March, 1925

16. Junco hyemalis connectens Coues. Cassiar Junco. (See Grinnell, Condor, xxv, September, 1923, p. 175.)

17. Junco oreganus shufeldti Coale. Shufeldt Junco. (See Ridgway, Birds N. and Mid. Amer., I, 1901, p. 286; Grinnell, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., ser. 4, XIII, 1923, p. 91.)

18. Aimophila ruficeps canescens Todd. Ashy Rufous-crowned Sparrow. (See Todd, Condor, xxiv, July, 1922, p. 126.)

19. Aimophila obscura Dickey and van Rossem. Santa Cruz Island Rufouscrowned Sparrow. (See Dickey and van Rossem, Condor, xxv, July, 1923, p. 128.)

20. Melospiza georgiana (Latham). Swamp Sparrow. (See Dickey, Condor, xxiv, July, 1922, p. 136.)

21. Lanius ludovicianus mearnsi Ridgway. San Clemente Island Shrike. (See Oberholser, Auk, XXXIX, January, 1922, p. 76.)

22. Dendroica auduboni memorabilis Oberholser. Rocky Mountain Audubon Warbler. (See Oberholser, Ohio Journ. Sci., XXI, May [June 6], 1921, p. 243.)

23. Corthylio [that is, Regulus] calendula calendula (Linnaeus). Eastern Rubycrowned Kinglet. (See Dawson, Birds Calif., II, 1923, p. 801.)

24. Planesticus migratorius caurinus Grinnell. Northwestern Robin. (See Dawson, Birds Calif., 11, 1923, p. 760.)

Figuring in the six eliminations and 24 additions listed above, on the basis of the total of 576 which was the summarized figure in 1921, we have 594 as the grand total on the California state list of birds at the end of 1924. And still we are at least 10 behind Texas! (See Oberholser, Condor, XIX, 1917, p. 68.)

I wish it understood clearly that no approval or sanction is hereby implied of all of the above, or of the previously listed, proposals. Indeed, in a number of the cases it is my private belief that the grounds of the proposal were inadequate. My personal opinion or "hunch", however, nor that of anyone else, should never be seriously offered in substantiation or refutation of any formal proposal, unless backed up by a thoroughgoing review of the case and a setting forth of the facts and inferences in clear, published form so that they can be reviewed and separately appraised by anyone else.

We badly need a great deal of conscientious revisionary work, both systematic and faunistic. We need numerous concise studies, based upon careful, leisurely scrutiny of adequate material, before the status of many of the birds now ascribed to California can be safely considered final. As recent good examples of the revisionary type of work now needed I would cite van Rossem's "Survey of the Song Sparrows of the Santa Barbara Islands" (Condor, XXVI, p. 217) and Swarth's "Systematic Status of some Northwestern Song Sparrows" (Condor, XXV, p. 214). The fact that these two examples relate to song sparrows has no special significance! Species and races in many other groups require similar looking into, such as the juncos, marsh sparrows, red-winged blackbirds, wren-tits, ruby-crowned kinglets, robins, poor-wills, mountain quail, pigeon hawks, and certain gulls.—J. GRINNELL, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, January 31, 1925.

Macgillivray Warbler in Southern California in Winter.—On December 15, 1924, at Sycamore Grove Park, in Los Angeles, I had an individual of this species (*Oporornis* tolmiei) under observation, through 8-power glasses, for several minutes. It was flitting in and out of the shrubbery that lines a ditch and our party were on a little bridge just above. I noted the beautiful lemon yellow of the underparts contrasted sharply with the gray neck and head. The broken, white eye-ring was noted, too. Other members of our bird club report seeing one at the same place later in the day and again on January 8, 1925.—HELEN P. EVERHART, Pasadena, California, January 23, 1925.

A Pigeon-catching Red-tail.—Late in December last, a deputy from the Los Angeles County Game Warden's office reported that a large dark hawk had frequently been seen chasing pigeons about the Court House, in one of the busiest parts of Los Angeles; that several people had seen it actually catch pigeons in the air, and that it ate its victims while perched on the tower of the building or on the head of the Goddess of Justice, one of the ornamental statues. It had also been noted while evidently trying to catch something, probably a young pigeon or a cornered adult, that had found refuge, out of reach but not out of sight, in a recess beside the roof gutter of the building. Finally, on January 13, after considerable newspaper publicity, the hawk