

were all within 30 yards of the shore and were readily observed for fifteen minutes. Closer to the shore and at first out of sight were an additional male and female Ring-neck and seven young which were 10 days to two weeks old. The male was about 30 yards from the brood and the other three pairs were from 40 to 60 yards from the brood. When at last the entire group of birds was frightened, the three pairs without observed broods flew to the west shore of north bay, flying about 200 yards, and settled in the water close to the shore. The male which was apparently with the brood female flew about 200 yards up the east shore and the female and brood scurried off across the water, closed into a small group, and settled down about 20 yards off shore after covering about 100 yards of open water. All the birds remained in view, apparently not frightened sufficiently to seek cover.

On July 11, 1946, Severinghaus and a companion visited the pond again in hopes of locating the brood. The north bay was thoroughly searched but no ducks were seen. In the west bay, in a small area of open water about 20 by 40 feet in dimensions, a female Ring-neck with a brood of nine or possibly ten young was found. The young were very small—a week old or possibly younger. At first the observers were not seen and the brood, scattered over an area about six or eight yards square, was swimming among the lily pads. When we were seen, they clustered around the female and scurried across the water into the cattails. Then the female emerged and headed for us. She came within eight or ten yards of the canoc; then half flying, half swimming, she scuttled out of the small area, going away from the brood and into the main open-water area. We remained in place for about ten minutes, watching her antics and listening to the young call. When we left, the female led us down the channel to the main open-water area before returning to her brood. After this, two adult male Ring-necks and several adult Black Ducks were flushed along south bay but no additional broods were found.

It was apparent from the size of the ducklings that at least two broods of Ring-necks, one of seven and the second of nine or ten, were hatched on Jones Pond in 1946. Whether either brood grew to maturity is not known as the area was not visited again.—C. W. SEVERINGHAUS AND DIRCK BENSON, *Wildlife Research Center, Delmar, New York.*

Food of the Lark Bunting in central Utah.—Lark Buntings (*Calamospiza melanocorys* Stejneger) were moderately abundant along sagebrush and rabbitbrush fence rows west of Nephi, Utah, on May 19, 1941. The stomach of one specimen, collected by F. C. Harmston and the writer, contained the following insects: 1 fly, 1 beetle, and 1 harvester ant, besides insect fragments. Also present was a spider, 65 seeds mostly of weeds, and two Russian thistle plant fragments. One of five Lark Bunting specimens observed about four miles north of Fountain Green, Utah, on May 21, 1941, was collected by the writer. Recognizable insects present in the stomach of this specimen were: 2 beetles (1 a weevil), 3 Hymenoptera, 2 of which were ants. In addition the stomach held 5 kernels of wheat, 1 sunflower seed, 7 other weed seeds and a few plant fragments. The bird specimens were identified by Drs. J. S. Stanford and C. L. Hayward.—GEORGE F. KNOWLTON, *Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.*

Fall migration of the Purple Martin.—In the January, 1947, issue of *The Auk*, Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr., had a speculative note on the date of first autumn movement of the Purple Martin (*Progne subis subis*). Perhaps the following observations on the post-nesting activity of the species in my neighbourhood may add something to the apparently scanty data on the subject. These observations were