

A second flock of Whooping Cranes.—On March 20, 1952, I was seeking to study the Lesser Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*) about ten miles southeast of Arnett, Ellis County, Oklahoma. It was a beautiful spring day, with clear sky and balmy temperature. From time to time another and yet another flock of Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) would fly past, all going practically due north. About 4 p.m. a flock of at least 200 Sandhill Cranes flew directly over my head, “bugling” loudly. I glanced at the flock then, but did not notice any as being different from the others in this brief belly view.

When this flock was between a quarter and half a mile north of me, it evidently encountered a thermal, because it began an upward spiral. This maneuver is common among cranes. When the flock was at the east side of the circle, I noticed a gleam of white at one edge of the flock, and focussed my 8 × 30 binoculars on it. The sun shone on half a dozen snowy white birds, with sharply marked black primaries. My observations totalled at least a minute with good focus.

For an instant I thought there must be White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) in the flock. But pelicans flap and coast . . . these birds flew like all the other cranes, with steady beats and a curious quick upward flip of the wings each time. Their long legs trailed behind, their long necks stretched out in front. They, too, were cranes.

Two days later I went down to the Aransas Wildlife Refuge in Texas where the Whooping Cranes (*Grus americana*) winter. One of the assistants to whom I talked did indeed think that some of theirs might have started north, and been the ones I saw. But the director, Mr. Julian Howard, wrote to me that still later counts revealed that all of their Whooping Cranes were still in Texas at that time. He also said that he had a number of other records of a possible additional small flock of Whooping Cranes, presumably wintering in Mexico, but all the other records were more questionable than mine.

Having collected birds and prepared skins, I am well aware of the lack of certainty involved in all sight records. The present record, however, is based upon birds of such conspicuous marking that it is worthy of notice.—MAX W. DELAUBENFELS, *Department of Zoology, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon, April 23, 1953.*

[See Robinson, 1953, *Wilson Bull.*, 65:211, for a sight record of a Whooping Crane in south-central Kansas on March 23, 1952. It seems probable that this record might pertain to one of the birds reported by Prof. deLaubenfels.—Ed.]

Additional notes on the birds of southwestern Kansas.—In the fall of 1952, Richard R. Graber and I visited Morton County, Kansas for three days, September 2–5. Among the birds that we collected were two species not heretofore reported from Kansas and several not reported in the fall. We made most of our observations in a large grove of cottonwoods along the Cimarron River about 8 miles south of Richfield, and about 6 miles east of Kansas highway 27.

Since there are no published accounts of early fall migration in western Kansas, I have included in the following list, species of especial interest as far as distribution or migration are concerned. It is not, however, a complete list of species encountered.

I am grateful to Dr. George Attwood of the U. S. Soil Conservation Station, Elkhart, Kansas, for permission to collect in the area. I wish to thank Dr. Allan R. Phillips for identifying specimens and Dr. George M. Sutton for the use of his collection.

Stellula calliope. Calliope Hummingbird.—While I did not see a single hummingbird in four months of field work in the spring of 1950, on September 3 I saw and collected an immature female (RRG 1807) which measured: exposed culmen, 14; wing, 45; tail, 24

millimeters. The dorsum is bronze-green, and the flight feathers dark gray. The sides, belly, undertail coverts, and flanks are buffy. The feathers of the throat have a median spotting of dusky brown. The auriculars are light gray. The tail has subspatulate rectrices with a relatively large amount of terminal white on the outer three. The white on the third rectrix is equally distributed on the inner and outer webs. The median pair of rectrices are bronze-green with blackish tips. The next three pairs of lateral rectrices have narrow, but distinct, edgings of cinnamon-buff, sub-basally on both webs.

At the 1952 A.O.U. Meeting, Dr. Allan R. Phillips tentatively identified (without aid of comparative material) the specimen as *Stellula calliope*. I have subsequently compared it with similar species. On the basis of size, it is separable from the Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) and the Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*). It differs from the Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) in that the middle pair of rectrices in the latter are broadly edged on inner and outer webs with cinnamon-buff.

My specimen is readily separable from fall female Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) in that the auriculars of the latter are darker, the flight feathers narrower, the rectrices narrower at the tips, there are no cinnamon-buff edgings on the webs of any rectrices, and the white on the third rectrix is confined more or less to the inner web.

I have taken space to point out the distinguishing characters in order to emphasize the difficulty of identifying fall specimens of female and immature hummingbirds. Field identification of this group in western Kansas is completely unreliable, and until there is a better knowledge of the hummingbirds which occur there, all should be collected.

Dendrocopos scalaris symplectus. Ladder-backed Woodpecker.—This species appears to be the commonest woodpecker after the Flicker (*Colaptes* species) along the Cimarron in Morton County. I noted it daily and R. Graber collected a female which is referable to *symplectus*.

Tyrannus vociferans. Cassin's Kingbird.—I noted this species but once, a single bird on September 5. It perched on weed stalks on the prairie overlooking the Cimarron.

Empidonax difficilis. Western Flycatcher.—I saw two or three *Empidonax* daily, and collected the yellowest bird I saw on September 3. It was an immature female (RRG 1804) which measured: exposed culmen, 11; wing, 68; tail, 59 millimeters. On September 5, R. Graber collected an immature male (RRG 1817) measuring: exposed culmen, 12; wing, 70; tail 62 millimeters. In both specimens, the tenth primary is shorter than the fifth. The wing bars are distinctly buffy. Allan R. Phillips identified the female as belonging to the subspecies *hellmayri*, and the male as intermediate between *difficilis* and *hellmayri*. These are the first Kansas records of the Western Flycatcher.

Vireo solitarius. Solitary Vireo.—The species was encountered but twice. R. Graber collected an immature female referable to the race *plumbeus*, on September 3. On the same date I collected an immature female of the drab, olive-gray form *cassini*. These are the first fall records of these forms in Kansas.

Dendroica townsendi. Townsend's Warbler.—Single birds were seen September 3 and 5. I collected the latter, an immature female (RRG 1816). This is the first fall record for the species in Kansas. It may be more common as a fall than as a spring migrant, since during the entire spring of 1950 only three were seen (Graber, 1950, *Wilson Bull.*, 62:208).

Seiurus aurocapillus. Oven-bird.—Single birds seen September 4 (female collected) and 5. The specimen compares well with a series of the nominate race but has a very pale crown.

Seiurus motacilla. Louisiana Water-thrush.—I saw one on September 5. Long (1940. *Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci.*, 43:451) indicated that eastern Kansas is the western limit of this species' range. It actually occurs in small numbers in both spring (Graber, 1951. *Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci.*, 54:166) and fall in extreme southwestern Kansas.

Setophaga ruticilla. American Redstart.—A female was seen September 3.

Piranga ludoviciana. Western Tanager.—I collected an immature female (RRG 1813) on September 4. This is apparently the third specimen for Kansas.—JEAN W. GRABER, *Dept. of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, February 1, 1953.*

Black-throated Sparrow in Kansas.—On the morning of November 25, 1952, three miles east and four miles north of Garden City, Kansas, I noticed a small sparrow among the rafters of my garage. I had on previous occasions noted creepers, kinglets, and English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) in the garage but this bird I did not recognize so I closed the door for closer observation. After tentatively identifying it as a Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*), I decided to capture it for positive identification and the bird was killed in the process. A check of the literature revealed no known records of this bird in Kansas. The prepared skin was sent to the Museum of Natural History at the University of Kansas where H. B. Tordoff identified it as *A. b. deserticola*. The specimen is now No. 31356 in the collection at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.—MARVIN D. SCHWILLING, *Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, Box 864, Garden City, Kansas, September 17, 1953.*

Summer records of Redheads in a Michigan inland marsh.—Wood's "Birds of Michigan" (1951. *Univ. Mich. Misc. Publ., Mus. Zool.*, No. 75) includes bird records through 1943. Nine Redhead (*Aythya americana*) nesting records are given for Michigan, only two of which occurred in the last forty years. These nests were found in Saginaw Bay by H. J. Miller on May 28, 1941, one on Lone Tree Island, Huron County, and the other at Fish Point, Tuscola County. None of the reported nesting sites are in inland marshes (away from the Great Lakes). Three records of adults in summer are given by Wood in addition to the nesting records.

Thirteen miles southwest from Saginaw Bay near the Saginaw River lies a 1200 acre marsh. It is surrounded by an artificial dike. The depth of the water in this marsh is regulated by a pumping system. This area was formed from low lying farm land about 1919 and was known as the Oneida Fur Farm. It is now a breeding and migration stop-over place for many water birds and in 1953 was made a state wildlife sanctuary.

Summer month observations of this marsh during years 1948 through 1953 resulted in the following records of Redheads: June 26 and July 24, 1948, 1 female (E. E. Kenaga); June 17, 1950, 30 males and females, nest with eggs (E.E.K. and M.A. Wolf); July 23, 1950, 1 male, also 1 female with young (E.E.K.); August 5, 1950, 1 male (E.E.K.); June 10, 1951, 8 males, 8 females (E.E.K.); June 30, 1951, 6 males, 6 females (E.E.K.); July 21, 1951, 1 female (E.E.K.); Summer, 1951, 3 young (F.O. Novy, J. Fitzgerald); July 9, 1952, nest with eggs, 1 female (F.O.N.); June 22, 1953, nest with 8 eggs, 1 female (F.O.N.); July 4, 1953, 1 female and 7 young (E.E.K. and M. Pirnie); July 14, 1953, nest with 8 eggs, 1 female (F.O.N.); August 23, 1953, 6 young (F.O.N.). (Also see G. Wickstrom, 1953. *Jack-Pine Warbler*, 31:142.)

These observations are apparently the first records of inland nesting of the Redhead in Michigan and add to the number of summer records of adults of this species.—E. E. KENAGA, 1629 Isabella Road, Route 5, Midland, Michigan, January 7, 1953.