

The nests, with one exception, have been placed on horizontal limbs of a distance of from five to fifteen feet out from the trunk of the tree, and from seven to thirty feet high. On July 15, 1907, a nest containing young just hatched was found placed about seven feet up, and in, next to the body of a small, gnarly, dead spruce, with the stub of a limb and a few small twigs the only support. In all cases the nests have been composed of the same materials, and alike in structure. From a hasty glance they seem light and flimsy; but as a matter of fact, they are quite compact. The small under platform does not exceed much in size the nest proper, or heavy lining, and is built of the small dead twigs of the mountain maple, willow, or pine, according to location. On top of this is placed coarse weeds and straws, into which is worked a fine, wire-like weed, of the previous year's growth, until finally the lining proper consists of this weed altogether. It is quite remarkable how dense and well conformed this stiff and brittle wire-like weed becomes. Of course at the time the nest material is gathered it is still damp, and flexible; for it is secured from the few spots here and there that are bared of the snow on the sunny exposures. Invariably the nesting site chosen is in a lone tree on the edge of the timber, on or near the point of a mountain always having a good outlook.

The earliest date of the finding of a completed nest is May 25, the latest July 1. The laying of eggs is commenced from two to ten days from the time when the nest is completed. Three seems to be the common complement; in one instance, only, was a nest found containing four young. The earliest date of the finding of young in the nest is July 12, then about three days old. The latest date is August 20, with young ready to fly. Upon inquiry at several of the mines which continue work throughout the entire winter, we are told that this Grosbeak is a constant resident. The elevation of these mines varies from 7,000 to 8,500 feet.

## NOTES ON SOME MESA COUNTY, COLORADO, BIRDS

By EDWARD R. WARREN

THE LAST of April and first half of May, 1912, I spent in western Mesa County, Colorado, collecting. Some birds not before recorded from the County were collected, and some observations made on other species are herewith recorded. The only list we have of Mesa County birds is Rockwell's "Annotated List of the Birds of Mesa County, Colorado," in *THE CONDOR*, July, 1908. The first portion of my time was spent at Mack, ten miles east of the Utah line, and the latter part at the Sieber Ranch, on Little Dolores Creek, twenty miles westward from Grand Junction.

**Tyrannus verticalis.** Arkansas Kingbird. First seen near Mack, April 26, and others the first week in May. Also seen at Sieber Ranch May 12, and common in the town at Grand Junction, May 15-16.

**Tyrannus vociferans.** Cassin Kingbird. Common at Sieber Ranch May 10-14, decidedly outnumbering the preceding species at this place. I have mentioned these two species, as my friend Rockwell seemed a little in doubt about their relative abundance and distribution, and any additional records will help clear the matter up.

**Empidonax griseus.** Gray Flycatcher. Two were collected near Mack, April 24 and 26, and one at the Sieber Ranch, May 10, the first record for the County.

The skins were identified by Mr. H. C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey, to whom acknowledgments are due for this and other identifications mentioned beyond.

**Agelaius phoeniceus neutralis.** San Diego Redwing. A small series of redwings collected at Mack were identified by Oberholser as *neutralis*, making the first record for Mesa County.

**Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys.** White-crowned Sparrow. Made its first appearance at Mack sometime between April 29 and May 6. I was away from there, out of the County, between those dates. It was common May 6.

**Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli.** Gambel Sparrow. This bird was common at Mack April 21, and remained so until the 29th. It no doubt left soon after that date for I saw none on my return May 6, when its place had been taken by the typical form.

**Spizella breweri.** Brewer Sparrow. One collected and others seen, May 6, near the Grand River, three miles west of Mack. First record for County.

**Junco oreganus shufeldti.** Shufeldt Junco. One collected near Mack, May 6, and identified by Oberholser. First record for County.

**Junco hyemalis mearnsi.** Pink-sided Junco. This species was seen and collected at Mack, April 26 and 27, and at the Sieber Ranch, May 12-15. The five specimens collected were all females, the males probably having left for their summer homes some time previously. Rockwell gives this species merely a passing mention, without locality, so I have thought it best to make this definite record.

**Amphispiza bilineata desertycola.** Desert Sparrow. Seen and collected near Mack, April 23-27, the first record for Mesa County. The birds frequented a mesa with scattering cedars and pinons on it about two and one-half miles west of Mack, apparently preferring the low brush about the edges of the gulches and at the foot of the mesa.

**Lanivireo solitarius plumbeus.** Plumbeous Vireo. Taken on Little Dolores Creek, near the Sieber Ranch, May 12. The first record for the County.

**Vermivora celata.** Orange-crowned Warbler. Taken at the Sieber Ranch May 12, the first record for the County. The specimen was identified by Oberholser as belonging to his subspecies *orestera*, which, however, has not yet been accepted by the A. O. U. Committee.

**Dendroica nigrescens.** Black-throated Gray Warbler. One collected at the Sieber Ranch May 10, and my notes say it was very common there May 14. Rockwell gives but one record of it, at Grand Junction.

**Polioptila caerulea obscura.** Western Gnatcatcher. Collected at the Sieber Ranch May 10-14. Several were seen. This is another of the birds of which Rockwell gives but one record.

## SOME FURTHER NOTES FROM THE TAHOE REGION

By MILTON S. RAY

WITH TWO PHOTOS BY OLUF J. HEINEMANN

THE FIRST three weeks of June, 1909, were spent in field work at various elevations around the southern end of Lake Tahoe. From our varied experiences, however, I have only culled those notes which are most likely to be of interest.