

"Blue-throated Hummingbird." But no definite identification was made, and unless future observations prove otherwise, it may be assumed to have been a Rivoli's.

On 11 August Mrs. Shickley again saw a large hummer at her feeder, but the bird was chased away by the pugnacious Rufous Hummingbirds (*Selasphorus rufus*). Two days later, however, a Rivoli's was seen, and noted continuously throughout the rest of the month and during the first two weeks of September. We made several trips and secured additional photographs, but we are not certain that the bird was the same individual noted in July. Certainly it seems likely that at least three large hummingbirds were observed in the Transition Zone of Colorado during the summer of 1959: the female at the Shickley's and the male at the neighbors, and the female observed by Mr. Allesbrook near Estes, 50 air miles away from Eldora. A bird was seen repeatedly at both stations on the same dates, so at least two must have been noted.

Photographs were submitted to ornithologists of the Chicago Natural History Museum, the American Museum of Natural History, and the National Museum who kindly compared specimens in their collections with our pictures. All concurred with our identification.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado.*

**Greater and Lesser Scaup Feeding on Dead Gulf Menhaden.**—Available studies of stomach contents indicate that mollusks are the favorite food of scaup in coastal waters. Cronan (Auk, 74: 459-468, 1957) analyzed the stomach contents of 119 Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) and 129 Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) collected in Connecticut waters from October 1952 to May 1954. Foley and Taber ("Long Island Waterfowl Investigations," P.R. Proj. 52-R, Final Report, New York Cons. Dept., 296 pp., 1952) gave data on 63 Greater and 12 Lesser scaup from the Long Island Sound region. Cottam's summary (USDA Tech. Bull. 643, 140 pp., 1939) of food habit studies of scaup included a large group of Greater Scaup taken on or near Pacific coast oysterbeds (Kubichek, Iowa St. Coll. Journ. Sci., 8: 107-126, 1933). Animal foods were more predominant in the diet of scaup in coastal waters than in fresh waters and Lesser Scaup ate a greater percentage of plant food than Greater Scaup. The most important animal foods were mollusca.

Steele ("The Rise and Decline of the Olympia Oyster," Elma, Washington, Fulco Publ., 126 pp., 1957) noted (p. 73) that the "Blue Bill" was included in ducks feeding on planted seed of the Olympia oyster (*Ostrea lurida*). A patrolman, employed by the Oyster Bay Growers Association from 1914 to 1925, shot ducks on the oysterbeds in Olympia Bay, Washington, to reduce predation. An investigation in 1914 by McAtee (Cf. McKernan, Tartar and Tollefson, Washington Dept. Fisheries Biol. Bull., 49-A: 118-165, 1949) showed that Greater Scaup fed on Olympia oysters, but the estimated quantity eaten by ducks was not enough to contribute significantly to depletion of oysterbeds.

Burleigh ("Georgia Birds," Norman, Univ. Okla. Press, 748 pp., 1958) stated that the Greater Scaup was "noticeably maritime" on the Atlantic coast, where it secured its food, principally mollusks living on the bottom, by diving in offshore waters eight to ten feet deep. Lesser Scaup preferred fresh water and a vegetable diet, although ". . . to some extent such animal food as small fish, tadpoles, small mollusks and water insects are eaten" (p. 154).

The fact that Lesser Scaups, under certain circumstances, are scavengers is reported by Kortright ("The Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America," Wash-

ington, The Am. Wildlife Inst., 476 pp., 1943). Stomach contents showed that a number of these birds had fed at the mouth of a sewer.

Today scaup are the most common wintering ducks in Mississippi's estuarine waters, where they rest and feed in large rafts on the bays and Mississippi Sound and in smaller groups along the bayous and streams. In mid-January 1958 a pair of Greater Scaup were observed in the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory boat slip, a small bayou connecting with Davis Bay, with a group of feeding mergansers. The mergansers were feeding on small live fish, probably mullet (*Mugil cephalus*), which they often brought to the surface to swallow. Some Gulf menhaden (*Brevoortia patronus*) carcasses had been dumped into the water after being measured. The scaup were seen bringing these menhaden to the surface, where fish too large to swallow were broken into smaller pieces and eaten. The ducks soon lost their fear of people on the boat and docks and fed regularly in the narrow slip where the water was five to eight feet deep.

Other scaup, both Greater and Lesser, soon joined the original pair, and as many as nine were constantly diving in the area, where additional menhaden were dumped periodically. Any sudden noise or movement caused the little flock to fly 50 to 100 yards away, to return at once to the feeding ground. When the writer left the Laboratory at the end of January for a two-week field trip, the scaup were still devouring discarded menhaden. They were not seen in the slip again after menhaden were no longer discarded, although many scaup were in the vicinity. Recorded surface-water temperature ranged from 10.8 to 12.2° C, and salinities varied between 3.6 and 18.0 o/oo during this period. Since that time scaup have been occasional visitors in the Laboratory slip, but only in groups of two or three that remain quite wild and do not stay very long.

Another instance of scavenger feeding by scaup was reported to me by Mr. O. L. Seymour of Ocean Springs, Mississippi. In the past, processors loaded discarded shrimp heads on a small barge that was unloaded in Biloxi Bay between the Highway 90 bridge and the L. & N. Railroad bridge. Feeding scaup gathered in large numbers in the dumping area, where they apparently fed on the discarded shrimp heads and remained as long as this food was available.—J. Y. CHRISTMAS, *Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Ocean Springs, Mississippi.*

**A Le Conte's Sparrow at Beaupré, Province of Quebec.**—On 21 May 1935, a bird, which was then believed to be a Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudacuta subvirgata*), was collected at Beaupré, some 25 miles northeast of Quebec City, by the late Dr. Gus. A. Langelier.

Recently, while revising the Langelier collection, which now belongs to the Quebec Provincial Museum, it appeared to me that the specimen previously identified as a Sharp-tailed Sparrow was of a different species. In fact, it was reidentified as a Le Conte's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*). The new identification was verified by Mr. W. Earl Godfrey of the National Museum of Canada.

Apparently, this specimen is the first record for the Province of Quebec and the first mention east of Bradford, Ontario (A.O.U. Check-list 1957: 593). The specimen is an adult male, catalogued No. 4971 in the Quebec Provincial Museum collection.—MRS. GUS. A. LANGELIER, *Musée de la Province, Parc des Champs de Bataille, Quebec, Canada.*

**Recent Emigrations of Northern Shrikes.**—The Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) formerly appeared in the northern states at intervals of about four