

ground under a large pepper tree in his yard on 13 December and was not seen again until it appeared in an apricot near his residence in the late afternoon of the day it was collected. The bird was given to Dr. James Crouch of the San Diego State College by Mr. Brode, and Dr. Crouch then gave the specimen, in frozen condition, to the San Diego Society of Natural History. It was identified and prepared as a cabinet specimen by Laurence M. Huey and is now No. 30257 in the Museum's collection. This specimen represents the westernmost occurrence of this species, and is the first record for California.

On 15 October 1960, an adult male Black-throated Green Warbler, *Dendroica virens virens*, was found dead in the garden at No. 1016 Cypress Way, a few blocks north of Balboa Park. A young naturalist, M. J. Briggs, attempted to skin the bird, and it was left in a mutilated condition. The writer later found and identified the bird and, by repairing the damage, made it into a presentable cabinet specimen, which is now No. 30259 in the Museum's collection. This represents the third record for the species in California. The two former records were both from the Farallon Islands; one collected on 29 May and the other seen on 1 June 1911 (Dawson, *Condor*, 13: 168, 1911).—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California*.

Recent Additions to the Avifauna of Alberta.—A check-list of all the birds known to occur in Alberta at the time of publication was included in Salt, W. Ray, and A. L. Wilk (*The Birds of Alberta*, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of Alberta, pp. 511, 1958). Since that time several species not previously recorded have been found within the borders of the province. Two of these have been recorded by Boag (*Can. Field-Nat.*, 72: 173–174, 1958) and Wishart (*Auk* 76: 358, 1959). The following account of the observation or collection of specimens of five species not previously recorded in Alberta brings this check-list up to date.

Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli, Black-crowned Night Heron

This species has recently become established as a breeding bird in Alberta. First reports of its occurrence came from G. Freeman of Strathmore, who observed several Black-crowned Night Herons in the vicinity of Strathmore on several occasions during the summer of 1958. Since that time the species has been observed and specimens have been secured at several points as far north as Edmonton. No adult specimen has been taken. The species now appears regularly during the summer in the Strathmore and Tofield areas. Nests have been found at Beaverhills Lake near Tofield. The herons here choose nesting sites in rushes over water in preference to bushes that border the marsh. Mortality by drowning among the young is high.

Branta bernicla hrota, Brant

Branta nigricans, Black Brant

Three records of Brant in Alberta are substantiated by specimens or by photographs.

A Brant was shot from a small flock of about a dozen birds at Clairmont Lake near Grande Prairie by Mr. A. R. Peterson on 7 October 1957. The head and neck and a description of the bird were sent to the office of the Canadian Wildlife Service in Edmonton. The specimen was apparently not preserved. Mr. Tom

Barry of the Canadian Wildlife Service identified the specimen as a Brant and concluded from the description that the bird was probably a Black Brant.

On 18 October 1959 Mr. Fred Martel of Jasper photographed a Brant as it fed on a grassy slope leading from Lake Annette near Jasper. Mr. Martel was uncertain of the identification of this bird and made field notes of its markings. From the field notes and the photographs it appears that this bird was an intergrade between *Branta bernicla hrota* and *Branta nigricans*. Intergrades of these two species are discussed by Manning, Höhn, and Macpherson (*The Birds of Bank's Island*, Bull. 143, Nat. Mus. of Canada, Ottawa, 1956), who present in Plate VII a photograph of a group of skins of "eight brant, *B. b. hrota* and *B. b. bernicla* graded according to the color of the lower breast." The Brant photographed by Mr. Martel is comparable to the specimen marked Grade IV on this plate, with respect to the color of the breast. It has a broad, white neck ring. It appears to be an intergrade with a slight preponderance of color characteristics of the Black Brant.

On 24 September 1960 Lt. Col. D. G. Greene of Edmonton shot a Brant at Cooking Lake, 42 kilometers (25 miles) east of Edmonton. The bird was alone and in flight. The specimen was presented to the University of Alberta, where it is preserved in the collection of the Department of Zoology. This bird is an immature female American brant, *Branta bernicla hrota*.

These three records are particularly interesting, since they indicate that Brant passing through Alberta may be either the eastern or the western form or intergrades between these two.

Mareca penelope, European Widgeon

A male European Widgeon was collected 27 April 1959 by Mr. Bernard Hamm of Grande Prairie. The bird was sitting on the ice of Valhalla Lake about 56 kilometers (35 miles) northwest of Grande Prairie, in company with four American Widgeon. The specimen is preserved in the collection of Mr. Hamm. Although previous sight records have suggested the sporadic occurrence of this species in Alberta, this is the first specimen to be taken in the province.

Larus glaucescens, Glaucous-winged Gull

On 2 June 1960 a wounded gull bearing a band was found on the shores of Therien Lake, near St. Paul, Alberta. The band was not removed, and the bird was released. Fish and Wildlife Officer G. W. Steedsman sent the information through the usual channels reporting the bird as an immature Ring-billed Gull.

The band (#597-56837) had been placed on a young Glaucous-winged Gull by Wm. Merilees of Vancouver, B. C. The bird was banded on Christie Island, 32 kilometers (19 miles) NNW of Vancouver, on 19 July 1959. When queried upon the possibility of error in identification, Mr. Merilees replied (priv. corresp.), "The bird was probably five to six weeks old. . . . There can be no mistake as to species because no other gulls are known to nest in the area." The Glaucous-winged Gull has never previously been reported so far inland in Canada. The A.O.U. *Check-list* (1957) reports only one other comparable inland occurrence in North America.—W. RAY SALT, *Department of Anatomy, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.*

Comparison of Female Mallard with Female New Mexican Duck.—In 1958 the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish began a project to attempt the