

(Continued from p. 197).

**MEADOWLARKS THROUGH TANAGERS** — Meadowlarks present at Muleshoe N.W.R., Tex. are estimated to be 40% Eastern, 60% Western (JAG). Rusty Blackbirds were unusually abundant in s.w. Oklahoma and n.e. Texas. Western Tanagers were as scarce in w. Texas in fall migration as they were in spring

**FRINGILLIDS** — A fledgling Cardinal was being fed at Garland, Tex., Sept. 13 (MF). Pyrrhuloxias moved northward to several localities in the Texas Panhandle. Black-headed Grosbeaks were recorded east to Wichita County, Tex. (J&EK, LS) and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were recorded at several w. Texas localities. A Blue Grosbeak in Linn County remained until Oct. 3 and a ♂ Painted Bunting was sighted in Comanche County Oct. 16 & 26 (CAF). Purple Finches were abundant by the end of the period, but Pine Siskins were almost completely absent. Evening Grosbeaks were reported only in Ellis County, Kans. An ad ♂ Pine Grosbeak which appeared in Big Spring, Tex., Aug. 6 did not stay long enough to be verified by a second observer (SC). Red Crossbills arrived in Ellis County Nov. 3 and Omaha Nov. 7 (Econ, TB). A **White-winged Crossbill** was sighted at Omaha Nov. 11 & 23 (Econ, TB).

Baird's Sparrows and Le Conte's Sparrows were present at Muleshoe N.W.R. during the last week of November (JAG). Le Conte's Sparrows were sighted in Linn County Oct. 3, found dead at Dallas Oct. 15 and present in good numbers at Hagerman during November. Sharp-tailed Sparrows were unusually numerous at Lincoln mid-September to mid-October (DG) and one in Lyon County, Kans., Sept. 3 provided a first county record (J&BS). Tree Sparrows and Harris' Sparrows were abundant in Oklahoma and n. Texas by the end of the period. In recent years Harris' Sparrows have been more common in w. Texas than Fox Sparrows but this fall both were unusually numerous. A **Golden-crowned Sparrow** visited a feeder at Amarillo Nov. 12-18 (RR *et al.*) but disappeared the day before the Texas Ornithological Society's fall field trip convened there. Swamp Sparrows were present in Linn & Ellis Cos., Kans. and Tulsa

Longspurs arrived in the Region in early November although their usual arrival corresponds to the Christmas Bird Count period **Snow Buntings** at Lincoln Oct. 31 & Nov. 7 were "unheard-of early," as Giblein states they rarely appear before February. Snow Buntings were also reported in Jefferson, Coffey and Osage Cos., Kans., in mid-November (HC, NJ).

## The Last Word

The gradual improvement our readers have seen over the past few years has taken a rather sudden leap forward with this issue. There are actually sixteen pages in full color in this issue, including two covers and the double page spread (our first gatefold) featuring the lovely Eskimo Curlew. Further changes are planned but we want your views and opinions of our new style, content, and typography.

In recent weeks we have been asked repeatedly by our readers, often in tones of anxiety, whether we were really planning to junk

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the technical articles, and the regional reports, and come out with something slick, pretty, and "popular." The answer is in this issue; our goal, and it may be somewhat difficult to attain, is to maintain (and even enhance) the scientific merit and validity we have increasingly gained, and still present this in a form that is clean and attractive in design. We hold that science and art are not incompatible. But yours is the final judgment; we await it with anticipation.