

dates: July 27 and September 4, 1921; April 20 and October 4, 1927; April 17 and 25, 1928.

Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus* spp.). A gyrfalcon with almost entirely white plumage, suggesting *candicans*, was observed near Fortine on December 9 and 10, 1927. At dawn on January 20, 1930, a large raptorial bird believed to be a gyrfalcon attacked a small flock of Mallards that had spent the night in a spring-fed pond a quarter of a mile from my home. Passing over me at such extreme speed that the whistling of its wings became almost a scream, the falcon hurtled itself downward toward the pond as the frightened ducks arose in great confusion. The distance and the lingering darkness together prevented me from ascertaining the outcome of the early morning raid. Similar raids had been heard just before daylight on at least two mornings during the previous winter, but the dates had not been recorded, the identity of the bird being unknown. The performance was repeated shortly after daylight on the morning of December 17, 1931, by a large gray or white falcon that certainly resembled a gyrfalcon more than it did a Duck Hawk.

Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*). Saunders (p. 65) states that this species has been recorded west of the divide in Montana only from Deer Lodge and Silver Bow counties. In Lincoln County I have noted it rarely in spring, summer, and fall. Specific dates are as follows: September 3, 5, 12 and 15, 1922; August 25, 1923; April 17, 1927; March 29 and 31, 1928; August 5, 1929; July 21, 1930; September 30, 1931.

Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius* spp.). It appears that pigeon hawks, of whatever subspecies, are rare birds in Montana. Saunders (p. 66) cites only three records for the occurrence of the species in this state since 1900. In Lincoln County I have observed pigeon hawks a number of times in recent years, but do not know whether they represented *richardsoni* or *bendirei*. My notes for 1921 include nine dates, but many of these are doubtful. Later dates are as follows: May 23 and July 16, 1922; July 17, 1924; May 18 (questionable) and August 14, 1927; April 3 and August 16, 1928; June 25, 1929; January 15 and October 2, 1931; March 19, August 2 and September 19, 1932.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Montana, February 9, 1933.*

**Hermit Thrushes of the Northwestern States.**—In our recent brief revision of the western Hermit Thrushes (McCabe and McCabe, *Condor*, xxxiv, 1932, pp. 26-40) the most acute deficiency of material was from Washington and Oregon and the northern part of the Great Basin. Through the kindness of Dr. Alden H. Miller a sufficient series from central and eastern Oregon and Washington and certain points in Idaho, collected by him and by Messrs. R. T. Orr and D. H. Blanchard in the early summer of 1932, is now available to indicate rather definitely the relationships of the three breeding races of this region. Certain information of a rather vague sort as to the birds of western Oregon and Washington has also become available in a recent publication by Oberholser (*Scientific Publ., Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 4, 1932, p. 8).

The accompanying map (fig. 23), which shows wing-lengths of male specimens (the most useful criterion in this difficult form) supplements our map of the western part of the continent, already published. It shows a prevalence of rather uniform races with abrupt transitions which accord well with geologic, climatic, or floral boundaries.

The characteristic Great Basin race, *polionota*, maintains its large size into central Idaho, there to break down rapidly to the dimensions of the unnamed race hitherto known principally from the interior of British Columbia, in correlation with the increasing rainfall, and changing timber. To the west, *polionota* undergoes like modification across the rather narrow divide between the Blue Mountains of central Oregon and the main ranges of the Cascades.

The race of the British Columbia interior is found to stream far southward into the United States, its dimensions hardly rising to those of *sequoiensis* until the Sierras replace the Cascades. It is an academic question, which can never be answered, whether these birds are genetically identical with the central British Columbia birds or merely represent an intergrading area between *polionota* and the small *slevini* of the coast. As has already been shown, about the head of the Sacramento Valley, *slevini* reaches well inland. Oberholser, in proposing the race *oromela* (male wing

