

every few days thereafter, but on March 31, 1933 we had a "wave," more than one hundred of them feeding on two small lawns. They gradually disappeared, but on April 25, 1933 (an exceedingly late date for this vicinity) we had another small visitation in Central Park. At Battery Park, a small area, at the southern end of Manhattan, six of these sparrows also arrived on the 25th. At this writing (April 28) there are still a few left in our area—an exceptionally late date.—MARC C. RICH, 120 Broadway, New York City.

The Lark Sparrow in Virginia.—About four miles from University, Va., on June 15, 1925, two Lark Sparrows (*Chondestes g. grammacus*) were seen, one of which was singing and chasing the other.

At the same place on July 9 one was seen and on July 23 five were found there, four of which were young which were being fed by the single adult.

These observations were made by a capable observer.

In May 1927, I myself saw two Lark Sparrows at the same spot, one of which was singing. I am quite familiar with the species in the West.—MARTIN CURTLER, University, Va.

European Goldfinch in Western Massachusetts.—The curious oversight by which *Carduelis carduelis* was omitted from E. H. Forbush's monumental 'Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States' may have been due in part to the entire absence of recent records from anywhere in that region. Since its publication three or four individuals have been noted, as follows:

January 29, 1930, a strange bird appeared at the banding-station of Mrs. E. H. Wilder, 5 Shepard St., Westfield, Mass. Trapped, it was taken to Thornton W. Burgess in Springfield and identified by him as a European Goldfinch. It was then carried back, banded C25713, and released. It remained about the station until March 11.

February 23, 1930, another was brought dead to Mr. Burgess, which had been mauled by some animal; its tail was gone and its wings damaged.

January 6, 1931, Mrs. Wilder's banded bird re-appeared at her station and stayed until January 22. After a three weeks' absence, it came back on February 13, and remained until March 12. There is something suggestive about its departure on March 11 one year and March 12 the next.

In the mild winter of 1932 the bird did not show up at Westfield. At Northampton, however, on April 26, it—or at least a European Goldfinch wearing a band—turned up with a companion. Whether they were male and female could not be ascertained, but until May 4 they stayed in the same riverside tract, and were visited by bird-lovers from all around.

On June 8, 1932, a lady in Amherst who had seen the bird identified one (perhaps the same individual) among a flock of American Goldfinches in her back yard.—S. A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Mass.*

Notes on the Birds of Berkshire County, Massachusetts.—On April 4 I observed a pair of Migrant Shrikes (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*)

in the eastern part of Pittsfield. The underparts were absolutely without barring.

Miss Margaret Hightower, of the Pittsfield Museum staff, and I saw a Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) on May 17 in Pittsfield. This species has been known to breed here but it is usually merely a casual visitor.

S. Morris Pell, Warden of the Pleasant Valley Sanctuary in Lenox, located a Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus griseus*) a new record for the county, on August 19. It was seen again at the Pittsfield Sewer Beds on the 23rd by Miss Hightower, Miss Frances Palmer, and G. B. Hendricks.

Faxon and Hoffman, in 'The Birds of Berkshire County,' (1900) speak of the Herring Gull as "extremely rare." On September 28, I identified one at Onota Lake, Pittsfield, and several fishermen told me that they had seen gulls during the year.

On October 2, while at the Sewer Beds, I observed a Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres morinella*), a bird which had not previously been reported in the county. I studied it for an hour at a distance varying from ten to fifteen yards. It had almost fully acquired its winter plumage.

Red-legged Black Ducks (*Anas rubripes rubripes*) are probably rather common in the Berkshires but they have not been reported until this year. On December 1 I saw a flock of seven or eight Black Ducks at unusually close range and noticed that one of the birds had bright coral-red legs.

Game Warden Ziegler found a female Lesser Scaup Duck (*Nyroca affinis*) on the ice at Onota Lake on December 17. He presented it to the Sanctuary in Lenox where it was identified by Mr. Pell. It was seen later by S. Waldo Bailey and G. B. Hendricks. This is a new record for the county.

On November 3, a dead male Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga erythromelas*) which had only about half acquired its winter plumage, was brought to the Museum. It had been found in Windsor and was seen alive for about ten days before it died. The bird had lost most of its tail and probably was unable to fly any great distance.—G. B. HENDRICKS, *Pittsfield, Mass.*

Notes from Dorchester Co., Maryland.—Upon a trip to the town of Fishing Creek in Dorchester County, Maryland, on January 26, 1932, I was shown a collection of about one hundred mounted birds which had been taken nearby by Elmer Hall, among which were several unusual specimens for the locality. On December 11 and 12, 1930, at Cambridge, Maryland, with Robert P. Allen of New York City, I catalogued another collection of birds mounted by Elmer Hall and by him presented to the Cambridge High School. This collection was also of birds taken near Fishing Creek and contained rare species for the lower Eastern Shore of the state. I list them herewith:—

Moris bassana. GANNET.—A mature specimen is in the High School collection above referred to. Mr. Hall reports that it was found dead in the meshes of a pound net set for fish near Fishing Creek. He does not remember the year it was taken but knows that it was in the Spring seven or eight years ago.