

wings and tail. Mr. Ed L. Currier, of Tacoma, was with me and the bird did not seem at all afraid of either of us. The male did not appear at any time, which is surprising as he is usually in close attendance upon his mate.

The nest was placed twenty feet from the ground in a young fir, and was securely saddled on a good sized limb at a distance of six feet from the trunk of the tree. It is a compact structure composed externally of small dead fir twigs, various kinds of dry moss, and down from the cotton-wood flowers, showing a strong outward resemblance to nests of *D. auduboni*. But here the likeness between the two is at an end; for the lining consists of fine dried grasses, and horse-hair, with only a single feather from the wing of a western bluebird. The measurements are, externally, four inches in diameter and two and three-quarters inches deep; internally, two inches in diameter by one and a quarter inches deep.

The eggs, which are five in number, were incubated about four days. They have a rather dull white ground with the slightest suggestion of flesh color, heavily blotched and spotted with varying shades of red, brown and lavender. Their dimensions in inches are .68 x .53, .69 x .52, .69 x .52, .69 x .53 and .69 x .53.

Without any of a rather natural partiality on account of their rarity, I think they may be considered the handsomest of all the warbler's eggs.

Tacoma, Washington.

Summer Birds of San Francisco County, California

BY MILTON S. RAY

A WRITER in THE CONDOR recently stated: "San Francisco County being very small and covering not much more than the city limits, cuts but little figure ornithologically." Yet the following list of the birds found during the breeding season shows our little peninsula to be by no means devoid of bird-life, and as the county fronts on both the bay and ocean quite a formidable list of migrants and winter residents could be made. The county is nearly square in shape being about seven miles each way. The western half is only thinly populated, the Presidio Reservation, Golden Gate Park and a number of smaller districts to the south being the principal wooded sections. Introduced trees, such as pine, eucalyptus and cypress form the bulk of the timber. The balance of the unsettled portion is either barren or sparsely covered with the native scrub oak, willow or lupine bushes. Owing to the cool climate there are practically no shade trees in the city itself and as gardens of any extent are likewise scarce, the only bird which occurs and breeds within the city proper, with a very few exceptions, is the European house sparrow.

1. *Fulica americana*. American Coot. About the fresh water ponds of the park and elsewhere in the western half of the county the coot is a common breeder.
2. *Lophortyx californicus californicus*. California Partridge. A common resident especially in the park where, owing to the protection they receive, they have become exceedingly tame. Largest set of eggs noted, twenty-three.
3. *Zenaidura macroura*. Mourning Dove. A fairly abundant summer resident.
4. *Cathartes aura*. Turkey Vulture. Seen during spring and summer.
5. *Elanus leucurus*. White-tailed Kite. One seen in May, 1900.
6. *Buteo borealis calurus*. Western Red-tailed Hawk. Noticed in spring and summer as well as at other seasons.

7. *Falco sparverius*. American Sparrow Hawk. A rather common resident but I have never located any nests.
8. *Asio wilsonianus*. American Long-eared Owl. I shot one near Ingleside in May, 1892.
9. *Megascops asio bendirei*. California Screech Owl. A not uncommon resident; no nesting record.
10. *Geococcyx californianus*. Road-runner. One seen in the Golden Gate Park in May, 1891.
11. *Ceryle alcyon*. Belted Kingfisher. Sparingly resident in the southwestern corner of the county.
12. *Colaptes cafer collaris*. Red-shafted Flicker. A fairly numerous resident; no nesting record.
13. *Calypte anna*. Anna Hummingbird. A very common resident; many nesting records.
14. *Selasphorus rufus*. Rufous Hummingbird. Observed in spring and early summer; no nesting records.
15. *Selasphorus alleni*. Allen Hummingbird. Not uncommon during the summer; no nesting record.
16. *Sayornis nigricans*. Black Phoebe. Fairly abundant resident about the ponds and lakelets in the park as well as elsewhere in the county. I have found it nesting at several points. Several times I have noticed a pair of these birds about the wharves at North Beach.
17. *Empidonax difficilis*. Western Flycatcher. Very rare; I found a single nest in May, 1892, placed among the overhanging bark strips of an Australian gum tree (*Eucalyptis*) in the park.
18. *Otocoris alpestris actia*. California Horned Lark. I have seen these birds near Ocean View at the county line where a few probably breed.
19. *Aphelocoma californica californica*. California Jay. The jay is a rather common resident but their numbers are diminishing within the park limits on account of the war waged on these birds by the officials. Several nesting records.
20. *Corvus americanus hesperis*. California Crow. The crow is an extremely common bird on the opposite shores of Marin county and quite a few stray across the bay to the docks along the water front, the Presidio Reservation, and at times the Park. I do not believe any nest within the county, however.
21. *Sturnella neglecta*. Western Meadowlark. Seen near Golden Gate Park on several occasions, but more common in the fields near Ocean View where a few perhaps breed.
22. *Icterus bullocki*. Bullock Oriole. A rare summer visitant; nesting doubtful.
23. *Euphagus cyanocephalus*. Brewer Blackbird. It seems strange that this bird so common in all the adjacent counties should only be an irregular visitor wholly absent some years.
24. *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*. House Finch. A very common summer resident; many nests observed.
25. *Astragalinus tristis salicamans*. Willow Goldfinch. A fairly abundant bird in the summer; found nesting.
26. *Astragalinus psaltria hesperophilus*. Green-backed Goldfinch. A common breeder.
27. *Passer domesticus*. European House Sparrow. Naturally the commonest bird in the populated districts; but I think their numbers in the park and balance of the county are exceeded by that of the following species.
28. *Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*. Nuttall Sparrow. This is the charac-

teristic species of the county, and in the districts sparsely wooded or covered with lupine bushes it is frequently the only bird met with. A very common bird thruout the Park and Presidio Reservation, and strays also to the public squares and larger gardens in the vicinity. Nests are placed in lupine bushes or low situations in scrub oaks or pines altho occasionally as high as 30 feet up and sometimes on the ground. I have noted fresh eggs from April 1 to July 24. The percentage of infertile eggs runs very high. Eggs show great variation in size and color, some specimens being finely and thickly dotted and others heavily blotched with chocolate or light brown, obscuring the ground color, while another type is pale greenish-blue more or less heavily spotted and blotched with liver-brown frequently in the form of a circle around the larger end.

29. *Melospiza cinerea santæcruis*. Santa Cruz Song Sparrow. A common resident in the western half of the county especially about the fresh water ponds and lakes. I have also seen it at times in public squares in the heart of the city. Nests on the ground or in bushes a few feet up.

30. *Melospiza pusillula*. Salt Marsh Song Sparrow. Found sparingly in the marshy tracts in the southeastern corner of the county along the bay shore.

31. *Pipilo maculatus falcifer*. San Francisco Towhee. Common resident; nests in low bushes, scrub oaks or willows, or among overhanging blackberry vines. I have never found a nest placed on the ground, except once.

32. *Zamelodia melanocephala*. Black-headed Grosbeak. Scarce at all seasons; no nesting record.

33. *Hirundo erythrogastra*. Barn Swallow.

34. *Petrochelidon lunifrons*. Cliff Swallow. Both observed during the breeding season but the nesting of either within the county is questionable.

35. *Lanius ludovicianus gambeli*. California Shrike. But very seldom seen; no nesting record. Several times during the fall I have noticed it on the city streets.

36. *Vireo gilvus swainsoni*. Western Warbling Vireo. Noticed during the summer; no nesting record.

37. *Dendroica æstiva brewsteri*. California Yellow Warbler. Common summer resident, nesting usually in willows in the vicinity of water.

38. *Wilsonia pusilla chryseola*. Golden Pileolated Warbler. Summer resident, not numerous; no nesting record.

39. *Troglodytes aedon parkmani*. Parkman Wren. Rather scarce summer resident; no nesting record.

40. *Bæolophus inornatus*. Plain Titmouse. Rare; I found a single nest of this species in a tin can lodged in a pine tree, in May, 1892. It contained six eggs.

41. *Chamæa fasciata intermedia*. Intermediate Wren-tit. A not abundant resident; more frequently heard than seen. No nesting record.

42. *Psaltriparus minimus minimus*. California Bush-tit. A very common resident, nesting abundantly in scrub oaks and gum trees of the park and elsewhere. I have found completed nests as early as February 22, and fresh eggs the first week of March.

43. *Hylocichla ustulata ustulata*. Russet-backed Thrush. A common summer resident, principally in the park; several nesting records.

44. *Sialia mexicana occidentalis*. Western Bluebird. I have noticed but a single pair of these birds, and these, strange to say, were occupying a bird box on a pole in the yard of a residence in a thickly populated section known as "The Mission," March 1903.