

the underbrush. On January 23, on the other side of the Pebbly Beach ridge, and about two miles from where the first bird was seen, I saw a female hawk resting on some light wires. One of my students found a dead male Sparrow Hawk on the coach road, near Camp Frost, on January 21, 1928. Its stomach contained a three inch Brown-shouldered Lizard. It is now number 329 in my collection. From reports it seems that the Sparrow Hawk is not at all rare on Santa Catalina Island.

These two birds are additions to Howell's list published in Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 12.

The Island Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus anthonyi*) has been seen quite frequently in several localities on the east end of the island. They seem to have lost some of the fear noted by Howell, as several have been approached within twenty feet. So far this year, after a diligent search, no nesting birds have been found, though the Island Finches are beginning to build.—DON C. MEADOWS, *Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, California, March 19, 1928.*

A Mid-winter Anthony Green Heron.—On the first day of the year 1928, the writer was enjoying a few hours of recreation at Lindo Lake, a small body of fresh water near the town of Lakeside, San Diego County, California. This lake, through the far-sightedness of the County Board of Supervisors, has been purchased and set aside as a public park, with shooting prohibited. As a result, a great assemblage of unsuspecting water-fowl is to be found there during the winter months. A fringe of fair-sized willow trees skirts the lake on the west and south, and in one of these, resting on a leafless limb that hung close over the water, a solitary Anthony Green Heron (*Butorides virescens anthonyi*) was seen. Perhaps on account of this exposed position, coupled with a probably short residence about the lake, the bird seemed shy and soon flew, alighting in the uppermost branches of another tree farther down the shore. Twice the writer flushed this lone straggler from such elevated perches, when the heron, tired of being followed, took refuge on the opposite side of the lake and evaded further pursuit.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, January 23, 1928.*

The Lichtenstein Kingbird on Vancouver Island.—A Lichtenstein Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus satrapa* (Cabanis and Heine), was collected at French's Beach, Renfrew District, Vancouver Island, in February, 1923, by J. G. French. This bird was identified as above by Major Allan Brooks, through the interest of Mr. J. A. Munro, and constitutes a new record for the Province and for Canada. The normal habitat of the species is Mexico and southward; it may have strayed so far north through the medium of a steamer.—F. KERMODE, *Provincial Museum, Victoria, B. C., March 15, 1928.*

The Nuptial Display of the Buffle-head.—The Buffle-head (*Charitonetta albeola*) does not often give opportunity to study its nuptial display. Though the bird is common along the more protected portions of the coast of Vancouver Island every spring, I have only on two occasions seen it display. Bent in his Life Histories suggests shyness as the reason for not often seeing this display; but here, at all events, the Buffle-head is not a shy duck and can generally be studied at a distance of 100 yards, and much closer if care be taken.

In April, 1926, I was staying at Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island. There is here a large expanse of protected shallow water that provides a quiet refuge from the frequent winds on this coast. Buffle-heads were unusually numerous; my notes are that I saw in two to three hours rowing about, one morning, more than I had seen on the east coast of the Island (Comox) all winter. The birds were not in large flocks, but in parties of 15 to 20 or smaller. It was there I first saw the display.

The display consisted of the male rising from the water with a rather fluttering weak flight, flying a few yards and then "sliding" into the water, breast thrown out, making considerable splash. The male would fly towards the female, but immediately on settling on the water would turn away from her; the tail would then be jerked up and this jerking motion would be repeated. Next, with crest extended, the male would slowly swim in front of the female who, on no occasion that I saw, took

the slightest notice. I did not observe any jerking or bobbing of the head, and the impression was that the male pitched directly in front of the female and then turned around with the object of attracting her attention to his back and crest.

The day was sunny which may have induced the birds to display. I saw this display on four occasions and, once, had two birds in the same party displaying together. From this I would judge that displaying birds must have been common, as I was rowing myself in the boat and would disturb many before coming up to them.

The other instance occurred in this neighborhood on April 29 of this year. A party of four consisted of two full plumaged males, an immature male and a female; all three males were courting the one female. The display here was quite different from what had been seen at Tofino. The birds were all swimming together and one would depress its body (laying itself out on the water), shoot its head out vertically with the water, bobbing it back and forth in this way several times. While doing so it would slowly swim away from, but not actually in front of, the female. Another great difference was in the carriage of the crest; instead of being extended it was closely depressed. In fact there was no suggestion of crest left, only a narrow black line. The female showed no interest at any stage of the performance.

This shooting back and forth of the head was an action different from any I have seen in displaying ducks; the bird shot its head out to the full extent of the neck, bill carried out in a line, held it there, and then quickly drew it back and shot it out again without any pause. The manner of swimming flat on the surface reminded one of the action of the Surf Scoter when courting.

All three males took part in the display, but the immature bird did not appear so aggressive. The birds were about one hundred and fifty yards out from the shore and not at all frightened. They flew off, led by the female I thought, in a party.

At Tofino there appeared no jealousy among the males. I saw no suggestion of fighting; but on the other day, one of the old birds attempted to drive the other away by darting at it in the water.—THEED PEARSE, *Courtenay, B. C., Canada, May 5, 1928.*

Sixth Record of Harris Sparrow in California.—The recent records of the Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) in California reported by Clabaugh (CONDOR, XXX, 1928, p. 163), and by Cozens (*ibid.*, p. 164), prompted us to offer a sixth record of this sparrow. This bird was a member of a large mixed flock of Golden-crown and Gambel sparrows and Juncos which wintered near our house on High Court, Berkeley, in 1924-25. For several weeks it was seen daily at the feeding tray which was not more than ten feet from our window. Its plumage agreed with that of "first-year" specimens in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

Other noteworthy birds in our flock that year were at least three Slate-colored Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) and a White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*), both previously familiar to us in the East. The White-throat remained until May 2 and was heard singing several times before it departed.—G. L. FOSTER and GRACE E. FOSTER, *Park Ridge, Illinois, May 7, 1928.*

Rufous Hummingbird in the Oklahoma Panhandle.—For a number of years I have been considerably interested in the study of hummingbirds; but until last summer (1927) I had records of only two species for Oklahoma. These were *Selasphorus platycercus* (Broad-tailed Hummingbird), a rare transient and summer resident in Cimarron County, and *Archilochus colubris* (Ruby-throated Hummingbird), a summer resident in eastern and central Oklahoma as far west as Comanche and Woods counties. Then on August 10, 1927, I discovered a lone individual of *Selasphorus rufus* (Rufous Hummingbird) here at Kenton, in Cimarron County.

This bird, which was a male, appeared to be extremely fond of the nectar in the flowers of a trumpet vine at one end of the screened-in porch that extends along one side of my house; and it was in this vine that I first saw him. I had been attracted to that side of the house shortly after sunrise that morning by a peculiar sound, somewhere between a buzz and a grunt, but had failed to locate the cause at that time. Shortly after lunch I again heard the same peculiar sound and, after gazing out through the open spaces in the leaf-covered vine for several minutes without moving, finally discovered the bird within three feet of my face, as he hung poised before a flower from which he was feeding.