

arrangement of the feathers, the region resembles a division of the ventral tract of contour feathers. The homology with feathers of a downy type found on the bellies of passerines is strongly suggested by similarity of position and arrangement, and by the fact that they are lost during brooding. In the matter of time of replacement after brooding, the inner abdominal feathers do not correspond with the annual molt of nearby contour feathers of the belly. They are much more prompt in their re-appearance than are the downs of the bellies of passerines.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, January 8, 1933.*

Nesting of the Crissal Thrasher in Coachella Valley, California.—A trip was made to the Coachella Valley, Riverside County, on February 12, 1933, in company with Fred Frazer and Rex Parker to see if we could make spring seem nearer by finding some birds busy with nest building. Our quest was rewarded by the finding of three nests of the Crissal Thrasher (*Toxostoma dorsale dorsale*), two of them containing two much incubated eggs each and the third, two eggs and one newly hatched young. The eggs in the latter nest were unquestionably deposited in January and constitute an early nesting date for California. The earliest previous record by me was February 28.

The shallow nests of the Crissal Thrasher are almost invariably placed in mesquite trees or salt bushes and I believe I have never seen one in a cactus. Probably ninety-nine per cent of the large deep nests of the Leconte Thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei lecontei*) which I have observed have been in cacti.

My records indicate that two or three eggs usually make a complete clutch for the Crissal Thrasher; out of seventy-six nests containing either complete sets or young, I found that forty contained two, thirty-four contained three, and only two contained four eggs. The number in a complete clutch seems to vary from year to year. An examination made in March, 1931, showed twelve nests with two eggs and three with three eggs, while in the corresponding month of last year, in the same locality, there were two nests with two, ten nests with three, and one nest with four eggs.

I have never observed an egg with shell markings. The average weight of over one hundred fresh eggs was 5.05 grams. The sets including the largest and the smallest eggs contained but two eggs each while a set of four had the second largest eggs. The combined weight of the set of four large eggs was 178 per cent greater than of the set containing the two small eggs. The weights (in grams) of the individual eggs in these three sets follow: No. 4049, 5.94, 5.84; no. 1707, 4.09, 4.02; no. 2615, 5.82, 5.75, 5.72, 5.26.—WILSON C. HANNA, *Colton, California, February 20, 1933.*

Bird Notes from Mount Pinos, California.—During the past thirty or more years the region of Mount Pinos, lying in Ventura and Kern counties, California, has been visited by many collectors and a knowledge of its avifauna has increased constantly. I made two trips to this locality during the summer of 1932 and obtained some notes which may be of interest. These observations were made in the vicinity of San Emigdio public camp, elevation 5900 feet, at the west end of Cuddy Valley, Kern County.

Sphyrapicus varius daggetti. Sierra Nevada Red-breasted Sapsucker. Rather uncommon on the mountain. A male seen June 12, 1932, is my only record for the locality.

Phainopepla nitens lepida. Phainopepla. I was surprised on June 12, 1932, to notice a male of this species flying about high among the yellow pines and perching in them. This bird was noticed about a quarter of a mile west of the camp at 6200 feet. It evidently was a straggler from the Mohave Desert via Cuddy Valley.

Myadestes townsendi. Townsend Solitaire. Has been noticed only once on Mount Pinos during the summer. On June 8, 1929, Seth Benson noticed a pair at 8000 feet and collected an adult male (*Condor*, 32, 1930, p. 102). On August 4, 1932, I observed an adult solitaire in the public camp grounds on the edge of the sage belt. The next day, while watching a small band of Clark Nutcrackers close to camp, I discovered an immature solitaire. This bird, a male, was collected. The Mount Pinos region is probably the westernmost breeding ground for the species in southern California.—JAMES STEVENSON, *Berkeley, California, February 11, 1933.*