

invalid. This statement is based on a considerable series of dimensions taken; for I had fully expected size differences to become apparent.

Range.—So far as known, an area in northwestern Lower California, chiefly on the Pacific slope, extending north at least from the vicinity of San Quintin to Cape Colnett and from sea-level to as high as 8500 feet altitude on the Sierra San Pedro Martir, and also down to the east base of that range. Life-zone essentially Upper Sonoran, but locally Transition and Lower Sonoran, too. Specimens examined, 27, from the following localities: Colnett; San Ramon; Santo Domingo; Arroyo Nuevo York; San Telmo; San José; Valladares; La Grulla, 7200 ft.; Vallecitos, 8500 ft.; Cajon Cañon, east base Sierra San Pedro Martir.

Remarks.—It should go without saying that in quail fresh fall plumages should be relied upon chiefly, if not altogether, in seeking color values. When this is done, the quail of the "San Quintin district" show themselves to differ in mass effect appreciably from Valley Quail from anywhere north of the Mexican line. San Diego County birds, even, and those from Riverside and Inyo counties, well east of the desert divides, all are markedly browner dorsally, the remiges browner, the chest less clearly ashy gray, and the "ground" tone of the hinder flanks and crissum more brightly tan. This holds for both sexes. The creamy area on the lower chest of male *plumbea*, while not so pale as in *achruster*, is not so deep-toned as in average *vallicola*. In females the grayness about the head and on the chest in *plumbea* is almost constantly diagnostic; and in both sexes, the plumbeous tone of the remiges is as a rule strikingly different from the brown tone in *vallicola*. In the dried specimens, the feet and legs of *plumbea* average blacker than in *vallicola*.

To sum up, the new race, *plumbea*, is based on features of pigmentation; it is characterized by a reduction in brown in some tracts and a development of black in the same tracts or in others; individual variation bridges the gap between it and its nearest relatives, *vallicola* and *achruster*. Geographically, the belt of intergradation with *vallicola* lies somewhere between the United States-Mexico line and latitude 31°.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, February 8, 1926.*

The Present Status of the Trumpeter Swan.—Mr. Edson's note in the January number of the CONDOR on the Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) calls for some comment. This swan, the largest of all North American birds, has been especially unfortunate in the manner it has been dealt with by most of its historians. The accounts of its former abundance (as by Audubon) are almost certainly greatly exaggerated, and the many recent statements as to its extermination are in absolute error. It is not to be "counted with the extinct birds" even in Mr. Edson's own state.

No recognition has been given by some of its recent historians, such as Mr. H. K. Coale, to records in recent Canadian literature. Macoun, Fleming, Taverner, Munro, Mitchell, and the present writer have all apparently written of it to no purpose, and while it is undesirable to detail the many localities where it exists, enough has been written to show that it still occurs in some numbers from Saskatchewan to the Pacific.

In British Columbia we have at least five wintering colonies, and I can vouch for the fact that a certain number (in 1924 it was eighteen) cross the boundary at Okanagan into Washington each year, to winter at some point in eastern Washington, Oregon or southern Idaho. A newspaper clipping indicates that one or more was killed in the latter state last fall. It behooves the bird lovers of these states, instead of bewailing the extinction of this swan, to do some work in winter, locate the wintering ground of this flock (or flocks), and provide suitable protection, as has been done by the Dominion Parks Branch in British Columbia. It is a rather remarkable paradox that accurate information nowadays is in inverse ratio to the size of the bird, especially in the West.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Nanaimo, British Columbia, February 2, 1926.*

Injured Juncos Quickly Recover.—Probably no bird that enters the traps gives a stronger impression of porcelain delicacy and gentle helplessness than does the junco. One easily imagines that it would succumb quickly, quicker perhaps than almost any other bird, to any violence. That the Thurber Junco (*Junco oreganus thurberi*), however, does not readily succumb even to violent blows is indicated by two incidents which happened during the past summer at Bluff Lake, in the San Bernardino Mountains, California.