

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

The Gray Jay at Lake Tahoe.—On August 17, 1923, my wife and myself while studying birds at Glenbrook, Nevada, on the eastern shore of Lake Tahoe, had an excellent view of a Gray Jay (*Perisoreus obscurus griseus*). We were on an elevated point some three hundred feet above the Lake, or at about 6500 feet above sea-level. The jay was perched on top of a large pine tree and we observed him there at rest for more than ten minutes.—HENRY E. PARMENTER, *Santa Barbara, California, November 10, 1923.*

The Nesting Places of Two Albatrosses in the South Seas.—The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology has recently had a gift from Captain John Bollons, New Zealand Government Marine Service, of a number of eggs of Australasian sea birds.

Captain Bollons, who is well known in New Zealand as a practical ornithologist and careful observer, in transmitting these eggs points out some of the breeding differences between the albatross peculiar to the New Zealand seas, the Royal (*Diomedea regia*), and the Wandering Albatross (*Diomedea exulans*). On the eastern side of Adams Island, one of the Auckland Group, 300 miles south of New Zealand, only *D. regia* nests. Four miles away on the same island, but to the southwest, only the nests of *D. exulans* are to be found. On Adams Island the latter bird nests four or five weeks earlier than *regia*. On Antipodes Island are found only the nests and eggs of *exulans*, none of the Royal. On the other hand, Campbell Island is the chief nidification ground for many *regia*; only a few nests of *exulans* have been found there. The eggs of the two species resemble one another; those of *D. regia* are, however, the larger.—CASEY A. WOOD, *Chicago, Illinois, December 8, 1923.*

An Intelligent Crow.—The following incident showing good power of adapting means to accomplish a desired end, as exhibited by a captive Northwestern Crow (*Corvus caurinus*), was related to me by Miss Adelaide King, of the U. S. Biological Survey, at Portland, Oregon. It is hereby presented in Miss King's own words.

"While passing through the City Park in Portland, Oregon, one afternoon recently, I saw a crow in one of the bird enclosures trying to pry a peanut out of a crack in a bamboo perch on which he was sitting. This bamboo perch had a rather large crack in it, and a peanut that had been thrown into the cage had lodged there. The crow worked with his bill for quite a time, unsuccessfully. He then stopped and looked on the floor of his cage. Observing a small stick he picked this up and flew back on the perch and worked on the peanut with the stick. With this he was able to push the peanut along the crack, but not to get it out. When he had pushed the peanut quite near the edge of the cage, he hopped around to the other side and pushed in the other direction. He finally succeeded, with the little stick in his bill, in prying the nut onto the floor of his cage, where he jumped down and got it."—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, October 18, 1923.*

Late Occurrence of the Broad-tailed Hummingbird in Colorado.—During an early snowstorm on October 24, 1923, a female Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) flew into an open window in one of the rooms of the University of Colorado Museum, at Boulder, where it was taken by the writer.

This is a later date than any heretofore recorded from Colorado. Slater in his *Birds of Colorado* says of this species: "It departs again in September, the males leaving some little time before the females and young birds. It was seen as late as October 15 by Robert Rockwell in Mesa County."

I have seen no reference to the occurrence of this species in the northern portion of the state later than September, although it is very common throughout the summer, and several pairs nested in Boulder last summer.—EARL THERON ENGLE, *Department of Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, November 3, 1923.*

Are the Feet of the Western Gull Ever Yellow?—Allan Brooks (Condor, vol. 24, p. 94) inquires as to the color of the feet of the Western Gull. He quotes Ridgway as saying that they are "yellow (in life)" (Birds of North and Middle America, Part