 1910, to the marsh near Tarpon Springs, and after many hours of hard

wading and tramping among needle grass we saw only one Seaside Sparrow and no sign of any nesting. This trip somewhat cooled my ardor for the bird and it was not until 1914, after I had been successful in taking the type sets of the Dusky Seaside Sparrow, and Mr. Hoyt kept referring to Scott's Sparrow almost every time I saw him, that in the spring of 1915 and 1916 I made five or six trips to the marshes around Tarpon Springs. On only two occasions did I even see a bird, never a pair. About three years ago Mr. A. H. Howell visited me and we spoke of the bird and he told me the location of a marsh about ten miles north of the Tarpon Springs marsh in which he had seen many pairs of Scott's Seaside Sparrow. After obtaining this information I made two trips to the place and was successful in finding one pair, but diligent hunting failed to locate any nests. This year (1931) I made five trips and found plenty of birds but no nests.

It is no easy matter to find a small Sparrow's nest in a marsh of at least ten thousand acres—a marsh composed of needle grass, bunch grass, and millions of mangrove bushes, and many bayous and tidewater ditches crossing it that require wading sometimes up to one's armpits. The needle grass is higher than one's head in most places and with the summer sun beating down, it takes a true collector's spirit to prosecute the search. I had previously hunted the northern part of the marsh twice this year and found only scattering pairs of the sparrows; but with a young friend we decided on June 1 to hunt the south end. After wading a couple of miles we came to a place where there were sparrows in sight, not many, but one or more could be seen and heard almost all the time. To my companion goes the honor of finding the first nest with eggs. However, after we saw how the birds nested it was not hard to find them and we secured three nests with eggs, all within a day or two of hatching and possibly a dozen in all that had been used or contained young. The first nest found was two feet up in a lone tuft of needle and bunch grass on the edge of a drift of grass and trash washed up by the water, possibly during our last hurricane two years ago. The nest was composed of dry, paper-like seaweed with a lining of fine dry grass blades and stems. There were a few stems of bunch grass also in its foundation. The nest stood 150 feet back from the edge of the Gulf of Mexico. Eggs were within a day of hatching, evidently a second set.—OSCAR E. BAYNARD, *Plant City, Fla.*

Eastern Lark Sparrow Breeding in Central Pennsylvania.—A Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus grammacus*) was found June 27, 1931 nesting eight miles south of State College, Pa., by Miss Farida Willey, of the American Museum of Natural History. The nest, which contained one fledgling and three eggs, was located on the ground in a grassy field among the mountains. A photograph was secured of a parent bird by George T. Hastings, Editor of 'Torreya.' The A. O. U. 'Check-List' states that this bird breeds eastward to extreme western Pennsylvania. State College is in the center of the state.—MERRILL WOOD, *Harrisburg, Pa.*