

call note, others like the hoarse chuck of a mockingbird—*very* hard to describe! A while ago the chat flew up through the air fifty feet or so, singing, with peculiarly drooping and flopping wings. I am sure a pair of Wren-tits have a nest nearby. Also a pair of Bush-tits, the latter probably in the oak, where I have seen them fly several times. Two Western Wood Pewees are about, one frequently in full pursuit of the other with loud snapping of bills, and muttered notes. A Turkey Buzzard is circling overhead. Just watched a female Green-backed Goldfinch laying the first foundation material for a nest five and one-half feet up in a tall weed (*Malva?*).

2:55—Just located the Bush-tit's nest. It is of usual style, six feet up in outer lower drooping oak branch; contained five half-grown young whose claws were clinched together tightly through the material of the nest bottom, and could only be pulled out by pulling the feathers, etc., to which they clung. No wind could dislodge them without tearing the nest to shreds first. The youngsters twitter loudly in chorus when a parent enters the nest with food.

Later—A pair of Mourning Doves have been feeding on the croquet ground by the Wood's house. I saw a Hammond Flycatcher perched on a stake in the reservoir, and another in the orchard. Also two Black Phoebes, and a female Yellow Warbler. At least three Phainopeplas are among the olives and pepper trees along the street. Have also seen about the ranch: Western Lark Sparrow, lots of Linnets, Mockingbirds, Western Chipping Sparrows, and Anthony Towhees.

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

### Some Changes and Additions to the List of Birds of Southwestern Montana.—

Owing to the fact that I neglected to have several bird-skins, collected in Southwestern Montana, properly identified until recently, I have one correction and one addition to make to my list in the last number of THE CONDOR. An adult male Red-winged Blackbird collected in the Silver Bow marshes, May 21, 1911, has been identified by Dr. L. B. Bishop as the Northwestern Redwing (*Agelaius phoeniceus caurinus*). He states that it agrees exactly with skins in his collection from the coast of British Columbia. This is all the more surprising because of the fact that I had every reason to believe it to be a breeding bird. I found several nests containing both eggs and newly hatched young in the Silver Bow marshes on the day this bird was secured. Since it is the only one of this species that I have taken in that part of Montana it leaves the breeding form of Redwing there in considerable doubt until more conclusive evidence can be obtained.

An adult female Junco, taken on Clear Creek, Deer Lodge County, October 9, 1910, Dr. Bishop identifies as the Oregon Junco (*Junco hyemalis oregonus*) stating that it is an unusually high-colored specimen even for that race. I had rather suspected that this form occurred among the migrant Juncos of western Montana for some time, but this is my first opportunity to prove it. I confidently believe that more extended collecting will prove it of regular and not rare occurrence.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS.

**Migration of White-necked Ravens.**—This past winter has been unusually cold and as a result there has been an utter absence of White-necked Ravens (*Corvus cryptoleucus*). Those from this section (Cochise County, Arizona) migrated in one immense flock the second Monday in last November. This flock extended over a distance of nearly three miles along the foot hills of the Dragoon Mountains near Gleason in this county. There did not seem to be any regular flight, but a sort of general slow movement to the south. The birds were present in many thousands and it was two days before the last stragglers disappeared. A few are now back again, the first being seen on the 22nd of February.

What few American Ravens I know of in this section did not share in the migration but were present in their usual haunts all winter.—F. C. WILLARD.

**The Western Marsh Wren Wintering Near Helena, Montana.**—On March 12, 1911, I observed a Marsh Wren (*Telmatodytes palustris plesius*) in cattail marshes near Helena, Montana. I both saw this bird closely and heard it sing several times, so that I feel certain of its species, though I was unable to secure it. This was in the same locality in which I found the Virginia Rail a few weeks before, reported in THE CONDOR, XIII, p. 108. Since the spring migration had barely started, only the Mountain Bluebird and Desert Horned Lark having arrived at that date, it is reasonable to suppose that the Wren was not a migrant but had spent the winter there. Wilson Snipe and a Virginia Rail were again observed there on this date.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS.

**Who Will Save the Band-tailed Pigeon?**—Band-tailed Pigeons (*Columba fasciata*) were abundant this winter from Paso Robles south to Nordhoff all through the coast range of mountains. One hunter from Los Olivos shipped over 2,000 birds to the San Francisco and Los Angeles hotels.

The morning train from San Luis Obispo to Los Olivos on Sundays averaged 100 passengers who came to hunt pigeons. A prominent hunter told me that these passengers averaged about thirty birds apiece per day. This would make this one day's excursion over 3,000 pigeons. Now!—this is only one train and one day's hunting. One can hardly calculate the number of birds killed by hunters in automobiles and those who started from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Santa Maria, Paso Robles, Lompoc and other small towns.

The writer, who is in the gun and ammunition business, was thoroughly disgusted with the game hogs who simply shot pigeons for the sport (?) and could not even eat them all. It is a shame that something is not done for these beautiful birds, which are doomed to follow in the footsteps of the Passenger Pigeon. I honestly believe that the people will never again see such a flight of Band-tailed Pigeons. In Nordhoff it is the largest they have ever seen, and the birds evidently hung around until they were simply shot out. This same state of affairs is probably true in other localities.

If something is not done very quickly these birds are doomed; for any bird that flies in such flocks is bound to be exterminated. What can be done?—W. LEE CHAMBERS.

**Two New Birds for Colorado.**—I wish to record two more species of birds new to the State of Colorado.

First, the Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*). Two of these birds were taken December 28, 18 miles northeast of Denver; one of them identified by Mr. Oberholser.

Second, the Sierra Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata sequoiensis*). Four of these birds have been taken in Colorado and three of them identified by Mr. Oberholser. One was taken on the Arkansas River, May 16, near Holly; one taken near Golden, May 2, and the other two taken west of the range near Granby on October 7, thus proving that they sometimes pass through Colorado both fall and spring.

All of the above are in the collection of the Colorado Museum of Natural History.—L. J. HERSEY.

**A Correction.**—My attention has recently been called to the fact that I recorded the Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*) in my list of birds of South-western Montana in the January, 1912, number of THE CONDOR. This is an error for which I am unable to account. The list should read *Passerculus sandwichensis alaudinus* (Western Savannah Sparrow).—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS.