

**Some Observations on the Eastern Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis tristis*).**—August 4, 1934, I found a nest of the Eastern Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis tristis*) eight feet up, near the end of a lower branch of a small locust tree. While this nest was a new one, its condition led me to believe it was deserted. Looking about the vicinity I found, supposedly, a second attempt by the same birds, some eighty feet distant, and in a very similar situation, in a locust. It held two eggs on that date. Leaving it undisturbed until the 7th, I collected the nest and four eggs, as a farm hand was preparing to cut down the tree for converting into posts.

Being in the vicinity again on the 19th, I looked at the tree where I had seen the abandoned nest and found that every vestige had been removed.

Believing the removal had been by the same pair in a third attempt at nesting, I looked around and saw a female Goldfinch sitting on a nest in a very similar situation, eight feet up, near the end of the lowermost limb of an apple tree, fifty feet away.

I believe that this one pair built all these nests, this last one from the material taken from the first, which they had deserted.

Facts gleaned from previous experiments, showed that only twelve to fifteen days elapse from the loss of one effort until the birds had another nest built and a full complement of eggs laid.—J. WARREN JACOBS, *Waynesburg, Pa.*

**Correction.**—In the Auk for January 1936, on page 119 under the review of "Bird Banding," you refer to my article on "Survival as Indicated By Returns to Summerville, South Carolina" as dealing with "White-throated and Chipping Sparrows and Red-eyed *Vireos*." The last word is wrong, and should read Towhees. I make this correction in the interest of accuracy.—WM. P. WHARTON, *Summerville, S. C.*

**Nesting of the Nevada Savannah Sparrow in Bottineau County, North Dakota.**—In 1934, while on a collecting trip to Bottineau County, North Dakota, which lies in the extreme northeast corner of the state, the writer was very fortunate in finding what is purported to be the only set of eggs of the Nevada Savannah Sparrow ever taken in North Dakota. The nest, collected with five slightly incubated eggs on May 27, was situated in a furrow in a large, shallow, dry slough in rolling prairie country and was placed flush with the ground and extremely well hidden in a tuft of dead grass. It was compactly constructed of dried grass and fine weed stems lined with finer grasses and a few strands of black horsehair. The female flushed from beneath my feet and flew some distance away where she was soon joined by the male. Both birds were shot in order to insure correct identification.—FREDERICK B. PHILIPP, *Short Hills, New Jersey.*

**An Unusual Nesting Site of the Slate-colored Junco.**—On June 11, 1933, at the residence of Dr. Will S. Monroe, I discovered an unusual location for the nest of the Slate-colored Junco (*Junco h. hyemalis*). The structure, composed of dried grasses, fern stocks, and other bits of vegetation was placed at an elevation of eight feet above the ground in a trellis overgrown with woodbine (*Psedera vitacea*). Formed in the usual deep cup shape, it was supported from all sides by the tangle of vines. The nest contained three or four young, only a few days old.

It would be impossible to hazard even a conjecture regarding the choice of so extraordinary a location but the presence of four dogs about the place may have been a factor in preventing building on the ground.

Of particular interest seemed the slight display of something which might be called initiative in the choice of this location and also the close conformity to habit

shown in utilizing the arrangement of the vines and in construction of the nest to produce a result comparable to the structure placed in the usual location.—WENDELL P. SMITH, *Wells River, Vermont*.

**The Golden-crowned Sparrow in Illinois.**—What appears to be the first Illinois record for the Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia coronata*) is that of a bird taken, November 28, 1935, at Waukegan, Lake Co. It was an immature female and was found by W. I. Lyon, together with several White-throated Sparrows, in one of the traps used at his bird banding station.

The only other record for the Chicago region refers to a male taken in Racine Co., Wis. in April 1858, by Dr. Hoy. The species has been reported also from Massachusetts.—EDWARD R. FORD, *Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Ill.*

**The Distribution of the Atlantic Song Sparrow.**—The Atlantic Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia atlantica* Todd), described from Smith's Island, on the ocean side of the northern peninsula of Virginia, has been supposed to range only along the beaches and marshes bordering on the Atlantic Ocean. On March 20, 1932, during a considerable migration of Song Sparrows in the marshes at Cornfield Harbor, Maryland, near the point where the Potomac River enters Chesapeake Bay, I collected two males of this race, and later found it to be the breeding form in the marshes near the beach there. A breeding male taken May 26, 1935, definitely establishes that fact. This led to consideration of the breeding Song Sparrows elsewhere along the lower Potomac with the result that I find the Atlantic race nesting as far up river as one and one half miles above Morgantown, Maryland, where a breeding male was taken July 14, 1935. This point is distant in an airline only a little more than forty miles from the city of Washington.

It is evident that *atlantica* has a somewhat extended range along the lower part of Chesapeake Bay and its larger tributaries and it appears possible that it may range along the beaches as far as there is definite influence of salt water. At Morgantown and Cornfield Harbor it is partial to growths of *Baccharis*.

It is interesting to observe that while in mannerisms and notes the Atlantic Song Sparrow does not differ appreciably from the inland *Melospiza melodia melodia* to an accustomed eye it appears distinctly larger, and duller, less rufescent in color. In fact the two seem more distinct when seen in life than when examined in the form of museum specimens.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

**Eastern Snow Bunting at Harrisburg, Pa.**—On February 13, 1936, I found an Eastern Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*) feeding with twenty-one Prairie Horned Larks (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*) in open fields within the city limits of Harrisburg, Pa. With them were numerous Eastern Tree Sparrows, all feeding on the seeds of tall grasses and goldenrod projecting above a foot of snow. At a distance of about fifty feet the Snow Bunting was distinctly identified with 8x binoculars. It (probably she) was less timid than the Prairie Horned Larks. On February 7 I had seen a flock of nineteen Prairie Horned Larks in a field directly back of my residence in Harrisburg. They paid no attention whatever to automobiles on the main street only thirty feet away. This is the first record, as far as I could ascertain, of a Snow Bunting being seen in the Harrisburg area, and the first appearance of such large flocks of Prairie Horned Larks within the city limits.—HAROLD B. WOOD, M.D., *Harrisburg, Pa.*

**Snow Buntings in Harrison County, West Virginia.**—During the very heavy