

Allende—a town about twenty five kilometers northwest of Tuxtla. Other pelicans reached the large River of Chiapa and stayed there for some days. Of course many of the birds that alighted on dry ground were slaughtered by relentless natives.—MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Museo de Historia Natural, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, México*.

Notes on two species in Puerto Rico.—Having resided many years on the south coast of Puerto Rico (until August, 1947) I was much interested in the article by Ventura Barnés on Puerto Rican avifauna in *The Auk* of July, 1947. On two of the species he lists I have notes.

Cape May Warbler.—Seen only twice, on both occasions near Guanica. Once, January 29, 1924; the other, April 20, 1934. Apparently the species is rare along the coast but common in the higher interior of the island.

Puerto Rican Short-eared Owl.—I have three records and three reports from others between 1919 to 1925, indicating that it was not very rare along the eastern part of the south coast in those years. No records since 1925, perhaps due to little time for observations. It was seen August, 1919, nine miles west of Guayama; April 25, 1922, four miles east of Guayama; and July 5, 1925, three miles northwest of Santa Isabel. The three reports came from points between Santa Isabel and Salinas. Altogether these three accounted for six or eight owls. My records were all of birds flushed in pastures, two near cane fields, and one from a partly wooded valley pasture. The three reports were also from pastures. An excerpt from my note of April 25, 1922, says: "It rose over my head calling 'keck keck' four or five times in a tone almost like a toy trumpet."—F. A. PORTS, *Waupaca, Wisconsin*.

Yellow-headed Blackbird breeding in western Oregon.—For many years the Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) has been one of the conspicuous breeding birds of the extensive tule marshes east of the Cascade Range in Oregon. Though it often ranges westward into the mountains about the alpine lakes, it has always been considered a rare bird west of the mountains. Shelton (1917) failed to mention this bird as occurring in west-central Oregon, and Gabrielson and Jewett (1940) list it as an "irregular visitor west of Cascades" with a few winter records from near Sweet Home, Portland, and in Curry County.

On May 10, 1947, while checking over the bird population of a marsh at the northeast end of the Fern Ridge Reservoir about eight miles west of Eugene, Oregon, I counted six males of this species. All six were singing and acting very much as though they had mates near by. Revisiting this marsh on May 16, I found a dozen males and nearly as many females. Going into the cattails, I discovered five nests of this species. Three were still empty, but one nest contained one egg and another four eggs.

This area was not visited again until June 12 at which time two males and one female were seen at the southeast end of this same reservoir. On visiting the original colony again on June 14 for the purpose of photographing the adults, I found six nests not located previously. Two had produced young as evidenced by the excreta covering the nests. Two more contained three eggs, each, and the last two nests were still under construction. Several females were observed carrying food for young but the nests containing these young could not be found. The nests in all cases consisted of the dried leaves of the cattail (*Typha latifolia*) woven into a neat but bulky nest. They were usually about 18 inches above the water surface and attached to the stems of dead cattails. Not once was a nest attached to a live stem.

Talking with several persons living in this area before the Fern Ridge Dam was

built (1940-1942), I learned that these birds were not uncommon in the old Coyote Creek Marsh, now covered by this reservoir. No one seems to know how long they have been in this area as breeding birds.

REFERENCES

GABRIELSON, IRA N., AND JEWETT, STANLEY G.

1940. Birds of Oregon. Oregon State Monographs, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon.

SHELTON, ALFRED C.

1917. A distributional list of the land birds of west central Oregon. University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

—GORDON W. GULLION, *Eugene, Oregon.*

Florida Gallinule in Utah.—On June 24, 1947, the writers, accompanied by Noland Nelson, Utah Fish and Game biologist, sighted a Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus cachinnans*) in Unit I of the Ogden Bay Bird Refuge, five miles northwest of Hooper, Utah. This bird was sighted on the shore of the lake at about 30 yards distance. Identification was positively made by the three observers with the use of a pair of 9 x 35 field glasses. Further identification was made when the bird was again flushed from a distance of 10 yards. This constitutes the first known record of the occurrence of the Florida Gallinule in Utah.—CLARENCE COTTAM AND JESSOP B. LOW, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

Townsend's Warbler in Brooklyn, New York.—On the morning of May 8, 1947, while birding in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, N. Y., during a cold North-west wind, I observed a warbler fly in and land with a loud *chip* near the top of a tall evergreen. With 7 x 50 coated binoculars it was immediately apparent that the bird had a yellow face and under parts, with a black cap, throat, and cheek patch. In the ensuing half hour, the bird descended to lower levels and fed with other warblers in a sycamore maple, and thus afforded excellent views. It was unquestionably a male Townsend's Warbler.

Cruikshank ('Birds around New York City': 389, 1942) mentions the bird seen by Dr. W. T. Helmuth at East Hampton, Long Island, on August 18, 1934, as undoubtedly correct, but quotes Dr. Helmuth's suggestion that "if the species be mentioned at all . . . it be relegated to the hypothetical list." He mentions two other eastern records—one bird collected in Pennsylvania and one seen in Massachusetts.

Considering the rarity of this Pacific Coast accidental, I was extremely fortunate to substantiate this record upon returning the following morning with Mr. Walter Sedwitz and observing the bird in the same area. That afternoon further confirmation was made by Mr. Geoffrey Carleton. The next morning, May 10, Mr. I. Alperin, Mr. W. Sedwitz and myself again located the bird, and a few hours later it was carefully observed by eight members of the Brooklyn Bird Club.

The bird ranged from tree-tops to the very ground, itself. Everyone had ample opportunity to make detailed plumage studies. Although the specimen was not taken, I would like to suggest that this easily identifiable bird, observed by a dozen competent observers, be given place among the birds listed for New York State.—DR. M. A. JACOBSON, *New York, N. Y.*

Glossy Ibis breeding in South Carolina.—The first breeding record for the Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) in South Carolina was made on June 15, 1947, when I found a pair of these birds nesting in Washo Reserve, an old rice plantation back-water or reservoir, near the mouth of the Santee River about 45 miles northeast of Charleston. With the exception of a pair found breeding near Southport, North