

relative abundance. The Montana Junco seems to be common in the lower altitudes. I have two specimens, a female taken January 8 at Abiquiu and a male taken December 26 at Velarde.

PINK-SIDED JUNCO, *Junco oreganus mearnsi*.—Three specimens were collected: a male at Abiquiu, January 8; a female near Abiquiu, January 24; and a male from foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, about six miles east of Santa Fe.

GRAY-HEADED JUNCO, *Junco c. caniceps*.—This is probably the most common junco in the region. Two were collected and many others were seen.

GAMBEL'S SPARROW, *Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii*.—A female of this race was taken on January 7 at San Ildefonso. Another was seen there on January 16.

MOUNTAIN SONG SPARROW, *Melospiza melodia montana*.—A number of Mountain Song Sparrows wintered in the Rio Grande Valley around Espanola, and others were seen in the Chama Valley around Abiquiu. A male was taken January 8 near Abiquiu, and a female on December 28 near Velarde.—ROBERT WARD ALLEN, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland*.

Changes in Status of Connecticut Birds.—Observations for the past 35 years in southwestern Connecticut have brought out the following facts, some of which are either permanent or temporary changes in status of the species concerned.

PIED-BILLED GREBE, *Podilymbus podiceps*.—From 1934 to 1939, this species, formerly only a transient, became a summer resident in several suitable localities and probably bred here. In 1940, it returned to its status as a transient and has remained such since. When a summer resident the bird uses its long call, and its presence can be determined even when the bird is not seen. When a transient it is, in my experience, silent. It occurs as a transient mainly in March and April, but as a summer resident it was present in late May and June. No definite evidence of breeding was discovered.

BROWN PELICAN, *Pelecanus occidentalis*.—On June 12, 1939, five Brown Pelicans flew across the base of the Penfield Reef, Fairfield Beach, and on up the coast to the northeast. For a very short time they were directly in front of me, and readily observed in the light of the morning sun.

CLAPPER RAIL, *Rallus longirostris*.—This bird was formerly a rather rare summer resident of salt marshes in this region. About 1931 a slight increase was noted, and this increase continued until by 1944 the species was exceedingly common in suitable localities. Since then it has decreased somewhat, but it is still commoner than in former years. In the earlier years I found it only at Great Marsh, in the towns of Norwalk and Westport; in 1935 it appeared in the marshes back of Fairfield Beach. In early years I recorded the species only once or twice a year, but as the birds increased the records did also, till there were 22 in 1944. Formerly, I usually heard but one bird calling, later I often heard four to six from one spot.

On May 20, 1944, Elting Arnold and I found a nest containing nine eggs. When this nest was revisited on May 27, the number of eggs had increased to 11. All previously published nesting dates for Connecticut were in June. Several winter occurrences were reported by Gilbert Waldbauer, in 1945-46, and I saw one bird February 27, 1947.

PURPLE SANDPIPER, *Erolia maritima*.—The Penfield Reef extends about one and one-fourth miles into the sound from Fairfield Beach, is entirely covered at high tide, and is entirely exposed at low tide. Purple Sandpipers occur at the outer end of this reef but were unknown to me there until December 24, 1936, when I found a single bird. After this there was an increase, the birds occurring from October to May, in flocks numbering from five to 35. The earliest "normal" date was October 9, 1943,

and the latest was May 28, 1944. A single bird was seen by Joseph Brauner and myself on August 21, 1940. The birds decreased after 1944 and were last seen on February 9, 1946.

GLAUCOUS GULL, *Larus hyperboreus*.—This species was not listed in the 'Birds of Connecticut,' but a sight record by Herbert K. Job has been reported since (Bishop, Auk, 38: 582-589, 1921). In December, 1935, Mr. Arthur Knapp found an immature bird of this species at Seaside Park, Bridgeport. The bird remained in the vicinity until at least January 12, 1936. It was seen by a number of observers, including myself. I succeeded in taking several photographs of it; thus, though no specimen of this species has yet been taken in Connecticut, there is a photographic record. This species is reported regularly about New York City. Its greater rarity in Connecticut is accounted for by the fact that Long Island Sound is not the Atlantic Ocean.

PUFFIN, *Fratercula arctica*.—On November 19, 1947, a hunter shot an immature Puffin on the Penfield Reef. It was taken from him by a game warden and given to Mr. Frank Novak, warden of Birdcraft Sanctuary. The bird is now mounted in the sanctuary collection and appears to be the first record of the species for Connecticut.

EASTERN PHOEBE, *Sayornis phoebe*.—A phoebe spent the winter of 1936-37 in Fairfield. I observed it on several dates in every month from December 6, 1936, to March 6, 1937. A previous case of wintering of a phoebe at New Haven in 1905-06 is on record (Sage and Bishop, 1913: 102), and there are several other winter records. It is interesting to note that the type of locality was the same in all cases—an area where a wooded slope bordered on a marsh and springs along the borderline kept the water open all winter.

HORNED LARK, *Eremophila alpestris*.—This bird formerly occurred only as a transient or in winter and was never very common. In recent years it has become a summer resident in certain localities. A pair was seen May 2 and 3, 1938, at Compo Beach, Westport; the male was singing. In 1941, I found it under similar conditions in areas back of Fairfield Beach, and others reported it from Seaside Park, Bridgeport. Since then it has occurred in these localities every spring and summer month. No nest has been found, but adults were observed feeding birds in juvenal plumage on July 30 and August 4, 1945. I believe that this bird sings only where it breeds, and then only before or between nestings.

TUFTED TITMOUSE, *Parus bicolor*.—Previous to 1934, there were only five records of this species in Connecticut (Sage and Bishop, Bull. Conn. State Geol. and Nat. Hist. Survey, 20: 174, 1913, and Saunders, Auk, 35: 343, 1918). The increase of this species is perhaps best expressed by the dates on which I have observed it. These are: December 28, 1934; April 14, 1935; March 13 and June 8, 1943; November 1, 1945; May 20, 1946; July 21, 31, and August 2, 25, 1947; April 11, 1948, and April 18, 1949. Except for the last record, all these were single birds, never twice in the same location. In the last case there were two birds about half a mile apart. In all instances the birds seem to wander around without a mate, and no evidence of breeding has been noted.

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN, *Cistothorus p. stellaris*.—This bird is usually rare in this region, but in the summers of 1941 and 1942 they appeared in considerable numbers in late July and remained until September. They sang most of this time. In 1941 the first bird was seen and heard July 26, and more appeared in the days following until August 9 when from one spot I heard seven birds in song. They sang till September 2, and individuals were seen till September 20. In 1942, two birds appeared July 17, and on July 29 ten were heard singing; they sang until September

7. In 1943 a few birds were seen, but the song was heard only once—on August 5. Since then they have again become a great rarity. In none of these years was this species seen in the spring.

The area where they occurred was once a salt marsh but had been drained by the Federal Government; the original short grasses, *Spartina* and *Distichlis*, had been replaced by the much taller switch grass, *Panicum virgatum*.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER, *Poliophtila caerulea*.—This species has been gradually increasing for some time but, in the spring migration in 1947, it suddenly became common. On May 17 of that year, Paul Baker found a pair of the birds gathering silk of the tent caterpillar and carrying it to the limb of a swamp white-oak tree, about 20 feet above the ground. He showed me the completed nest on May 24. The birds were not around it but were in the tree-tops not far away. On May 28 a bird was on the nest, evidently incubating, but on May 30 the nest was broken and deserted. We searched in vain for a second attempt at nesting, but saw nothing more of the birds until August 19, when one bird was seen near the original nest site.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER, *Protonotaria citrea*.—Records of this bird in Connecticut have been very few, as compared to other states that are even farther north. Paul Baker saw one bird in a swampy woodland in Fairfield in May, 1944. On April 29, I found one in the same locality; I knew nothing of Baker's find at the time. On May 5, 1945, Miss Esther Wagner found a second bird in this locality. The two birds, both males and distinguishable by slight differences in their songs, as well as by the territories they selected, remained in the locality at least until June 10, when their songs ceased and they could no longer be found. In 1946, the first bird appeared on May 11 and the second on May 22. The first bird remained until June 11, in the same locality as the year before but the second was found only till May 25. No female bird or nesting activities were noted. The birds have not been found since 1946.

CARDINAL, *Richmondia cardinalis*.—There has been a considerable increase in this species in the last few years. After the records in the winter of 1916-17 (Saunders, 1918: 342), single birds wintered in Fairfield in 1924-25, 1927-28, and 1940-41. A male in song on April 27, 1939, was the first appearance in the breeding season. In 1943 a pair appeared in Fairfield in March and evidently nested successfully, being seen with several young. The family remained through the next winter, and one of the young moulted to the adult male plumage. In 1944, there were Cardinals in many places. I found them in Norwalk, Westport and Fairfield, and they were reported by others in Stratford. Without especially looking for this bird I recorded it on 26 different days in 1944, and on 32 in 1945. Now the birds nest each year in the sanctuary in Fairfield, and probably many other places. While the bird is not abundant, it is by no means rare.

VESPER SPARROW, *Poocetes gramineus*.—This species has been recorded only a few times in winter in Connecticut (Sage and Bishop, 1913: 123). In the winter of 1936-37, a flock numbering at least 18 individuals remained for the winter. They were first seen December 27, 1936, and last seen on February 26, 1937, and on several intervening dates.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Fairfield, Connecticut*.

Additional Bird Records for Panamá.—During 14 months of military residence in the Panama Canal Zone, January, 1942, to February, 1943, inclusive, several species of interest were recorded by the writer. All of the North American species recorded below, except for the Surf-bird, are common in the eastern or southern United States and the writer has had frequent experience with them before and since.

DUCK HAWK, *Falco peregrinus anatum*.—Griscom (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 78: 3,