

but one male and one female are clear-cut examples of the northern race *pinus*.

Volatinia jacarina diluta. Blue-black Grassquit. I have previously noted (Webster 1958) the distribution of this species, in summer, in the agricultural fields of the low, tropical valleys, but I was unable to give a subspecific identification on the basis of an adult male specimen. Two females taken by Brinkley at Canyon on 13 August 1961 illustrate well the pallor of the northwestern race described by van Rossem (1938).

**Melospiza kieneri kieneri*. Ground Sparrow. An adult male was taken on 10 July 1964, at Santa Rosa. In this same area of essentially tropical deciduous woodland, from one to six birds were seen each day, 29 June to 1 July 1957, 24 to 28 January 1964, and 2 to 10 July 1964. Here a nest was found with two eggs; it was 24 inches above the ground in a juniper sapling under the shade of *Bursera* and juniper trees. The adult was not incubating and the eggs were cold on 9 July, but incubation was underway on 10 July. In similar habitat above Canyon a single bird was seen on 13 August 1961.

**Passerculus sandwichensis*. Savannah Sparrow. All records were in the short-grass prairie of Laguna Valderama: one or two each day, 15, 16, and 17 July 1952, and 14 and 18 July 1964; several each day (up to a maximum of 20 on 9 February), 2 to 10 February 1964. Seven February specimens were taken; six are of the race *nevadensis*, while one is *brunnescens*.

Spizella passerina. Chipping Sparrow. The breeding form, as I have previously reported (Webster

and Orr 1954a), is dark, gray, *S. p. mexicana*, not the ruddy-backed race *atremaeus* as stated in the Mexican Check-list (Miller *et al.* 1957:387). I have recently compared five summer adults, a September immature, and a January adult of the former subspecies from western Zacatecas with extensive series from other states. Five specimens (14 January to 8 February 1964), from Laguna Valderama and near Chalchuites, are well-marked examples of the pale gray race *boreophila*.

**Atimophila cassinii*. Cassin's Sparrow. Three were seen and two singing males collected at 7100 feet in cactus-acacia grassland 10 miles south of Pinos, southeastern Zacatecas, 2 August 1959. The specimens had testes 8 and 7 mm long, respectively, and each had the cloacal protuberance large and full of sperm. On 3 September 1955 Allan Phillips and I saw five Cassin's Sparrows, and Phillips collected two—a molting adult male and a young male in mostly juvenal plumage. This was at 6500 feet in acacia grassland 39 miles northwest of Zarca, northern Durango. Both these records suggest breeding.

The A.O.U. Check-list (1957:603) lists the southern edge of the breeding range of Cassin's Sparrow as northern Chihuahua, southern Coahuila, and northern Tamaulipas. The Mexican Check-list (Miller *et al.*, 1957:379) also includes my own San Luis Potosí record (Webster and Orr 1954) as a July record without certain evidence of breeding. It seems probable that Cassin's Sparrow breeds sparsely throughout the high grasslands of northern and central Mexico.

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FIRST RECORD OF THE GYRFALCON IN IDAHO

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On 26 February 1968 falconers R. L. Siler and T. N. Smith of Pocatello captured a gray-phase Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) in open farming country eight miles east of American Falls, Power County, Idaho.

This represents the first record of this species in Idaho (T. D. Burleigh, *in litt.*). A nylon-leader noose carpet placed over a pigeon that the falcon had killed earlier was used to effect the capture. The falcon weighed 1.446 kg when taken and was in first basic (= first winter) plumage. There is no evidence that it had previously been in captivity. I wish to thank Siler and Smith for allowing me to note this record. (Present address: Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106.)

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