32.7-92.5, av. 88.9 mm.) assigns to it in the main the northern range of *slevini*, but chooses his type far inland among the obviously sharply differentiated birds of the

interior (Warner Valley, just outside the extreme northeastern corner of California). The type (August 28, no measurements) is far too late to be necessarily a locally breeding bird. If it represents the given maximum (92.5 mm. male wing) it is of the interior race, and occupies only an insignificant fraction of the area assigned to it by Oberholser. If it represents the average or minimum it is a synonym either of slevini or nanus. Certainly no birds which average 88.9 mm. male wing-length are characteristic of "central" Oregon or "central southern" British Columbia. Still less do 92.5 mm. birds occur in the great coastal range which is indicated.

Color, throughout the area under discussion, fluctuates faintly—too faintly to serve as a criterion of nameable races, and does *not* correlate with the fluctuations of size. The new series from Oregon and Idaho are the most neutrally grey groups we have seen.

The fine procession of increasing sizes from west to east is now complete, and we have in the United States four principal phases occupying narrow parallel bands or zones, accordant with topographic and climatic factors from the coast forests to the Rockies, with four successive and substantial steps in size which total, between *slevini* and *auduboni*, 21 per cent, accompanied by the slightest correlative changes in color, and none, that we can discover, in propor-

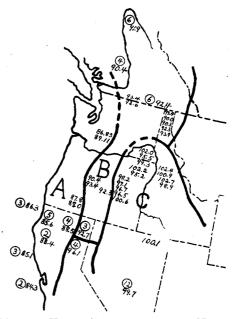


Fig. 23. HERMIT THRUSHES OF THE NORTH-WESTERN STATES. A. Hylocichla guttata slevini. B. H. g. oromela [?]. C. H. g. polionota. SINGLE FIGURES REPRESENT MEASUREMENTS OF SINGLE BIRDS (♂ WING LENGTH). MEASUREMENTS ACCOM-PANIED BY FIGURES IN CIRCLES REPRESENT AVERAGES OF THE NUMBER OF BIRDS IN-DICATED.

tion. Only one of these, that of the Sierras and the Cascades, is divisible by a narrow margin into the northern and southern races.—THOMAS T. MCCABE and ELINOR B. MCCABE, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, January 26, 1933.

The White-headed Woodpecker in Marin County, California.—On July 20, 1932, Mr. Frank Watson of St. Louis and the writer were investigating a large willow tree in which there was a small group of California Jays causing their usual commotion. Suddenly we were amazed to observe a White-headed Woodpecker (*Xenopicus albolarvatus*) slowly backing down the trunk of the tree. We were more surprised when the woodpecker, with a short flap of its wings, stationed itself underneath a large branch within five feet of us. At this moment we noticed that the pure white head lacked the red nape of the male, identifying it as an adult female. The bird then began to look over its observers without showing the least sign of suspicion or nervousness. After a moment it spread its wings and flew to a larger branch. As it flew it showed a white patch in the center of the wing. The bird was procured in order to establish the record and the specimen donated to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology where it is now no. 62790.

The place of observation was in a small valley about three miles north of Point Bonita, Marin County, California. The surrounding country consists of many hills and valleys. The hills are covered with dense scrub thickets and the only trees are oaks. The valleys, with small willow-bordered creeks, are mostly pasture land and are at sea level. This is the first record of the White-headed Woodpecker in any of the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay region. There is no reason to believe that the woodpecker was nesting in the vicinity.—DAVID DUNCAN III, Sausalito, California, February 1, 1933.

Triple Testes in a Snowy Plover.—Through the courtesy of Dr. Louis B. Bishop of New Haven, Connecticut, the writer has had the privilege of studying what, on gross examination, was apparently a case of supernumerary testis in a plover. Dr. Bishop furnishes the following record: "The bird was *Charadrius nivosus* (Snowy Plover), known as *Aegialitis nivosus* when I collected it, and was collected by me at the mouth of the Carmel River, Monterey Co., California, on July 20, 1920; 33499 is the number of the specimen in my collection, and in my catalogue I noted under it, "three testes, one on the right and two on the left.""

An examination of the specimen showed three ovoid bodies of about equal size, 5 millimeters in length and 2.5 in breadth. Two of these bodies were bilaterally situated at the same level near the medial edges of the kidneys, with their long axes directed downward and laterally. The supernumerary body was above the left testis but nearer the median line, with its long axis nearly vertical and its lower pole touching the lower testes. Microscopic examination of sections of all three bodies showed the usual structure of the testes, an apparently normal process of spermatogenesis and fully formed spermatozoa, indicating that the testes were all functional.

Supernumerary testes in birds must be of rare occurrence, although, of course, it is possible that many cases may have been observed but not reported. Certain it is that a search of the literature fails to yield any examples.

In a personal communication Dr. Oscar Riddle of the Carnegie Institution of Washington says that "ten to twenty-five instances of accessory testes have been observed by him in the examination of about 7500 male doves and pigeons, and that while probably none of these accessory testes were sectioned such structures are ordinarily so definite in the dove and pigeon freshly killed as to leave no doubt as to their character."

On the contrary, Dr. Ernst Mayr of the American Museum of Natural History of New York, in a personal communication says, "I have gone through all the available literature and have asked my colleagues but could not find any information about supernumerary testes in birds. I might add that I have sexed personally about three thousand male birds without ever finding a trace of a third testis."

It is clear that a third testis in birds is at least uncommon and it is possible that it is more frequent in some species than in others. It is certain, however, that the Snowy Plover examined possessed three functioning testes.—H. B. FERRIS, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut, February 24, 1933.

Summer Birds of a Northern Arizona Marsh.—Through the kindness of Mr. Randolph Jenks and the Museum of Northern Arizona, I had an opportunity to study the birds of Rogers Lake on the last three days of June, 1932. This lake, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles west-southwest of Flagstaff, Coconino County, Arizona, is at an elevation of 7244 feet; it is two miles long by $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles wide, the long axis running from southeast to northwest. The greatest depth, however, is probably less than three feet. It is thickly overgrown with various aquatic plants and apparently occupies a very old crater. Western yellow pine is the common tree on the banks, and a small hummock on the northwestern shore supports a few gooseberries and two species of cactus one a small Opuntia. Showers hindered progress daily, but only the southwestern third of the lake and the easternmost corner remained unexplored.

A colony of Eared Grebes (*Colymbus nigricollis californicus*) was discovered on June 28 in the south-central part of the lake. This was probably the colony Mearns recorded over forty years ago from "a lake near Flagstaff." On the 29th a census was taken. There were about 29 empty nests in various stages of dilapidation and 151 others with contents as follows:

1 young bird	1	2 eggs	70
1 egg	15	3 eggs	63
1 young, 1 eg	g 1	4 eggs	1