

Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*). Two were seen April 15 beside a rain pool on U. S. Highway 77, eight miles north of Perry.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia imperator*). A large tern, most likely this species, was watched as it dived for fish while flying over Lake Spavinaw, September 20.

Common Tern (*Sterna h. hirundo*). Six were seen on April 29 at Crystal Lake, Woodward.

Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus conspersus*). Recorded by Mrs. Nice as "summer resident in the Wichita Mountains (Comanche County) and Cimarron County." Several were seen and heard on June 18 and August 28 in the Quartz Mountains, Greer and Kiowa Counties and no doubt the species nests in that locality.—JAMES STEVENSON, *Oklahoma City, Okla.*

Sex Ratio of English Sparrows.—After hearing Dr. L. J. Cole at the meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club at St. Louis speak on the sex ratio of English Sparrow nestlings, my own records from 1932 to 1935 were reviewed, with the following results:

Month	Male	Female	Undetermined
January	13	0	0
February	6	6	0
March	7	19	0
April	7	25	0
May	3	35	22
June	1	1	33
September	14	24	0
October	26	37	0
November	12	14	0
December	37	20	0
Total.....	126	181	55

These figures include both young and old birds caught in traps used for banding purposes. Eighty-five of the birds were dissected for sex determination and other studies. The ratio of birds caught in different seasons shows a tendency similar to that of the Cardinal. More males enter traps during winter months and more females during nesting seasons.—CORR SHOOP, *Steelville, Mo.*

The Field Characters of the Black-bellied and Golden Plovers.—Mr. Bayard H. Christy, an able and informative writer, made an inexplicable slip in his "Beach Combers" in the December, 1935, issue of the WILSON BULLETIN that will surely cause confusion in the minds of some of his readers. On page 268 he stated, while discussing field marks of the Black-bellied and the Golden Plovers, that the "only sure field mark is the hind toe—its presence or its absence"—and this after having noted the "broadly white and outspread wings and tail" of the Black-bellied Plover then under observation. According to the best descriptions available, the light stripe in the open wing and the white or whitish tail are amply sufficient to distinguish the Black-bellied from the Golden Plover in straightaway flight. In a side view in flight of a bird in immature or winter plumage, the black axillars (showing a black spot under the wing close up against the body) form a conspicuous field mark of the Black-bellied that is absent in the Golden. So much for actual markings. But anyone really familiar with the Black-bellied Plover in any plumage need never fear that he will overlook a Golden Plover. The Golden is a totally different bird—slimmer, more shapely, with a smaller head, and decidedly brownish in its "gray" plumage.