chipmunks, attracted our attention. A small black hawk, fast on the wing, flew past and alighted on a dead pine half a mile up the beach. For some time not a bird or other small creature uttered a sound or ventured into the open. The hawk was collected and proved to be an immature female. Nearly every day from August 5 to August 25 one or more of these hawks were seen near our camp, and each time the birds and chipmunks exhibited extreme fear. Another immature female was collected on August 25.

The stomachs of the birds taken were examined and found to contain only fragments of black ground beetles. As near as I could determine there were five or six Black Pigeon Hawks at Paulina Lake during our visit. Only once before have I seen this species east of the Cascade Mountains. A specimen was collected at Heppner, Morrow County, Oregon, on July 31, 1929, by H. W. Dobyns and given to me. It also was a bird of the year, an immature male. Is it possible these could be migrants or does *Falco c. suckleyi* breed that far inland?—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, September 27, 1938.*

Two Notable Records for Arizona.—*Colaptes auratus auratus.* Southern Flicker. An aged female of this species was taken by me April 7, 1937, from a grove of large live oak trees in the valley of the Gardiner Wash, northern Santa Cruz County, Arizona. The Gardiner Canyon and Wash originates from the east side and slopes of the Santa Rita Mountains, coursing eastward and northeastward. Since coming to this region, I have been on the lookout for a specimen of Mearns Gilded Flicker, and presumed I was obtaining one of such until it was in hand. Said bird was excessively fat which I cannot account for excepting by its food of acorn kernels. Flickers are often seen working the acorns over, on the ground beneath the oaks. I have read that this species is likely to drift westward from the southern states, across Texas, Arizona and into southern California. Flickers of this region are resident the year round and I should not consider that this bird was in seasonal migration only.

Chloroceryle americana septentrionalis. Texas Kingfisher. An adult female was taken at a pond on the Santa Cruz River, seven miles north of Nogales, October 1, 1938. No others were in the vicinity at the time. A kingfisher must have a discouraging time trying to locate streams with fish in this region. The best effort they can make is hopefully to follow the dry courses of our "rivers" (so called by courtesy). It is not uncommon to see the Western Belted Kingfisher flying up and down a dry wash. Therefore an artificial pond anywhere in this region will narrow a search for a kingfisher down almost to a certainty.—FRED M. DILLE, *Nogales, Arizona, January 11, 1939.*

Telephone Wires Fatal to Sage Grouse.—On October 20, 1938, Mr. W. S. Long and the writer found three Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) that, evidence indicated, had been killed as a result of striking telephone wires. One adult hen was found beneath a telephone line five miles north of Beaver, Beaver County, Utah; and four miles farther south under the same line a cock and a hen, both adults, were found. All three apparently had been dead about twenty-four hours, and were in excellent plumage which showed little evidence of external damage. The crops of the three birds and the skins of the two hens were preserved. While skinning the specimens they were examined carefully for signs of injury. There were no broken bones and the skulls were not damaged, but the throats of both hens were bruised and contained clots of blood, and the shoulders and fore part of the breast of one showed slight bruises. The position of the birds beneath the telephone line and the fact that the skins were not torn and no bones were broken would indicate that they had flown into the telephone wires rather than having been struck by automobiles. The skin of the male was intact and no bones were broken except the skull which was crushed; tracks indicated that the head of this bird had been stepped upon by a cow after the bird was dead.

The situation along this stretch of highway is such as to be conducive to this type of avian accident. The west side of the highway is bordered by uncultivated flats which extend back to sagebrush-covered mesas. On the east side are pastures, grain fields and alfalfa patches. Along the edge of the fields that adjoin the road is a fence and the telephone line. The telephone poles support ten wires, eight of which are attached to the top cross-bar and are approximately eighteen feet above the ground; below these are two wires about a foot apart which are attached to the poles.

Under these conditions it appears that the likelihood of Sage Grouse striking the wires as they fly back and forth between the sage flats and the alfalfa fields would be great. The greatest damage probably occurs when the birds are suddenly flushed from the alfalfa and strike the wires before they are able to gain sufficient altitude to clear them. The crop of one was distended with green forage which undoubtedly had been obtained in the alfalfa patch. Being heavy with food may also make the birds less agile at dodging obstacles.

Of course, this is only one incident and may not be significant, but it does demonstrate one more obstacle that man has introduced into the environment of this fine game bird. Further observations

may show that in certain areas this hazard is serious enough to warrant consideration of preventive measures.—A. E. BORELL, *Soil Conservation Service, Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 19, 1938.*

Remarks on Alaskan Savannah Sparrows.—In the recent revision of the Savannah sparrows by Peters and Griscom (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., vol. 80, 1938, pp. 445–478), the name *Passerculus sandwichensis crassus* is given (p. 459) to a medium-sized, stout-billed bird, the breeding range of which is said (p. 460) to be "Islands in the Alexander Archipelago from Chichagof Island to Prince of Wales Island; also on the adjacent mainland at the Chickamin River."

An examination of southeastern Alaskan specimens collected by the writer demonstrates that, while there are numerous examples of migrants that answer the description of *crassus*, six breeding birds, three males and three females (L. A. Mus., nos. 18627–18632), from Petersburg, Mitkof Island, taken between June 27 and July 1, 1936, are clearly not of that form, their bills being much too slender. These specimens were submitted to Mr. Griscom and examined by him and Mr. Peters, both of whom agree that they are not examples of *crassus* but of the bird they call *anthinus* (*alaudinus* of the 1931 A.O.U. Check-list). As Petersburg is almost in the center of the breeding range ascribed to *crassus*, it would seem that the limits of this range require redetermination.

While Peters and Griscom list birds taken on Kuiu Island as breeding examples, they do not give dates of capture. Swarth (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., vol. 7, 1911, p. 85), referring to specimens taken by the 1909 Alexander Alaska Expedition in this locality May 3, apparently regarded them as migrants, which they undoubtedly were at this early date. However, Swarth does consider specimens taken at Chickamin River, on the mainland, in June, breeding birds, but Peters and Griscom do not mention these as among the materials they examined.

It might be well here to call attention to an error in the range of *Passerculus s. sandwichensis* as given by Peters and Griscom (*op. cit.*, p. 449). This should read: "Not definitely recorded from any of the Aleutians *west* of Unalaska," not *"east"* of that point. In this connection the writer is able to record a slight extension of the range of *sandwichensis*. While on Umnak Island, the next island west of Unalaska, the summer of 1926, the bird was found to be breeding rather commonly. A juvenal (no. 3621, coll. G. W.), still unable to fly, was taken August 18.—G. WILLETT, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, January 5, 1939.*

Two New Bird Records for Utah.—The names of two species of birds may now be added to the list of those collected in the State of Utah. One male Indigo Bunting, *Passerina cyanea*, in the collection at Dixie College was taken July 11, 1937, at Saint George, Utah, by Floyd Atkin, a student.

May 20, 1938, two boys, Ralph Hafen and the late Richard Klenk, obtained a Least Bittern, *Ixobrychus exilis*, from one of the small marshes near the Rio Virgin at Saint George. The skin is in my personal collection.—ROSS HARDY, *Dixie College, Saint George, Utah, December 20, 1938.*

Notes on Shorebirds from the San Francisco Bay Region.—*Steganopus tricolor.* Wilson Phalarope. Approximately two miles northeast of the Mackay Radio towers near Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, there was a group of large ponds kept at constant level by dikes originally erected by a salt company. These ponds were rather shallow with large areas covered by an inch or less of water. On July 30, 1937, when the writer was with E. W. Martin, numbers of Wilson Phalarope were noted, and during the following two weeks, until August 14, they were seen practically every day. Some days their numbers were estimated at five or six hundred, wading for the most part in the shallow portions of the ponds. A few could sometimes be seen swimming with the Northern Phalaropes in the deeper parts of the pools. There were large numbers of Western Sandpipers feeding along the edges of the water, and the Wilson Phalaropes were scattered among them. Because of their seemingly infrequent occurrence in the Bay region, some were collected and one of these, a male, is now number 74515, Mus. Vert. Zool. It might be added that these ponds have been drained by a new system of water channels, and this year no Wilson Phalaropes were seen.

Numenius hudsonicus. Hudsonian Curlew. Observed on the mud flats east of the Mackay tower near Palo Alto, until June 4, 1937, which appears to be a late record (see Grinnell and Wythe, Pac. Coast Avif. no. 18, 1927, p. 71). One, a female, obtained June 2, 1937, is in my collection.

Limosa fedoa. Marbled Godwit. Noted until June 5, 1937, near Palo Alto, on which date a female was collected.

Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus. Western Willet. Seen on the mud flats near Palo Alto until June 5, 1937, on which date several were collected, which seems to be a late record (Grinnell and Wythe, *op. cit.*, p. 70).