

overhead and settle in a cluster on the willows. This was the first time in my experience of some thirty Canadian winters that I have seen Snow Buntings perch on a tree or bush, though they will frequently settle on buildings, haystacks or wire fences.

Shortly after, I received a letter from a friend living thirty miles distant, who is a close observer of birds and has lived all his life in Saskatchewan. He remarked on this same phenomenon on his farm at the same time, and asked me if I had ever noted it before.

T. S. Roberts in "Birds of Minnesota" says "the Snow Bunting is a ground-loving bird, seldom alighting in trees." On the other hand, in "Manual of British Birds," by Saunders and Clarke, we read that "the Snow-Bunting has frequently been observed to perch on trees." Cameron, in his most interesting notes on Montana birds (Auk, 24, 1907, p. 405), says: "Snowflakes perch on corrals here, but I have never observed them to perch in trees, although this is a well known habit referred to by many ornithologists in different parts of the world."

This peculiar aversity for trees seems to be shared by birds of various kinds, but in varying degree. It naturally affects chiefly the ground-frequenting and ground-nesting species, and those that prefer the open spaces away from bushes or trees of any kind. As a group, the longspurs would not be expected to perch on trees, and I have never seen a longspur in such a situation. But Roberts writes of the Lapland Longspur alighting on small oaks. I once saw a flock of Rosy Finches (*Leucosticte*) settle in a clump of bushes, and Cameron (as above) mentions their doing so. In "Birds of California" Dawson says: "I never save once saw the *Leucostictes* alight in a tree, and I have an idea they feel very ill at ease in such a situation."

Of all North American land-birds, perhaps, the Horned Lark (*Otocoris*) has the least use for a tree or bush. This trait probably is common to larks of all species, with the exception of the Wood Lark of Europe; and to all the pipit family, excepting the Tree Pipit.

Turning to a different Order, the pigeons, which may be considered truly arboreal, an outstanding exception is the Rock Pigeon; of this bird Howard Saunders says: "it has a marked objection to alighting on trees—a peculiarity which is to a great extent shared by its domesticated relatives." Among the owls, the Snowy and the Short-eared seldom appear to favor anything taller than a fence post, though either may be seen on top of a haystack; a Burrowing Owl in a tree could scarcely be imagined. Of the diurnal birds-of-prey the Marsh Hawk alone prefers the ground to rest upon at all times. Apparently it has not the habit of surveying the landscape from an elevation which is so noticeable a custom with so many of the raptors.—LAURENCE B. POTTER, *Gower Ranch, Eastend, Saskatchewan, Canada, March 9, 1935.*

A Second Occurrence of the White-fronted Goose in Arizona.—Swarth says of this species (Pacific Coast Avif. No. 10, 1914, p. 14): "Status—Coues (1866a, p. 98) found it abundant on the Colorado River. There is no published statement of its occurrence in the region since that time."

On the night of October 3, 1934, the authors were encamped on the shore of Parks Lake, a little-known body of water in southeastern Graham County, twenty miles north of San Simon and thirteen miles west of the New Mexico-Arizona boundary line. The lake lies in the San Simon Valley at an altitude of 3400 feet, and was on that date perhaps one and a quarter miles in length by one mile in width, and a good resting place for waterfowl on account of its shallow margins and vegetated bordering flats.

Just before sunrise on October 4 a flock of about thirty geese was noticed coming in from the west. They alighted down the lake opposite camp and swam about in the rays of the rising sun. Though they appeared to show too much white, it was supposed they were Canada Geese, but the distance was too great for certain identification. They finally came to rest on the opposite shore, where they remained while we began a leisurely circuit of the lake, intent on the interesting birds near at hand.

What was our surprise when we drew nearer, to discover they were certainly *not* Canada Geese! Then began a stalk in earnest and we were fortunate enough to come within about fifty yards before they took flight. Thus, both being provided with binoculars, we were able to make positive identification of them as White-fronted Geese, *Anser albifrons*. Failing to collect a specimen, the subspecies is a matter of uncertainty.—CHARLES T. VORHIES and WALTER P. TAYLOR, *University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, December 15, 1934.*