

borhood. Duck hunters about a shallow lake in the Colorado River bottom referred to the species as "the big black hawk that catches ducks", and this impression seemed quite firmly grounded in their minds. For this reason stomach examination was attended with considerable interest. The first, a male, contained feathers and bones of a Green-winged Teal. The second, a female, had the stomach filled with feathers and bird bones, among which were the entire foot and tarsus with part of the tibia of a Gilded Flicker. This latter species was, at this season and locality, very shy, and kept pretty well to the thick timber, so that the hawk must have employed a considerable measure of agility and speed to capture it. Such ability is scarcely liable to lie dormant, so the Harris Hawk may properly be considered as an appreciable factor in the limitation of the bird population in the Colorado River area of California.—LOYE MILLER, *University of California, Southern Branch, Los Angeles, January 12, 1925.*

Unpublished San Diego Records.—While cataloging the Frank Stephens collection of birds and mammals, which was presented by him to the Natural History Museum, San Diego, I have found the following specimens, not hitherto recorded, which appear worthy of notice.

Ashy Petrel (*Oceanodroma homochroa*): no. 2566, Natural History Museum Collection; male; taken April 20, 1916, by Frank Stephens on the Coronado Islands, Mexico; incubating one egg. I sent this specimen to Mr. H. S. Swarth, who in turn submitted it to Mr. Leverett M. Loomis, and both identified the bird as *Oceanodroma homochroa*. This is the most southern breeding station of this species yet recorded. Another specimen of *O. homochroa*, and so labeled, no. 2149, female, was picked up by Mr. Stephens on the beach south of Coronado after a storm, May 2, 1915. This specimen, interesting from the fact that it was found this far south so late in the season, tends further to establish *O. homochroa* as a breeder on the Coronado Islands.

Monterey Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata slevini*): no. 1701, Natural History Museum Collection; male; taken by Frank Stephens April 4, 1877, at Campo, San Diego County, California. There appear to be no specific migration records of this species for this region.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, San Diego, California, November 21, 1924.*

Bird Notes from Wheatland, Wyoming.—In carefully noting the remarks of the authors of the two publications put out by the University of Wyoming on Wyoming birds ("Birds of Wyoming" by W. C. Knight, and "Birds of Wyoming" by Grave and Walker), I find certain species of rather common occurrence in this section that are not mentioned as such in these bulletins. The increase possibly is due to the extension of irrigation and farming in this section. Knight puts the Virginia Rail (*Rallus virginianus*) in his hypothetical list, and Grave and Walker note it as an uncommon resident. This rail is common on the Wheatland Flats in practically every marsh that is wet enough to grow cat-tails, cress, and marsh grasses. One fact noted in its nesting that differentiates it from the Sora (*Porzana carolina*) is that it builds its nest exclusively in thick bunches of marsh grass over shallow water, while the Sora builds in the rushes over water at least six inches to two feet deep. The Virginia Rail seems to be about twice as common a bird as the Sora. In a marsh about four acres in extent, beside the Colorado and Southern Railroad, two miles north of Wheatland, I found on May 14, 1924, six Virginia Rail nests, as follows: one with eleven eggs, one with nine eggs, two with eight eggs, one with seven eggs, and one with three eggs. On the nest containing the eleven eggs I was successful in catching the female with my hands before she left. These rails are much slower to flush than the Sora, which I rarely find on the nest at first discovery. In addition to the above six Virginia Rail nests, I found three Sora Rail nests as follows: one with eleven eggs, one with nine eggs, and one with three eggs. The Sora is mentioned by Knight as a possible breeder. Grave and Walker found only one man (Metz, of Sheridan) who reported it as a common summer resident. I have but one record from as high an altitude as the Laramie Plains. June 10, while hunting for Wilson Phalarope nests back of the Wheatland Reservoir, we flushed a Sora from a bunch of grass in a marsh, and from her actions judged she had a nest or young, but careful search disclosed neither. In and about the Wheatland Flats, elevation 4700 feet, wherever marshes occur I find the Sora and Virginia rails in about the same proportion as in the instance cited.

Then, as regards the Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*): This bird is mentioned by Knight as a summer resident but not common. Grave and Walker state that only two observers reported it since 1902: Metz, of Sheridan, reports it a common summer resident, and Peabody, as occasionally nesting in Crook County. This bird I would list as a common summer resident in the Wheatland district, especially on the river bottoms, where every available old woodpecker hole and natural hole in trees along the Chugwater and certain portions of the Laramie contain their Robin-like nests. The birds nested this summer in the heart of Wheatland in a row of cotton-woods on one of the main streets of town. During the entire summer the birds can be seen in and about the town.

The Bob-white (*Colinus virginianus*) has extended its range to within three miles of Wheatland on Chugwater Creek. It is not uncommon to jump small coveys from the thick growth along this stream, from a point due east of Wheatland to the Laramie River, but they have not extended their range as yet up the Laramie west of the junction with Chugwater Creek.

Dickcissels (*Spiza americana*) are common on the eastern side of the Flats. I tried hard this last summer to find nests, in order to definitely establish a breeding record, but I was unsuccessful. The same is true of the Wilson Snipe, a bird which I believe to be resident here. I have seen it in every month of the year, and commonly from April 1 to late December.

The White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes melanoleucus*) is a bird noted by Knight chiefly from the northern portion of the state, and by Grave and Walker in the northern and northwestern parts. It is a common breeder on the chalk cliffs of the Goshen Hole Rim, twenty miles east of Wheatland, and is a fairly common breeder in the deeper canyons of the Laramie Hills, west of Wheatland.

Another record of interest, which I secured June 22, 1924, is of the Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), noted on the Slater Flats at a point twenty-three miles southeast of Wheatland. The bird was on a fence-post and let me approach to within ten steps of it before flying. I am sure of my identification, though I could not collect the bird, as the Blue Jay was one of my earliest bird acquaintances in Nebraska and I have known it for years in Pennsylvania.

A common nesting bird in the plum thickets of the North Laramie River from 6000 to 7000 feet is the Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) and it is also an occasional nester along Chugwater Creek and the Laramie River east of Wheatland. It is mentioned by Knight as "a probable summer resident but there are no breeding records; not common"; and by Grave and Walker as "while not common, apparently more abundant than formerly." Metz, Richard, and Blackwelder note it as a common summer resident in the northern part of the state, but none of the records seem to be for the southeastern portion of Wyoming.—JAMES A. NEILSON, *Wheatland, Wyoming, December 5, 1924.*

Notes from Spokane.—Barn Owl (*Tyto alba pratincola*). Placed on the hypothetical list of birds of the state by Dawson and Bowles (*The Birds of Washington, 1908, p. 974*), but since determined to be a sporadic visitor along the southern border of the state. I am informed by Withers Brothers, taxidermists of Spokane, that they mounted one last spring. I now have a letter from Fred Reiff, of Chinook, Washington, saying that he shot the bird near there April 30, 1924. Chinook is opposite Astoria, Oregon.

White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*). Also on the hypothetical list in 1908, but reported from Oregon and British Columbia. Withers Brothers state that they mounted two of these birds in 1909. On looking through their old files I find one bird came from Sand Point, Idaho, October 23. The other was brought in October 30 by a Spokane man who stated that he shot it "up the valley". As Spokane is some twenty miles "down the valley" from the Idaho line, it is likely that this bird was taken in Washington. I am now trying to locate these specimens.

Old-squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*). Reported as common on Puget Sound twenty years ago by Dawson, but not mentioned from eastern Washington. Six were seen November 21, 1924, by W. H. Ransom, Federal Game Warden, and one female taken. It was mounted and is now in the Public Museum here.

Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica fulva*). Considered a rare migrant east of the Cascades in Washington. One shot from a flock of four at Lake Chactolet, near