

there are at least two authentic published notes on its nesting in western Washington. Rathbun (Auk, Vol. XIX, 1902, p. 135) found a nest at Seattle on June 14, 1893, and Suckley (l.c.) obtained a nest with young nearly fledged on the Nisqually Plains August 5, 1853. (Cantwell MS) reports two pairs breeding at Dungeness on June 2 and 3, 1916, but does not specify whether he actually found nests.—WALTER P. TAYLOR, *U. S. Biological Survey, La Jolla, California.*

**Prairie Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*) in Maryland in Summer.**—Under this title it is stated under General Notes in 'The Auk' for October, 1922, that three specimens of the above named bird were the first ones to be recorded for Maryland in summer. The undersigned has taken this race summer and winter in Allegany and Garrett Counties, Maryland since about 1900, and recorded them as breeders as early as 1904, (Auk, Vol. XXI, p. 238; Vol. XXXVII, p. 555). And in the preface to the first named article, entitled, 'Birds of Allegany and Garrett Counties, Western Maryland,' it is said that each statement made was backed up by specimens taken. This makes it a little hard to understand how specimens taken in 1922 can be recorded as "apparently the first" specimens of that subspecies taken in summer.—C. W. G. EIFRIG, *504 Monroe Ave., Oak Park, Ill.*

**Doctor Suckley on the Magpie versus Livestock.**—In connection with the note by Schorger (Auk, Vol. XXXVIII, 1921, pp. 276-277) and the paper by Berry (Condor, Vol. XXIV, 1907, pp. 13-17) on the subject of attacks on sheep by the Magpie, it is of interest to observe that Dr. George Suckley, naturalist of the eastern division of the Stevens survey for a railroad route near the 47th and 49th parallels, more than 60 years ago published an observation upon depredations of this bird upon live stock, in this case horses and mules. In Suckley's portion of the account of the Magpie in the 'Report upon the Birds Collected on the Survey' (Pacific Railroad Reports, Vol. XII, Book II, Pt. 3, 1860, pp. 213-214) he writes: "This bird is mischievous and gluttonous, but not so tame or so fond of the society of man as the European species. They are very much disliked by the frontier traders and mountain men of interior Oregon on account of their vile propensity to alight on the sore backs of broken down and chafed horses or mules, most unceremoniously picking and feeding upon the raw, sore flesh, notwithstanding the moans, kicks, and rolling of the poor tortured animals. In this manner many disabled beasts have been most irretrievably injured, and probably a vast number even killed. It is said that the mountain men and trappers of former times so hated this bird, on account of its evil propensity for horse flesh, that when one of them possessed but two bullets he was sure to fire *one* at a magpie if he had an opportunity."—WALTER P. TAYLOR, *U. S. Biological Survey, La Jolla, California.*