

frequently heard and occasionally seen in the evenings, but so far there have been no returns from the bands. Next spring may bring some results, when a brooding bird may be examined, and possibly its identity established.—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Buena Park, California, October 12, 1924.*

Occurrence of the Alpine Three-toed Woodpecker in Washington.—On July 12, 1923, an adult male Three-toed Woodpecker was collected at the Wenatchee Ranger Station, Asotin County, in the Blue Mountains of Washington. It was later pronounced *Picoides americanus dorsalis*, by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. This species, not previously recorded for the state of Washington, was found breeding in the locality, a nest being discovered in a live, healthy-looking larch (*Larix occidentalis*). The entrance hole, about twenty-five feet from the ground, was cut through perfectly sound bark. The specimen is now in the Washington State College collection.—WILLIAM T. SHAW, *Pullman, Washington, November 3, 1924.*

Rocky Mountain Jay Using its Feet for Carrying Purposes.—Reading in the November CONDOR (XXVI, 1924, p. 226) the notes under the title "More Birds that Grasp Objects with the Feet" reminds me of a case in point—one concerning a species not mentioned in those notes.

On my arrival at a snow-shoe cabin a few weeks ago, the usual half-dozen Rocky Mountain Jays (*Perisoreus canadensis capitalis*) came to await the scraps from my first meal. The latter consisted of bacon rinds, crumbs, and the like. I think it was one of the rinds—at least the morsel was about that size—which one of the jays grasped with *one foot* and, so carrying it, flew away with it. He had picked up the scrap within fifteen feet of me.—E. J. SAWYER, *Park Naturalist, Yellowstone Park, Wyoming.*

The Coues Gadwall Extinct.—In the Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club for 1876, p. 46, Dr. T. H. Streets described a native duck from Washington Island, in the Fanning group, under the name *Chaulelasmus couesi*. The following year, in the American Naturalist for 1877, p. 68, Streets relates that when he visited Washington Island in 1874 "the lake and peat-bogs were tenanted by a diminutive species of duck of the genus *Chaulelasmus*." These apparently are the only first-hand observations on this species that have been published, since Phillips, in his Natural History of the Ducks, vol. 2, 1923, p. 158, states that he has found no further record of the bird.

During work in the Pacific, in 1923, I had associated with me for a period of several weeks Mr. W. G. Anderson of Honolulu who was born about thirty years ago on Fanning Island, near the equator south of Hawaii, and who spent his boyhood and youth on that island and on Washington about eighty miles distant. He informs me that migrant ducks come to Fanning and Washington in considerable numbers from November to March each year, and that their hunting is a regular sport. Anderson is thoroughly familiar with the lake and peat bog on Washington Island, so that such a curiosity as a resident duck would certainly have come under observation. During all of his years of residence, however, he knew nothing of the native Gadwall, so that the species must have been extinct for many years.

The only specimens preserved are the two taken by Streets (now in the U. S. National Museum), and our only knowledge of its habits is the brief note by Streets in the American Naturalist. The species was probably exterminated by settlers who did not recognize it as distinct from other ducks encountered as migrants.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C., November 26, 1924.*

The Socorro Warbler Added to the A. O. U. Check-List.—The Socorro Warbler (*Compothlypis graysoni*) has heretofore been regarded as restricted in habitat to Socorro Island, one of the Revillagigedo group, located about two hundred and fifty miles southwest of Cape San Lucas, Lower California. On November 3, 1923, I collected one of these birds at Todos Santos, on the Pacific Ocean side of the peninsula of Lower California, some forty miles north of Cape San Lucas. It is now in the collection of Dr. Louis B. Bishop. I was unable to ascertain the sex, but Dr. Bishop believes the

bird to be a male. The specimen was first identified by Dr. Bishop; then, to be positive of its identity, he sent it to Washington, D. C., to Dr. H. C. Oberholser, who confirmed this identification.

On February 5, 1924, I saw another of these little warblers, within a few feet of me; but my gun was not at hand, so I had to be content with a sight record. The locality was inland, at El Oro, on the east side of the Victoria Mountains, about thirty miles from Todos Santos.

The next occurrence, like the first, was at Todos Santos, where, on July 23, 1924, I secured an adult female which is now in my collection at the Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles. The taking of these two birds, in the winter and summer of two successive years, would indicate that the species is of more or less regular occurrence in the Cape Region of Lower California. The capture of a specimen in July suggests the possibility of breeding at the point of record. The writer can find no other statement of the Socorro Warbler having been taken within the area covered by the A. O. U. Check-List.—CHESTER C. LAMB, *La Paz, Lower California, Mexico, September 17, 1924.*

The Olive-backed Thrush of California.—All through July, 1923, Olive-backed Thrushes were present in fair numbers, and in full song, in the dense alder clumps and thickets that fringe the mountain meadows in the vicinity of Mammoth, Mono County, California (altitude 8000 feet). Four specimens were taken; one by the writer, no. 12805, collection of Donald R. Dickey, and three by Dr. Loye Miller. Beside these, there is a specimen, no. D 429, collection of D. R. D., taken at Mammoth, July 8, 1916, by Laurence M. Huey. This station lies on the eastern slope of the Sierras. No nests were found, but the condition of the specimens which were taken left no doubt as to their breeding activity. There is also in the Dickey collection a male, no. 11920, coll. of D. R. D., taken July 17, 1916, on the North Fork of the Yuba River, at Sierra City, Sierra County (altitude 4500 feet). This locality is on the western slope of the mountains. All of these birds, as well as a female, no. 7856, coll. of D. R. D., taken June 18, 1908, at Stehekin, Chelan County, Washington, are notably grayer and less rufescent dorsally than birds from the eastern United States. In fact, the latter are more or less intermediate between *ustulata* and *almæ*, just as Oberholser stated in his description of *Hylocichla ustulata almæ* (Auk, xv, p. 304). Eastern birds are also more heavily spotted below. Therefore I have no hesitancy in using the name *almæ* for the western specimens enumerated above. The only uncertainty is in connection with which specific name to employ. Based on California birds alone, these should be called *Hylocichla swainsoni almæ*, but as intergradation may occur in other regions, I do not at present feel justified in advocating such procedure.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Pasadena, California, November 24, 1924.*

Some Unusual Birds at or near San Diego.—Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawk (*Archibuteo ferrugineus*). The winter of 1923-24 saw quite a flight of these hawks, more than I ever noted here before. I had specimens from Escondido, Ramona, El Cajon, Campo, and National City. These birds seemed to have fed entirely on gophers; only one changed to ground squirrel.

Richardson Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius richardsoni*). One of these birds was shot here about the end of September, 1915. It is now in the Museum in Balboa Park.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*). The first time I ever noticed this species in San Diego was in October, 1919, when at least eleven were here for several days, in company with a flock of migrating warblers. All the birds were exceedingly tame, but each nuthatch had to have a tree to itself, one chasing the other away whenever two happened to get onto the same tree.

Wood Ibis (*Mycteria americana*). A single Wood Ibis was seen here on January 14, 1921. It was standing in a small field of alfalfa near the road. This species usually appears in midsummer, March 17 being my earliest previous date. I suppose Wood Ibises might stay the year around if let alone; at present, on account of the dry year, we are short of puddles for them to feed in.—HENRY GREY, *Mission Valley, San Diego, California, September 15, 1924.*