above Porterville, Tulare County, California, at about 5000 feet elevation, I heard the song of the Western Winter Wren (*Nannus hiemalis pacificus*) and stopped to investigate. A slight movement on the ground near a fallen pine log attracted my attention, and what I at first took to be a mouse proved to be a female Winter Wren. She was soon joined by the male which began fluttering his wings and strutting about her, all the while keeping up a continual song. These antics suggested the possibility of a nest in the vicinity, but a diligent search failed to reveal its whereabouts, and the pair of birds was taken. They are numbers 435 and 436 in my collection. Upon sexing the birds after skinning, the female was found to contain a fully-developed egg.

Two pairs of Western Winter Wrens were afterwards seen on the same creek, the nearly completed nest of one pair being found. So far as I am able to ascertain, this is the most southerly breeding record in California, of this species, the Yosemite Valley being the most southerly previously recorded breeding limit.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, November 16, 1927.*

Notes on the Dwarf Cowbird in Southern California.—The continual increase of the Dwarf Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*) in the San Bernardino Valley of southern California since I first reported them here (CONDOR, XX, 1918, p. 211) has caused me considerable alarm. At that time I reported about four species that had been parasitized, but now I must report a total of twelve.

The results of a recent survey of an even hundred nests of victims of the Cowbird have been tabulated as follows:

The species	The percentage of the parasitized nests examined	The number of Dwarf Cowbird eggs per nest	The percentage of nests of a given species having but a single Dwarf Cowbird egg	Average weight of Dwarf Cowbird eggs in grams	Maximum weight of Dwarf Cowbird egg in grams	Minimum weight of Dwarf Cowbird egg in grams
Empidonax trailli trailli Traill Flycatcher	32	1 to 3	74	2.35	2.91	1.84
Astragalinus tristis salicamans Willow Goldfinch	8	1 or 2	75	2.08	2.34	1.65
Melospiza melodia cooperi San Diego Song Sparrow	4	1 or 2	75	2.21	2.49	1.89
Pipilo maculatus megalonyx San Diego Towhee	1	1	100	2.09	.....	.....
Guiraca caerulea salicarius California Blue Grosbeak	1	1	100	2.14	.....	.....
Passerina amoena Lazuli Bunting	3	1 or 2	75	2.42	.....	.....
Vireo huttoni huttoni Hutton Vireo	1	2	.....	2.27	.....	.....
Vireo bellii pusillus California Least Vireo	25	1 to 4	52	2.32	2.59	1.89
Dendroica aestiva brewsteri California Yellow Warbler	16	1 to 3	56	2.26	2.64	1.53
Icteria virens longicauda Long-tailed Chat	5	1 or 2	80	2.40	2.75	2.20
Wilsonia pusilla chryseola Golden Pileolated Warbler	1	2	.....	2.40	.....	.....
Polioptila caerulea obscura Western Gnatcatcher	2	1	100	2.01	.....	.....
Polioptila plumbea Plumbeous Gnatcatcher	1	1	100	1.97	.....	.....

The weights of the eggs were determined to see if the Cowbird eggs in the nests of larger species were larger than in the nests of the smaller species. The number of tests made were not sufficient to prove any rule of this kind, but the following interesting points can be mentioned.

All eggs from nests of Long-tailed Chat, about the largest of the parasitized species, were larger than the average. The eggs from nests of the smaller species such as Willow Goldfinch, Western Gnatcatcher, and Plumbeous Gnatcatcher were unquestionably much smaller than the average. There is, however, a considerable number of exceptions to the suggested rule.

The Traill Flycatcher, California Least Vireo, and California Yellow Warbler suffer even more than this report would indicate. They not only have the most parasitized nests and the most Cowbird eggs per nest, but a large number of nests of these species were absolutely destroyed by the Cowbirds (at least I blame the destruction to them), and such nests were not considered in making the survey.

The parasitized nest of Plumbeous Gnatcatcher was taken in the Coachella Valley west of Mecca. This is the first Dwarf Cowbird egg that I have found in that district, although there is a record of the birds having been taken at Mecca a few miles east. I have not discovered any Cowbird eggs in the seventy miles between Redlands and Thermal and it will be of interest to see how long it requires for them to spread to this territory.—WILSON C. HANNA, *Colton, California, November 24, 1927.*

A Third California Record of the Rusty Blackbird.—During a recent stay on Santa Rosa Island, California, Mr. Paul E. Trapier found a specimen of Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) dead in the barn at the Vail Company's ranch headquarters. The specimen was a female and was found on November 6, 1927. It is now in the Dickey collection.

I am aware of no California record of this bird since the publication of Grinnell's Distributional List of the Birds of California (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 11, 1915), in which Dr. Grinnell cites the two occurrences which had come to his attention at that time. The lack of records during the intervening years confirms the opinion that this bird is only the rarest of winter visitors to the State. It is interesting to note that two of the three captures of this species in California have been made on one or another of the Channel Islands.—DONALD R. DICKEY, *California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, November 26, 1297.*

Bird Notes from San Diego County.—The following items from the southern end of the State add to or amplify information hitherto published relative to a few California birds.

American Pintail Duck *(Dafila acuta tzitzihoa).* Ornithological literature does not record the nesting of the American Pintail farther south than Los Angeles and Riverside counties. A casual remark by E. H. Glidden, San Diego County game warden, referring to the young "sprigs" that had been raised on Lake Henshaw was therefore of considerable interest to me. At Glidden's suggestion I wrote to J. Kitchin, resort manager at this lake, and, under date of August 28, 1927, he replied: "It is certainly my pleasure to confirm Mr. Glidden's statement about sprig ducks hatching here on Lake Henshaw. I have had years of experience with sprig or Pintail Ducks and certainly know the difference between them and others. Last year, 1926, there were many hundred sprig hatched and raised on the lake and I caught some twenty babies and raised them to grown birds, when Glidden compelled me to turn them loose. This year I do not believe there were more than forty nests of sprig all told, but what few there were all hatched out, as I saw many mothers with eight or ten little fellows each around the lake." Lake Henshaw, at an elevation of 2720 feet, is the latest of the reservoirs to be created in San Diego County, and, when full, will be the largest. The dam was completed for the first impounding of water early in 1923, and it evidently did not take the pintails long to discover that this spot was particularly suited to their needs. They are not known to nest on any of the other eight large reservoirs in San Diego County.

Cooper Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*). Major Brooks' note in the CONDOR, XXIX, 1927, p. 245) on the breeding of immature hawks was read with interest at a time when such a situation had come under our observation for the first time. On June 26, 1927, there was brought to the Natural History Museum in San Diego a family of Cooper Hawks, consisting of a male in adult plumage, a female in immature plumage and two live young. They had been secured that day by Archie Flint, Jr., at Poway, San Diego County. In answer to a letter from us seeking confirmation that the female unquestionably belonged to the "family", Mr. Flint wrote: "On June 25 my father informed me of the nest and the following day I took my shot gun and watched the nest until the old bird arrived and I shot it. It was the female. In about two hours the other hawk came to feed the youngsters and I shot him. Both male and female were shot on the side of the nest feeding the young."