

Dryobates nuttallii. Nuttall Woodpecker. Common. Breeding. Fully fledged juveniles secured in late May.

Tyrannus verticalis. Arkansas Kingbird. Abundant. Breeding.

Myiarchus cinerascens. Ash-throated Flycatcher. Common. Breeding.

Sayornis saya. Say Phoebe. Several seen.

Sayornis nigricans. Black Phoebe. Fairly common. Breeding.

Empidonax traillii. Traill Flycatcher. Common. Breeding.

Corvus brachyrhynchos hesperis. Western Crow. Common. Breeds in the willows along Kern River.

Molothrus (sp.?) Cowbird. An egg of some variety of the cowbird was found in each of several Least Vireo nests secured.

Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus. Yellow-headed Blackbird. Fairly common.

Agelaius tricolor. Tricolored Blackbird. Colony breeding.

Sturnella neglecta. Western Meadow Lark. Common.

Icterus bullocki. Bullock Oriole. Abundant. Breeding.

Euphagus cyanocephalus. Brewer Blackbird. Observed.

Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis. House Finch. Not common.

Astragalinus psaltria. Arkansas Goldfinch. Several seen.

Passer domesticus. English Sparrow. Common in the streets of Bakersfield.

Chondestes grammacus strigatus. Western Lark Sparrow. Fairly common.

Melospiza melodia heermanni. Heerman Song Sparrow. Common. Breeding.

Pipilo maculatus megalonyx. Spurred Towhee. Fairly common. Breeding.

Guiraca cærulea lazula. Western Blue Grosbeak. Fairly common. Breeding.

Petrochelidon lunifrons. Cliff Swallow. Several seen.

Tachycineta bicolor. Tree Swallow. Fairly common. Breeding.

Lanius ludovicianus gambeli. California Shrike. Fairly common. Breeding.

Vireo bellii pusillus. Least Vireo. Common. Breeding in the willow thickets along the river. Fresh sets and young birds found June 1st.

Dendroica æstiva brewsteri. California Yellow Warbler. Common. Breeding.

Icteria virens longicauda. Long-tailed chat. Common. Breeding.

Mimus polyglottos leucopterus. Western Mockingbird. Not common.

Toxostoma redivivum. California Thrasher. Fairly common. Breeding.

Thryomanes bewickii spilurus. Vigors Wren. Fairly common. Breeding.

Sialia mexicana occidentalis. Western Bluebird. Common. Breeding.

Long Beach, California.

A FAMILY OF YOUNG DUCK HAWKS

By JOSEPH DIXON

WITH TWO PHOTOS BY ANNIE M. ALEXANDER

ON June 16, 1907, we took three motherless, downy young Duck Hawks from their nest at Danger Point, near Killisnoo, Admiralty Island, Alaska. Even at this time they showed a noticeable difference in size. The largest one was just getting his eyes opened and began soon to take notice of the things going on about him. On June 19 the three weighed five and one-half, six and seven ounces.

The largest one was evidently from the first egg hatched and was always three

Sept., 1908

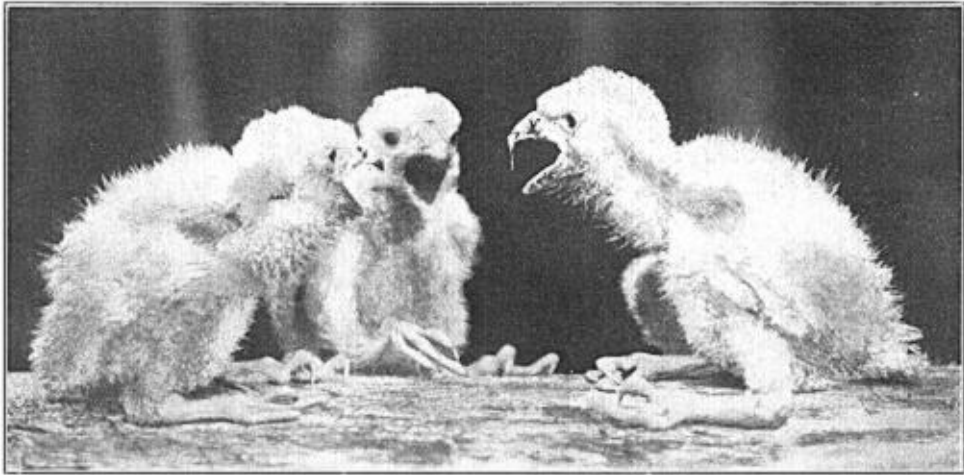
A FAMILY OF YOUNG DUCK HAWKS

or four days ahead of the smallest in strength, weight and wit. This large one was inclined to seize everything he could when it came meal time; in fact each one was always ready to grab anything he could out of the mouths of the others.

I gave them plenty to eat and most of their time was spent in sleeping and eating, so they grew amazingly. In five days they almost doubled in weight, having reached nine, eleven and one-half and twelve ounces, respectively. During the month following, they traveled several hundred miles on board the launch, but a rough sea seemed only to improve their appetites.

They were not particular as to their food as long as it was fresh meat, except that they preferred bird bodies to mice. On June 30 they weighed twelve, eighteen and twenty ounces. They had tremendous appetites and could eat almost their own weight of meat every day. At this time the largest one began to develop a few dark pin feathers and one day he discovered what his feet were made for.

On July 6 the hawks weighed twenty, twenty-three and twenty-five ounces each. The largest one was now learning to flop his wings and hop down the hill,



BROOD OF YOUNG DUCK HAWKS TAKEN FROM NEST NEAR KILLISNOO, ALASKA, JUNE 16, 1907

and once he uttered a genuine duck hawk cry. From this time they did not increase much in weight but went mostly to feathers.

A few days previous to this the middle-sized one became listless and refused to eat. This indicated that there must be something radically wrong with him, as his appetite had been the biggest thing about the bird. As time went on he grew worse instead of better and would just stand around and squall most of the time, still refusing food. Even two large doses of castor oil did not seem to improve his condition. On the eighth of the month I decided that it would be more merciful to kill the bird than to permit it to starve to death. A post mortem revealed the cause of the trouble. Its stomach was distended to the utmost capacity with hair, shot, moss, and other foreign substances of such a nature that they would not form pellets that could be thrown up.

I was away from camp for a week soon after this and upon my return could scarcely believe that such a change could have been wrought in so short a time. Instead of a frayed-out, half fuzzy, half feathered bird, the largest duck hawk was now a beautiful falcon with clean bright plumage and a general clear-cut neat ap-

pearance. The little one seemed ashamed of its juvenile clothes and could be seen sitting on the tent pulling out the old fuzzy feathers as fast as it could. It would grab a piece of down, brace itself and give a hard yank and out came the feather.

By this time the hawks began to hop around on the boxes and liked to sit on top of the tent when the sun was shining. They were very sociable and would come into the tent when allowed to do so, and showed much interest in the work



YOUNG ROUGH-LEGGED AND DUCK (TWO AT RIGHT) HAWKS,
 PHOTOGRAPHED JULY 12, 1907

being carried on, showing especial interest in the bird bodies. Often they would find a roll of cotton or some other soft warm place and nestle down and go to sleep.

On July 21 the larger bird weighed twenty-six ounces and the smaller one twenty-five ounces. They seemed to have reached almost their full size and the large one began to fly on this date. He was particularly "sassy" and was ready to fight anything at any time.

As the birds were sitting on top of the tent a crow came "cawing" over them. They both let out a defiant duck hawk war cry and did not seem to be in the least afraid. The smaller one died a few days later and from that time on I heard the older one utter the duck hawk yell only once. He seemed to miss his mate very much and spent most of the time gazing wistfully up into the blue.

On July 23, or practically six weeks after they hatched, the oldest duck hawk was able to fly and after that I had to keep him tied to a long piece of fish line to keep him from flying away altogether.

Palo Alto, California.

SUMMER BIRDS OF THE TULARE LAKE REGION

By E. A. GOLDMAN

THE Tulare Lake region occupies a depression along the western side of the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley in California. Besides Tulare Lake it may be understood to include the marshy areas from Summit Lake on the north to Kern Lake and Buena Vista Lake on the south. Summit Lake, perhaps less known than the others, is a small sheet of open water in the delta of Kings River, hemmed in by floating masses of peat and wooded islands. The sluggish currents of various sloughs carry the river waters away in two directions—northward to the San Joaquin River and southward to Tulare Lake.

In the course of field work for the Biological Survey the writer visited the region in the early summer of 1907, remaining from June 18 to July 12. Small collections of birds were made at Summit Lake, at various points along the northern