

area on each side of the Santa Fe railroad tracks about 100 yards due south of the place where the bird was found. The bird was in good condition, very little decomposed, and not bloody. However, before the specimen could be skinned by the writer decomposition had set in and made the cause of death, as well as the sex, indeterminate. Possibly a car struck the bird as it crossed a paved road to reach the spot where it was found. The head showed some signs of concussion.

Swarth (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 10, 1914:53) reported the Western Grasshopper Sparrow only from western and southern Arizona. According to Mr. Allan Phillips of the Museum of Northern Arizona, recent investigation has shown this species to be a common transient and winter resident in southeastern Arizona. It is rare farther west in the state, and previous to this record, according to Phillips, no valid report of the bird had been made from, or north of, the Mogollon Plateau; the plateau is over 130 miles southeast of the Grand Canyon. The Grasshopper Sparrow is known to breed locally in a few places in southeastern Arizona.

The identification of the specimen found at Grand Canyon, which is now number B-472 in the collection of the Grand Canyon National Park, was verified by Dr. Alden H. Miller of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.—JOHN R. ARNOLD, *Stockton Junior College, Stockton, California, August 20, 1941.*

**Wilson Snipe Perches on Telephone Pole.**—On July 2, 1941, the authors were driving along a highway about 5½ miles south of Alturas, Modoc County, California, when an adult Wilson Snipe (*Capella delicata*) was noted sitting on top of a telephone pole about 15 feet from the ground. This seemed so unusual that we felt it advisable to recheck our identification of the bird; consequently, after passing a few hundred yards, we stopped and backed the car to a point even with the pole. After a few moments the bird left with characteristic explosive suddenness, uttering its familiar call, and alighted near by in a marsh.—CLARENCE COTTAM and CECIL S. WILLIAMS, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., August 28, 1941.*

**A Nighthawk Migration on an Arizona Desert.**—When returning by automobile to Grand Canyon, Arizona, on July 29, 1941, Mrs. Bryant and I were astonished at the large number of migrating Nighthawks (*Chordeiles minor*) to be seen in food-getting flight over the desert. After noting twenty or more we decided to take a census. The following results were obtained between 7:30 p.m. and 7:55 p.m., sunset included, on a stretch of the Grand Canyon approach road about 35 miles south of Grand Canyon. The country is covered with sagebrush, with occasional patches of juniper and piñon pine. Mrs. Bryant watched on one side and I on the other, while driving. All birds counted were within 200 yards of the highway so that the strip used in the census was not more than 400 yards wide. We doubt whether the birds were any more abundant near the road than on the open desert and believe this count is a reliable sampling of abundance. The car traveled at 50 miles per hour. Probably many birds were missed in the course of the last few miles because of poor visibility with darkness fast approaching.

Mile	Nighthawks	Mile	Nighthawks
1st	5	10th	2
2nd	5	11th	2
3rd	8	12th	1
4th	6	13th	3
5th	3	14th	1
6th	4	15th	2
7th	3	16th	4
8th	2	17th	0
9th	0	18th	0

This made a total of fifty-one nighthawks, seen in a narrow belt over eighteen miles of desert, or an average of nearly three per mile, from a speeding car. And, of course, there were more birds than the eye could catch. The lack of birds in the last two miles may be attributed to the darkness.—H. C. BRYANT, *Grand Canyon, Arizona, September 6, 1941.*

**European Starling in Nevada.**—Because of the interest ornithologists have had in the movement and distribution of the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) and also because of the unusual economic significance of this bird, it seems appropriate to record a field observation of this species at Las Vegas, Nevada. The following is quoted from a letter from Dr. M. M. Ellis of the Fish and Wildlife Service: