

dramus bairdi) as breeding near Wilsey, Kansas, on the basis of a set of eggs taken with two specimens of the bird. At the time this note was published, I wrote from the University of Kansas at Lawrence requesting that the specimens be forwarded for examination. Mr. Evans responded promptly to this request, and on receiving the skins, I found that they were not Baird's Sparrow, but instead were Henslow's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus henslowi*). The bird was unknown to Mr. Evans and his note was made on the basis of the eggs which he forwarded to a dealer for identification. Although Baird's Sparrow probably passes through western Kansas during migration there is no record known of this species for the State. I have made careful search for it at a number of localities in the eastern part of the State (a search that has entailed a considerable mortality among obscurely marked individuals of LeConte's Sparrow, a species that abounds in migration) but as yet have failed to find it.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

A Scarlet Tanager at Thirty-fourth Street, New York.—On May 22, 1899, I took lodgings at 30 West Thirty-fourth Street, New York City, for a stay of three days; and on one of these days, as I sat at a south window, looking out over nearby yards into a solitary, rather large deciduous tree, I caught sight of a Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga erythromelas*) descending from a great height in a northeasterly direction. A moment or two later he had alighted in the tree before me.

I do not remember what next happened to this bird, but I believe that he had disappeared when I returned to the window after a short absence. It may be assumed, I think, that he was migrating and, since he was making his journey so late in the month and did not go a few blocks farther to one of the parks before alighting, that he was an example of the laggards, more or less subnormal, which are always to be found at migration time.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

Bohemian Waxwing at Seattle, Washington, During the Winter of 1919-20.—After the remarkable invasion of this region in the winter of 1916-17 by the Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrula*), it was hardly to be expected that another might soon occur, but during the past winter 1919-20, this locality has again been visited by this attractive bird, although by comparison the number of individuals was not nearly as great as in the preceding flight of three years ago.

The first report given us of their occurrence came from Mr. C. J. Albrecht, of this city, who noted a small flock November 25, about twelve miles east of the city and from that date the birds began to be seen in flocks of varying sizes, these increasing in numbers until about the middle of December when the maximum appeared to be reached, and it is also at this time and during a few subsequent weeks that the largest flocks were seen, we on two occasions observing one aggregating fully two thousand individuals.

We had many opportunities to watch these beautiful birds and observe their actions, so quote our notes made at the time:

"December 22—The weather the past week has been lowery with frequent rains and a temperature at times as high as 52 degrees. This morning we heard the Bohemians and found them in the same locality where we had previously seen flocks on two other occasions. The flock was a large one, a majority of the birds being perched in or near the top of a large maple tree, all headed directly into the wind which seems to be customary when any appreciable wind is blowing, from which individuals were constantly dropping down to feed on the berries in some adjacent mountain ash trees. As usual there was a constant movement in the flock, birds continually leaving it and returning and judging from the sound the greater number were uttering their soft rolling notes that are so pleasing to the ear.

"A striking and very noticeable thing about a flock is, when disturbed nearly all the birds will take wing and circle around a number of times until they come together in a close and compact body, then it appears as if at the same instant all were impelled by the same impulse to alight and the flock will sail up to the chosen spot on stiffly extended wings, this action on the part of each individual bird being uniform and so marked as to almost stamp their identity, and during these various evolutions the soft lisping notes of the birds are always much in evidence.

"December 25—We again watched the waxwings in the same locality as heretofore, it certainly is a favorite spot with them. For a long time our observations continued and we saw a repetition of the actions already noted, but among the birds in this flock were a few Cedar Waxwings, some California Purple Finches and the ever-present Western Robin, and these latter resented the intrusion of the Bohemians for they would frequently make a dash at the feeding birds and attempt to drive them away. This was futile for the Bohemians would simply shift their positions from wherever they might happen to be and resume feeding. During this time there was considerable noise made by all the birds which evidently had a reflex action on some few Shufeldt's Juncos and Oregon Chickadees in the neighborhood, for these quickly came over and joined the flock, making it quite a heterogeneous one.

"Among the Bohemians were many that evidently had eaten their full of the berries and these would quietly sit in the top of a large tree nearby and preen themselves, but from time to time some one of the birds with the same action as a flycatcher would fly from its perch after a passing insect, being at times successful, for on one occasion we were close enough to see the bird catch a large-sized light-colored moth. As these actions on the part of the birds were frequent there must have been numbers of the insects in the air.

"December 29—Early this morning saw a flock of the Bohemians alight in a large tree in the locality before mentioned, and as we watched

the birds several other flocks of varying numbers also appeared and joined the first, thus making a large one of nearly two thousand individuals, this estimate being based on as careful a count as could be made. The majority of the birds occupied the tops of three trees adjacent to each other from which many flew to small mountain ash trees close by to feed upon the berries, the remainder of the flock being perched on the telephone wires in the vicinity. There was a continual 'milling' going on in the flock, the individuals being constantly in motion, this activity being accompanied by their lisping notes.

"Near the base of the largest of the trees grew a tall decorative rose bush close to the edge of a retaining wall at the side of the street walk. This wall was about five feet in height, and as the bush had many hips numbers of the birds attempted to alight therein to feed, but its branches being too weak to sustain them would continually give way, and this in turn caused a constant commotion, for it kept the birds fluttering and interfering with each other and also dislodged many hips which fell to the walk beneath to be eaten by the birds alighting thereon.

"The appearance of this proceeding reminded one of a swarm of bees and the feeding birds were so engrossed as to be almost oblivious of our presence as we stood within a few feet of them.

"Several times the flock took wing and circled above the trees, then returned to scatter about—some in the bushes, some on the phone wires, but the greater number gathered in the tops of the trees and no matter how engaged or whether or not on the wing they did not cease their notes. Finally being disturbed all arose in a body, made a wide swing or two and breaking up into several small flocks left the locality."

Flocks of Bohemian Waxwings continued to be seen in this vicinity during January and the early part of February, after which their numbers rapidly diminished and they were less frequently seen. Our last record is March 1, when a few birds were noted by Mr. C. J. Albrecht in the northern part of the city.

The species was also well distributed throughout this region, for we have records of its appearance from as far to the north as Prevost, on one of the San Juan group of islands north of the eastern extremity of the Strait, this being given us by Mr. D. E. Brown, of Seattle, to as far south as Olympia, and it is a fair assumption that the movement must have been of quite wide extent.—S. F. RATHBUN, *Seattle, Wash.*

Bohemian Waxwing at Salem, Mo.—January 1, 1918, a bunch of about ten of these birds were seen in an apple tree near my home, in Salem, feeding on the withered apples still on the tree. They were very tame and unsuspicious, and one could come within ten feet of them as they fed, without disturbing them. Their lisping notes and their method of flight were like the Cedar Waxwing. They were, however, appreciably larger; the black stripe along the eye, the black spot on the throat, the



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