

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by O. A. Stevens

Lapland Longspurs in Kentucky.—I have observed hundreds of Lapland Longspurs this winter (1936-1937) in Hopkins and McCracken Counties, Kentucky. One was collected.—RAYMOND J. FLEETWOOD, *Paducah, Ky.*

The Starling in Clay County, South Dakota.—Reports of the Starling in southeastern South Dakota are as yet rare; therefore, the writer would like to add a record for Clay County. On March 28, 1937, I saw a pair of Starlings on the western edge of the town of Vermillion, and it is probable that the birds will breed in that vicinity.—WM. YOUNGWORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa.*

Yellow Rail in Ohio.—On April 18, 1937, the writer flushed a Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) in a wet, grassy field near Cleveland, Ohio. The chicken-like bill and yellow underparts were noted as the bird descended into the grass a few yards beyond the spot where it was first flushed. On being approached the bird took flight again, displaying the characteristic white wing patches. It flew about thirty yards and dropped into a blackberry patch. So far as I know, this is the second record for this rare species in the Cleveland region.—RALPH O'REILLY, JR., *Cleveland Heights, Ohio.*

Gull Records for Lake Erie.—More than the usual number of gulls remained along the shores of Lake Erie during the past winter (1936-37). Here in Cleveland a few Bonaparte's Gulls were noted among the hundreds of Herring Gulls and Ring-billed Gulls. At Ashtabula harbor a Glaucous Gull was seen on December 27 by a party including the writer. The bird appeared to be a second-year bird, as it had not yet acquired the spotless plumage and yellow bill of the adult. At the same place on January 30 an adult Iceland Gull was noted as it flew by at a distance of only about thirty yards. At Presque Isle, Erie, Pennsylvania, on February 20 and 21, a Great Black-backed Gull was seen in the bay. At the same place we saw a flock of twenty-one Common Redpolls. Both species were observed in good light at short range.—M. B. SKACCS, *Cleveland, Ohio.*

Pine Siskins in Western Maryland.—On July 1, 1937, a number of Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus pinus*), some of them young birds of the season, were noted in Swallow Falls State Forest, along the Youghiogheny River in Garrett County, Maryland. The birds were feeding and calling in hemlock trees, and it seems reasonable to suppose that they may have bred locally. Individuals of this species were again noted on July 3 by Mr. M. Graham Netting, of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh. The forest here is of nearly pure virgin Canada hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), and many Canada, Black-throated Blue, Blackburnian, Magnolia, and Black-throated Green Warblers, Juncos, Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Mountain Vireos nest locally. Siskins are rarely observed in summer on the Allegheny tableland, a region embracing parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and West Virginia.—MAURICE BROOKS, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

Unusual Sparrow Records from Arizona.—A single Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) was seen by the writer on December 19, 1936, at Tuba City, on the western side of the Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona. It was closely observed as it perched in a small willow; its characteristic note helped to identify

it. But one other Arizona record exists, that of a specimen taken December 22, 1915, near Tucson by Howell (*Condor*, 18, 1916, p. 213).

On February 19, 1937, a Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) was observed at Moenave, a few miles west of Tuba City, in company with a great number of Gambel's Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*). The bird was judged to be an immature male. It also is the second record of its species for the state, the other being on March 15, 1913, at Sacaton by Gilman (*Auk*, 31, 1914, p. 403). It might be pointed out that both previous records are for the southern part of the state.

Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia* subsp. *fallax*?) were common at Moenave and Tuba City during the winter months, leaving during the early part of March. There are no previous Song Sparrow records for the northern part of the state, aside from one seen by the writer on September 15, 1936, at Teec-Nos-Pas in the very northeastern corner of Arizona, also on the Navajo Reservation.—GALE MONSON, *Gallup, N. M.*

The Carolina Wren in Wisconsin.—On March 17, 1937, a group from the Game Management Division visited the E. H. Fabrice Farms in southeastern Wisconsin, Lafayette Township, Walworth County. The main farm, which is one of the wild life demonstration and experimental areas under direction of the University, has 160 acres of unpastured and undisturbed woodlot.

A number of birds were seen, but the outstanding record, worthy of note, was the Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus l. ludovicianus*). This bird was heard by the entire group of eight persons, including professor Aldo Leopold and Leonard W. Wing, and seen by Harry Anderson and Arthur Hawkins, of the Game Management Division, and Richard H. Pough, of the National Association of Audubon Societies. The bird was found in an oak-maple woods bordering Sugar Creek. Several small spring flows and hillside bogs are in the vicinity in which the wren was seen. During the week of April 25-30, 1937, I saw the wren on numerous occasions, and had it under observation with binoculars.

In the spring of 1936 I saw a Carolina Wren at the same locality on two occasions, April 26 and May 10; both times I heard the song. Kumlien and Hollister in "The Birds of Wisconsin" (1903) considered the species a "rare straggler to Wisconsin". Roberts (1934) states: "It is spreading northward and has reached southern Minnesota in limited numbers."—DOUGLAS E. WADE, *Game Management Division, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis.*

Some Interesting Killdeers.—In May, 1935, the spring meeting of the Indiana Academy of Science was held at Mt. Vernon, Indiana, on the Ohio River. One of the members, Glenn A. Black, an enterprising archaeologist, with others on May 12, visited some of the pre-historic Indian locations of the vicinity. At a village site some three miles east of Mt. Vernon they found a burial up-turned by the plow. The smaller bones had been rearranged to form a nest. It contained three eggs of a Killdeer as shown in the accompanying photograph. (Fig. 16). I have enjoyed the picture which was presented to me by Mr. Black and desire to share it with other bird students because of its unusual character.

In this connection I wish to speak of an experience of my own. Some two years before the above find, also in May, I found among some brick bats and other such material that had been hauled to fill a low place in the barnyard of my farm near Kokomo, Indiana, four Killdeer eggs. Notwithstanding the fact that