

May 9: Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*); Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus scolapaceus*).

It is appropriate to include here a record of 75 Sandhill Cranes (*Grus mexicana*) seen on the bay on March 18, 1940, and reported to me by J. Donald Daynes and C. W. Lockerbie, local ornithologists.

The spring of 1942 was cold and snowy, and most flowers were two weeks or more late in their blooming.—CLAUDE T. BARNES, 359 Tenth Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Churchill Savannah Sparrow at the Florida line.—Peters and Griscom, in their 'Geographical Variation in the Savannah Sparrow' (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 80: 454-459, Jan., 1938), place among "extreme records" for *Passerculus sandwichensis oblitus* single occurrences from North and South Carolina and from Elba Island, Georgia (the last taken by Ivan R. Tomkins, February 17, 1936). On the lower Atlantic Coast and throughout the southeastern corner of the United States, the migratory or wintering presence of *oblitus* has been reported no farther south than the above-mentioned island. Consequently, records of this subspecies in Florida are non-existent to date.

On December 30, 1941, seven miles southwest of Donalsonville (Seminole County), Georgia, the writer collected a very blackish Savannah Sparrow, which was found referable to the Churchill form, *oblitus*, by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of the Cleveland Museum. The location, a large broom-sedge field, was within one-quarter mile of the Chattahoochee River, here forming the Georgia-Florida boundary. Incidentally, three other specimens of this race were secured in central-south Georgia, in January, 1940, and May, 1941. Viewing the present extension of this form's winter distribution, we can see that the probability of its being taken in Florida is now heightened. Also, with more judicious collecting, the gap between the coastal plains of Georgia and of Mississippi, wherein *oblitus* so far is unknown, can eventually be bridged.—ROBERT NORRIS, Tifton, Georgia.

The Veery breeding in Washington, D. C.—On May 21, 1942, I was surprised to find a Veery (*Hylocichla fuscescens*) singing in lower Rock Creek Park, Washington, D. C. Through the following weeks, I observed it almost daily. It had established itself in the vicinity of a woodland path that I followed regularly on my way to and from work, and it was exceptional when I passed and did not hear it singing. On June 1, for the first time, I found two Veeries in the territory. The newcomer also sang, but the typical resonance and overtone were lacking from its performance, which was rapid and seemingly perfunctory. After that, the two Veeries were repeatedly observed in the one territory, not only by me but also by Mr. William Cottrell and Lt. James M. Andrews, U. S. N., both of Massachusetts. As the month of June advanced, the two Veeries became less persistent in their singing.

On June 28, after a prolonged search, I discovered the nest of the Veeries on top of a low vine-clad shrub, some two feet off the ground, and had the pleasure of watching one of the parents feed the three partly-fledged young, which we judged to be about a week old. The three fledglings were accidentally disturbed by a human visitor on June 30 and so left the nest somewhat prematurely. No observations were made during the next few days, but on the 5th, 6th and 7th of July, respectively, I observed one of the newly fledged Veeries, already competent on the wing, taking food from one or both of the adults.

In her 'Birds of the Washington, D. C., Region' (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 42: 65, March 25, 1929), Miss May Thacher Cooke gives June 2 (1907) as the latest-recorded date for the spring migration of the Veery in the Washington region. Mr. Frederick C. Lincoln has been kind enough to inform me that the species has never before been known to breed in this region and that, to his knowledge, the 1907 record has not been superseded.—LOUIS J. HALLE, JR., 2800 Woodley Road, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Sage Thrasher in New York.—On April 12, 1942, while Dr. Charles Evans, Mr. Joseph Taylor and I were driving along the East Manitou Road about a quarter of a mile south of Braddock's Bay, in Monroe Co., New York, we chanced to note an unfamiliar bird feeding in dried portions of a flooded stubble field. The actions of this bird were similar to those of a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*), but its general color was gray. We observed it with 8-power binoculars and 36.5-telescope for half an hour before collecting it, sometimes approaching to within thirty feet. It foraged for a time in one spot, then flew to another feeding area in the open or to a hedge row. Its streaked under parts and brilliantly yellow eye were conspicuous. It was a perfectly healthy Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*).

The specimen proved to be a female. Its plumage was in excellent condition, there being no evidence whatsoever of fraying or soiling such as would result from captivity. The upper mandible was, however, more than normally long, the rather strongly curved tip protruding 3 mm. It was made into a study skin at the Buffalo Museum of Science and sent to Dr. George M. Sutton, of Cornell University, who confirmed our identification and recorded the following measurements: wing, 98.5 mm.; tail, 90; tarsus, 30.5; culmen, 19. It is now No. 12,789 in the Louis A. Fuertes Memorial Bird Collection at Cornell.

Braddock's Bay is the westernmost of a series of small ponds and bays that open into Lake Ontario just west of the mouth of the Genesee River. Gently rolling farmland lies south of the Bay. During the week preceding April 12, the temperature was below average, and westerly winds on the 8th and 9th accompanied an unseasonable snowfall. On the 12th the ground was partly snow-covered and surface water flowed freely over the fields. The day was cool and partly cloudy with a moderate west wind.

Apparently this is the first record for New York State of this distinctly western species. Indeed, we find no United States record of its occurrence east of Cameron Parish, Louisiana, where E. S. Hopkins took a male specimen on January 2, 1926, (*Oölogist*, 44: 72, 1927).—GORDON M. MEADE, *Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, New York*.

Notes of Mid-South towhees.—We wish to correct the impression given by a brief review (*Auk*, 59: 328, April, 1942) of our article 'Summer range of Mid-South Towhees' (*The Migrant*, 12: 51-57, Sept. 1941). The purpose was not to determine subspecies as no collecting was done. But extensive field study since 1928 shows that, with a very few isolated exceptions, no race of Towhee is present from about May 8 to mid-October, in the region from Reelfoot Lake, at the Kentucky line, to near Vicksburg, Mississippi. This hiatus in the breeding range of the Towhee includes eastern Arkansas if not most of the state, part of western Tennessee, northern and part of central Mississippi, and part of Louisiana. North, east, and south of this area the Towhee is fairly common in summer.—BEN B. COFFEY, JR., 672 North Belvedere, Memphis, Tennessee.