

at about 1800 feet altitude between Bear River and Eel River in Humboldt County about seven miles from Capetown. The birds there numbered about fifty pairs in the early summer of 1929. One of the birds, a male, no. 53976, was taken on May 9 with a nest and four fresh eggs which Mr. Atwell collected. Another of the four birds is a juvenile (no. 53983) not quite fully grown, taken June 2. In so far as known to Mr. Atwell in May and June, 1929, this colony, occupying a territory about one by one-half mile in extent, was the only one in Humboldt County.

While perhaps not extreme for *strigata*, the three adult males collected by Mr. Atwell are, together, as regards both measurements and color tones, much nearer that race than any other; indeed I cannot distinguish one of them from a breeding male from Salem, Oregon. The juvenile is darker colored than any juvenile, of whatever race, I have seen from elsewhere in California.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, December 7, 1930.*

Occurrence of the White-throated Sparrow in the San Joaquin Valley, California.—During a day's field work in the Porterville district of Tulare County, California, in the fall of 1930, a sparrow with conspicuous whitish color on the chin was seen in company with migrating fox sparrows. It was watched with much interest for several minutes while feeding on the ground with the fox sparrows, which birds apparently "had a grudge" against the odd one and continually made advances when it approached too closely to any one of them. I was not certain as to my identification of this bird at sight and collected it for positive proof.

This specimen, number 748 in my collection, was an immature female White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) and was taken on October 12, 1930. The exact locality of the occurrence was about ten miles east of the town of Porterville, in the willow association adjacent to the Tule River. It was interesting to note that the bird was in the company of fox sparrows and not with other zonotrichias, as seems to be the general rule when White-throated Sparrows have been recorded previously in California.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, November 23, 1930.*

Western Mockingbird, Oregon Vesper Sparrow, and Merrill Song Sparrow in Sonoma County, California.—On August 17, 1930, two Western Mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*) were seen in chaparral (composed mostly of *Ceanothus jepsonii*, *Quercus durata*, *Rhamnus californica*, and *Umbellularia californica*) on a ridge northwest of Fitch Mountain, near Healdsburg. The appearance of a Mockingbird in this county is interesting, and the early date of occurrence, August 17, makes it even more so. One of these birds was collected (now no. 56243, Mus. Vert. Zool., Berkeley).

A Merrill Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia merrilli*) male, was collected near Healdsburg, California, October, 1922. This is a very westerly record, as the race *merrilli* occurs east of the humid coast belt. This specimen is now no. 56260, Mus. Vert. Zool.

An Oregon Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus affinis*), male, was seen on October 13, 1930, about two miles north of Healdsburg. It was with a flock of about twenty Western Savannah Sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis alaudinus*) most of which were perched on a fence separating two fields of dead grass. Only one Vesper Sparrow could be recognized in the flock. It was collected (now no. 56258, Mus. Vert. Zool.). Healdsburg is in the north-central part of Sonoma County.—C. W. EDGE, *Healdsburg, California, December 9, 1930.*

The Barrow Golden-eye on Lake Merritt, Oakland, California.—On the afternoon of October 28, 1930, while studying the ducks on Lake Merritt, with Gordon Bolander, I noticed what appeared to be a Barrow Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta islandica*). Positive identification was at this time difficult because of the duck's distance from shore. On November 28, when we again visited the lake, the Golden-eye was still present. With the aid of binoculars we were able to study the duck and note the actions and the characteristic markings. The black back with a row of white spots on each side, the black line in front of the bend of the wing, extending down to the waterline, and the slender white crescents on the sides of the head in front of the eyes, were plainly seen. The head was high and crested and at close range the purplish iridescence could be discerned.