

by my presence, and his only singing was in half-hearted attempts. Later in the day, a mile or so farther northwest, I saw another such couple plus two singing males. One of the males was taken, the testes of which were greatly enlarged. Still later, I saw two additional individuals in an alfalfa-Johnson grass field at the Brophy Ranch headquarters along the Babocomari River east of Elgin.

There is at present no positive evidence that Botteri's Sparrow nests in Arizona. The bulk of Arizona records fall during the months of June, July, and August (extremes, May 17 and October 7), which argues that the bird does breed in Arizona. There is a set of eggs taken May 24, 1891, in the "San Rafael Valley" (probably San Rafael Valley in Santa Cruz County) by A. H. Marshall, "♀ shot" (American Museum of Natural History, New York City), in grass in juniper association. This seems too early for five eggs, and is probably a misidentification, as all available data indicate the species is a very late migrant. On the other hand, the supposed Cassin's Sparrow (*Aimophila cassinii*) eggs found by O. W. Howard (Swarth, Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 4: 43, 1904) in the San Pedro Valley may well have been *botterii*, since Phillips (Auk, 61: 409-412, 1944) has introduced strong evidence to show that Cassin's Sparrow is a post-breeding visitor to Arizona. It is hoped that some ornithologist will soon have the opportunity to establish Botteri's Sparrow conclusively as a breeding bird of the state.

Nearly all Botteri's Sparrows noted were inhabiting stands of sacaton (*Sporobolus wrightii*), a tall grass which occurs along the Babocomari River and in parts of the southern end of the Sulphur Springs Valley. Singing perches used most frequently were mesquite (*Prosopis juliflora*), catclaw (*Acacia Greggii*), and whitethorn (*Acacia constricta*), which shrubs occur with the sacaton stands or on their borders. In some instances, the birds were occupying swales of sand dropseed (*Sporobolus cryp-tandrus*), intermingled with mesquite and catclaw.

My thanks are due to Allan R. Phillips of the Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, for contributing data otherwise unavailable to me, and for offering valuable comments during preparation of this paper.—GALE MONSON, P. O. Box 1717, Parker, Arizona.

**The White-faced Petrel again off Massachusetts.**—On the afternoon of May 3, 1946, when returning from Europe on the steamer 'Wooster Victory' I noticed two petrels skimming low over the water that were white beneath, the white being conspicuous as they banked and turned. The locality was on lat. 42° N.; at noon the steamer was 515 miles from New York, but by the time I saw the birds we had probably covered about one hundred miles. As the White-faced Petrel (*Pelagodroma marina*) is the only species with the entire under parts white there can be little doubt that this was the species observed.—CARROLL E. WOOD, JR., 434 High Street, Salem, Virginia.

**Red-bellied snake in Ruffed Grouse crop.**—While doing analysis work recently as food habits research biologist with the Wisconsin Conservation Department, Harry Anderson found a small specimen of the red-bellied snake (*Storeria occipitomaculata*) in the crop of a Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus umbellus*). The grouse had been collected in Taylor County, Wisconsin, in October, 1942. This unusual record was of double interest when no specimen record of this snake could be found for this Wisconsin county.—WALTER E. SCOTT, Wisconsin Conservation Department, Madison, Wisconsin.

**Early fall migration of the Purple Martin.**—A rather distinct lack of specific dates for the first departure of the Purple Martin (*Progne subis subis*) from its summer