

A CORVID FROM THE MIOCENE OF COLORADO

EDWIN C. GALBREATH

Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

ABSTRACT.—Corvid sp. is reported from the upper Miocene beds of northeastern Colorado.

To my knowledge, corvids have not been reported from the Tertiary deposits of North America. Consequently, I consider it to be of interest and importance to record the discovery of a specimen of Miocene age in northeastern Colorado. The specimen was found in the lower part of the Pawnee Creek formation associated with the Kennesaw local fauna of upper Miocene age, in the SE¼ of sec. 28, T12N., R55W., Logan County, Colorado. For a detailed account of these deposits see E. C. Galbreath (A Contribution to the Tertiary geology and paleontology of northeastern

Colorado. Univ. Kansas Paleont. Contrib., Vertebrata No. 4, pp. 1-120, pls. 1-2, figs. 1-26; March 15, 1953).

The new material, the distal end of a right humerus (Southern Illinois University Zoology Department No. P 198), may be best designated as Corvid sp. In size (8.8 mm. in diameter) the fragment is comparable to the humeri of males of *Nucifraga columbiana* from Crater Lake National Park, Klamath County, Oregon. Comparison of this specimen with the humerus of individuals of several species of corvids shows structural differences.

The value of this discovery lies in demonstrating that at least one kind of corvid was present in North America as early as late Miocene times.

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