

The writer is indebted to Commissioner George J. Stobie and Deputy Game Warden C. M. Chaples for the details of these breeding records.—HOWARD L. MENDALL, *Maine Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Orono, Maine.*

Costa Rican Sparrow near the Canal Zone.—According to Chapman ('Post-glacial History of *Zonotrichia capensis*, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., 77: 381-438, 1940), the present known mainland range of the Neotropical White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*) begins in southern México and Guatemala, skips to Costa Rica and western Panamá, skips again to Colombia, and thence, in favorable unforested localities, to Tierra del Fuego. Throughout its range the bird seeks a climate with comparatively low temperatures and is consequently found only in uplands or territory influenced by the Humboldt Current. In the Republic of Panamá the bird is known from the western part as far east as Santa Fé, which is 5000 feet above sea level.

On April 22, 1942, at Chamé, Rep. de Panamá, 25 miles southwest of the Canal Zone, at an altitude of 1600 feet, there was a single sparrow which I described as follows in correspondence to Dr. James P. Chapin: "Its head was black and white striped with the chin and upper throat white. Around its neck was a collar of cinnamon-buff or red-brown. The rest of the upperparts and tail were brown with black streaks." These observations were made with 8 × 30-power binoculars at a distance of fifty feet. The habitat was an isolated rocky, sedge-covered hilltop which projected above the coastal plain like an overturned teacup on a table top. The summit is bald and reaches an altitude of 1767 feet above the Pacific Ocean. Below 1300 feet, these 'mountains' are blanketed with thick dry forest. It was above this false timberline, where only sedges and occasional stunted shrubs grow, that the bird was seen all alone among the rocks in a cold wind. Dr. Chapin replied that it was undoubtedly *Z. capensis* and expressed surprise that it was found below "3000 or 4000 feet."

Having no gun, I was unable to collect the specimen to determine its race. However, since *Z. capensis costaricensis* is the only subspecies known to occur between Costa Rica and Colombia, the bird would most likely be an individual of this race. The Chamé 'Mountains,' on the Pacific Coast, are 72 miles east of cordillera Santa Fé, the previous easternmost record for the species in the Republic de Panamá.—GERALD ROGERS, CAPT., A. C., *Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.*

English Sparrow anting.—While inspecting the nesting activities of the waterfowl in the National Zoological Park, I observed a Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) probing an ant hill. As the bird thrust its beak far down into the opening of the hill, and withdrew it, and again extended its beak downward in the nest of ants, many ants swarmed about in excitement upon the ground. It was a rich feeding ground for the flicker. As I stood six feet from the bird, watching this feeding operation, a young English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus domesticus*) which appeared to have been on the wing only a few days, flew down to the ant hill, and with much excitement dusted itself among the ants. Then I suddenly realized that I was witnessing the act of anting by a member of the Ploceidae.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.*