Jan., 1916 CHARACTERISTIC BIRDS OF THE DAKOTA PRAIRIES

The next night at half past eight when the red light was fading in the west, a Nelson Sparrow was still banging cymbals in the marsh, and two Great Blues and a Night Heron apparently starting on their nightly hunt flew overhead between the marsh and the largest of the lakes.

Washington, D. C., May 23, 1915.

NEW AND INTERESTING BIRD RECORDS FROM OREGON

By STANLEY G. JEWETT

ROM April to September, 1915, the writer was engaged in field work for the United States Biological Survey. Work was conducted through the mountains and narrow valleys of east central and northeastern Oregon. Large collections of both birds and mammals were made, and extensive notes taken. The notes on the birds mentioned below are thought to be of sufficient importance to warrant publication at this time.

Canachites franklini. Franklin Grouse. This species of grouse is fast disappearing from its range in northeastern Oregon. During the early part of September I hunted, unsuccessfully, for specimens along the headwaters of the Imnaha River in Wallowa County, where the birds were formerly common and are still known to occur. I heard several reports of the occurrence of Fool Hens, as they are commonly called, but not until September 9, did I establish an authentic record, on which date I found the tail and several feathers of an adult male where some predatory animal had killed it. The locality was about a mile up Cliff River above its junction with the Imnaha River in the Wallowa Mountains. This grouse is undoubtedly often seen by prospectors and sheepherders in this section, as most of them are familiar with the Fool Hen as differing from the Richardson Grouse (*Dendragapus o. richardsoni*), which is common throughout the mountains of northeastern Oregon.

Selasphorus platycercus. Broad-tailed Hummingbird. This species was noted but twice; first at Dayville, on June 27, where a fine adult male was seen hovering about some honeysuckle flowers on the hotel porch several times during the day. This bird was seen at such close range that identification was sure by one familiar with the species. On June 30, 1915, an adult female was taken at Mount Vernon. This bird when shot was hovering over some flowers in a small opening in a cottonwood grove on the bank of the John Day River.

Myiarchus cinerascens cinerascens. Ash-throated Flycatcher. This flycatcher was met with twice in eastern Oregon. Two were seen in juniper trees near Prineville on June 3. An adult male was taken at Twickenham, in the John Day Canyon, on June 25.

Dolichonyx oryzivorus. Bobolink. On July 23, 1915, I found a colony of about twenty-five of these birds on the Griggs ranch, three miles west of the town of John Day. This colony is said to have been present each summer the past three years, during which time it has increased in numbers. Two females were taken for specimens. There is an old breeding colony of Bobolinks in Harney Valley near Burns; and at the Oregon Agricultural College I recently examined the skin of an adult male in spring plumage that was taken by Professor Shaw in Union County; but the label lacks the date of capture. As large tracts of our arid valleys are brought under irrigation it will be interesting to note what the effect will be on this meadow loving bird.

Pinicola enucleator montana. Rocky Mountain Pine Grosbeak. On September 9, 1915, several of these grosbeaks were seen in the Hudsonian Zone near the junction of Cliff and the Imnaha River in the Wallowa Mountains. A female in worn summer plumage was taken.

Junco hyemalis hyemalis. Slate-colored Junco. On April 12, 1915, a female of this eastern junco, probably a late spring migrant off her regular route, was taken in the willow brush along the south bank of the Columbia River on Miller's Ranch at the mouth of the Deschutes Canyon. This bird was with a small flock of Junco h. connectens when shot.

Vermivora r. gutturalis. Calaveras Warbler. Two males of this warbler were taken on Miller's Ranch, mouth of the Deschutes River in Sherman County, on April 16 and 17, 1915. On August 21 one was secured at McEwen in Baker County. All three specimens were collected while feeding in willow thickets.

Setophaga ruticilla. Redstart. Two immature males of this warbler were taken in the willow thickets along Powder River at McEwen on August 19 and 20, 1915.

Dumetella carolinensis. Catbird. An adult male catbird was taken at Mount Vernon, Grant County, on June 30, 1915. Another was seen flying across the road between John Day and Prairie City on July 8, 1915.

Catherpes mexicanus punctulatus. Dotted Canyon Wren. An adult male in very ragged plumage was taken at Mount Vernon on July 1, 1915. It was found on a rimrock on the dry slope of the valley at four o'clock in the morning, at which time it was singing lustily.

Regulus calendula calendula. Ruby-crowned Kinglet. While ploughing through about twelve inches of new wet snow in the lodgepole pine forest on Lookout Mountain, in Crook County on June 12, 1915, I was attracted by the cheerful song of a Rubycrowned Kinglet over my head. Upon looking for this bird I discovered two kinglets instead of one, and one of these was just disappearing in a clump of moss about thirty feet above the ground. The interesting thing about this particular clump of moss was that it contained the nest of this pair of birds, and furthermore the moss was growing on the twigs of a dead and leafless pine that stood some distance from any living tree. The nest was well hidden in the moss, and on this date was about ready for the lining, with both birds on the job of construction.

Hylocichla guttata auduboni. Audubon Hermit Thrush. Near the mining camp of Bourne, Elkhorn Mountains, Baker County, I discovered the nest and eggs of this thrush on August 3, 1915. The nest was saddled on a limb next to the trunk of a small balsam fir, about eight feet from the ground. The nesting tree was growing in dense woods on the mountain side at about 6000 feet altitude. The female was flushed from the eggs when the nest was found.

ixoreus naevius naevius. Varied Thrush. On August 4, 1915, I collected a male of this species near Bourne in the Elkhorn Mountains. Several Varied Thrushes were seen in the Wallowa Mountains, near the junction of Cliff and the Imnaha River on September 7. These are rather late for breeding records; but a Varied Thrush does breed in these mountains, as my note book for 1907 contains a record of a nest containing four large young about a week old found at Anthony, Baker County, on May 14, 1907. Unfortunately no birds were taken at the time, but I still have the nest in my collection as a record. The nest was taken May 27, 1914, after both young and parents had left the locality.

Portland, Oregon, December 6, 1915.

A PERSONAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE DISTRIBUTIONAL LIST OF THE BIRDS OF CALIFORNIA

By WILLIAM LEON DAWSON

W E ARE all under the deepest obligation to Dr. Grinnell for his painstaking report upon the distribution of California birds. Dr. Grinnell is, as every member of the Cooper Club knows, exceptionally well qualified for this important task. Add to his intimate knowledge of California birds afield, an exhaustive acquaintance with published literature, and you have an equipment which has made of this Distributional List as perfect a work of its kind as could well be hoped for.

But the very perfection of opportunity represented by this effort affords,