

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 Rufous-crowned 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 Ruby-crowned Kinglet. (See Dawson, Birds Calif., II, 1923, p. 801.)
24. *Planesticus migratorius caurinus* Grinnell. Northwestern Robin. (See Dawson, Birds Calif., II, 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 thorough-going 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

was shot and brought to me for identification. It proved to be a Western Red-tail (*Buteo borealis calurus*) of last spring, sooted and smutted by city life until the white of the under parts was almost invisible. I am unable to verify statements as to the hawk catching pigeons in flight. Certainly, it fed well upon pigeon meat, however secured, and was apparently undisturbed by proximity of humans and the noise and smoke of the city.—L. E. WYMAN, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, January 28, 1925.*

WITH THE BIRD BANDERS

Under the direction of J. Eugene Law, Altadena, California

Trapping Notes from Altadena, California.—On January 22, 1925, a female Western Bluebird was caught and banded as no. 129940 in the yard at my home in Altadena, California. On January 23, as I glanced out the window and saw that a female bluebird had been trapped, a Sparrow Hawk, which had been perching on the top of a near-by telephone pole, swooped down and lit on the trap. In an instant, a male bluebird dashed down and flew at the hawk time after time until the latter finally retired to the top of the pole. The male bluebird continued to hover near the trap until I had taken the female out and released her, whereupon the two flew off together. This female proved to be no. 129940 banded the day before. About an hour later a male bluebird was caught in the same trap and received band no. 129941.

Early in January, I set one of my Potter traps over a bird bath which has the water about four feet off the ground, hoping to get some of the many Green-backed Goldfinches and Pine Siskins that came in flocks to play in the water. In a short time, a flock drifted in and three of the goldfinches and a siskin were caught, two in each end of the trap, while the rest of the flock of more than 50 birds crowded over the trap and bath mound, chirping cheerily. As I approached the trap to remove the captives, the greater part of the flock remained at and around the far end of the trap, not two feet away, and stayed during the removal process, scolding at me and looking at the birds in the trap and trying to get at the water within. I reset the trap several times, repeatedly catching more birds before I could finish banding one just taken out. They virtually covered the trap and rock sides of the bath, flying from it to the fence near-by and back again like a swarm of bees. Suddenly they were off again, leaving the yard as quickly as they had come.

Another day, while banding a siskin just trapped at the bath, two of the goldfinches flew in and alighted on the trap which was closed, chirping vociferously at me. Judging that they wanted to get in for a bath, I reset the trap, while they retired to the fence. Then they immediately flew in, had their bath, and received their bands as a reward.—MRS. HARLAN H. EDWARDS, *Altadena, California, January 29, 1925.*

The Western Bird Banding Association.—The processes of evolution continue to operate. New necessities demand new adjustments. And the organization of the Western Bird Banding Association, unthought-of a year ago, is the natural result of today's necessity.

Primarily this necessity pertains to finances. The splendid work of a corps of energetic banders must not be wasted. There must be a depository in the West where all the occurrence data that is being collected in banding work will be assembled and maintained in a manner that will make it available to students who want to dig out its problems. The deeper aspects of these problems can best be analyzed by workers who have had direct contact with western topography and its faunas. If the West is to maintain its place, therefore, in the development of banding work, it must provide the best equipment for its workers.

Moreover, banding work, more than any other ornithological activity, demands cooperative organization. It is work in which each will contribute his bit to round out the whole. Individual observations and experimentations will continue to yield