

Trumpeter Swan Records from the State of Washington.—In the "Wilson Bulletin" of September, 1923, Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, gave a "Review of the Records of the Trumpeter Swan in the State of Washington." As the result of his research it appears that there were but four known specimens of the species extant that had been taken in this state. One was in the British Museum and was said to have been collected on the Snake River in September (1895?). One in the Chicago Academy of Sciences was shot on the Columbia River, April 8, 1881, three miles west of Portland, Oregon. A third was taken by a hunter in the winter of 1906 at Nisqually, at the south end of Puget Sound, and is now in the collection of Mr. D. E. Brown, of Seattle. The fourth was taken at Moses Lake, November 12, 1912, and was said to be in the collection of Mr. George Willett, now a resident of Ketchikan, Alaska. In concluding, Dr. Taylor remarked that there had been no recorded instance of its appearance in the state for more than ten years.

In case, as seems probable, *Olor buccinator* is to be counted with the extinct birds, it will be of interest to record one more, and the latest known, occurrence of that species in Washington. December 23, 1913, I secured from a hunter the skin of a swan which had just been taken in the marsh at the mouth of the Nooksack River, near the head of Bellingham Bay. I preserved the skin and packed it away, without giving it thorough study, although at the time I half-heartedly labeled it *Olor buccinator*. A few months ago I got out the specimen and examined it critically, comparing it with a specimen of *O. columbianus* which I have, with the result that it very obviously is to be called *buccinator*. Measurements of the fresh skin were as follows: Length approximately 60 inches; wing $23\frac{3}{4}$; tail 8; extent approximately 87; tarsus $4\frac{3}{4}$; middle toe 6 (with claw $6\frac{1}{2}$); bill $4\frac{1}{4}$. The iris was dull silvery; tail of 22 feathers. The head measurements, which are particularly diagnostic, were as follows: Eye to nostril, 64 mm.; latter point to tip of bill, 78 mm. The corresponding measurements of the *columbianus* are, 60 and 52 respectively. Bill and lores are black and unspotted; lores practically naked. The other specimen shows lores feathered, with a large light-colored saddle on the bill.—J. M. EDSON, *Bellingham, Washington, August 8, 1925.*

Notes on the Food of the California Screech Owl.—During the nesting season of 1924, I had several nests of the California Coast Screech Owl (*Otus asio bendirei*) under observation. My main purpose was to band the young; but after finding the bodies of a number of sparrows in the nest I took more careful note of the owls' food habits. These observations are in line with those of Dr. A. A. Allen (*Auk*, xli, January, 1924, pp. 1-16). The following are notes as made on my visits to a nest in a large oak on the University of California campus.

May 25, 5:30 A. M., 6 English Sparrows, 2 of them adult males, all headless.

May 27, 7:00 A. M., 1 pocket gopher, headless.

May 28, 5:30 A. M., no food.

May 29, 5:30 A. M., no food.

May 30, 6:30 A. M., 1 English Sparrow, headless.

May 31, 6 A. M., 1 English Sparrow, headless; banded the young on this date.

June 1, 6 A. M., 1 English Sparrow, entire.

June 3, 5:30 A. M., no food in nest, but I removed a large quantity of feathers that had accumulated in the bottom. Among this debris I counted about 250 feathers from the wings of birds, which appeared to be mostly sparrows of different species. On this day I dropped the young bird no. 223576, and apparently injured it, but returned it to the nest.

June 4, 5:30 A. M., the leg of no. 223576, which held the band, was all that was left of this bird. It was in the nest, the bird apparently having been eaten by the three remaining young owls. The wings of a large beetle were found also.

June 6, 6:00 A. M., 2 English Sparrows, headless; 1 large beetle.

June 8, 6:00 A. M., no food in nest; this was the last day I was able to visit the nest.

Another nest found in a hole in an old dead stump on the campus on May 8, contained three young, and as food there were two meadow mice and one salamander, all entire. On June 6, 1925, I had another nest under observation and there were present feathers from a California Jay.