

**Magpies and Ferruginous Rough-leg Feeding Together.**—In the Condor for July-August, 1933, Joseph Dixon reports three Magpies (*Pica pica hudsonia*) robbing a Golden Eagle of its prey. Apparently there may be association of a sort among birds of similar feeding habits.

On December 4, 1932, I was driving through southern Wyoming, and a few miles south of Tulsa I noticed a cluster of birds on the highway some distance ahead of the car, apparently feeding on the carcass of one of the numerous jackrabbits run over by cars. As I approached slowly I could see that three or four Magpies and a Ferruginous Rough-leg (*Buteo regalis*) were all practically "rubbing shoulders" as they busily tore at the jackrabbit remains. The Magpies were the first to leave at my approach, and the hawk flapped away reluctantly, to perch on a fence post until I should leave.

Curiously enough, on October 27, 1933, I was driving over that part of the road again and in almost the identical spot another jackrabbit had been run over and a group of birds was clustered about it, this time several Magpies in company with a crow (presumably *Corvus brachyrhynchos hesperis*). On returning over this road three days later, I found these birds still in that vicinity.

Ball and Court (Auk, 48, 1933, p. 604) in Maryland, observed a Magpie in company with some crows, being pursued by a kingbird. Hess (Auk, 31, 1914, p. 402) observed a Magpie in Illinois being "harassed by a half-dozen crows in a hedge." Cameron (Auk, 31, 1914, pp. 159-167), in his study of the Ferruginous Rough-leg, found remains of young Magpies at the nest, and also saw three Magpies alight near the hawk nest. Again, Munro (Condor, 31, 1929, p. 113) flushed a Goshawk from the "still warm body of a Magpie." Taverner (Auk, 36, 1919, p. 252) noted, in Alberta, that Magpie nests were invariably found not far from the nests of Red-tails or Swainson Hawks and wonders, if the proximity were not accidental, which species first chose the locality.

Apparently relationships among birds of prey, and between them and other species, vary with circumstances. I have known an Emperor Goose to hatch out its eggs in close proximity to the nest of a Snowy Owl. On the other hand, at least two Short-eared Owls, themselves raptors, in the same district fell prey to Snowy Owls.

Thus we see that at one time the Magpie is "harassed" by crows, and again the Magpies fraternize with crows amicably. We learn that young Magpies are the prey of a Rough-legged Hawk. On the other hand, a group of Magpies is found amicably feasting on carrion in company with a Rough-leg, when this hawk could easily have reached out and seized one of the birds. Which arrived at the carcass first, hawk or Magpie?

It is dangerous to speculate on mental traits of birds, but the subject is worth careful study, and more extensive observations by ornithologists may eventually throw some light on the influences affecting some of these relationships.—OLAUS J. MURIE, Bureau of Biological Survey, Jackson, Wyoming, December 29, 1933.

**Another Emperor Goose in California.**—While spending a few days in Glenn County last February I was introduced to Mr. Ralph P. Thompson of Willows who told me he had shot a strange looking goose on December 20, 1932. The bird was with a flock of Hutchins Geese and was the only one of the kind seen.

Failing to find anyone in Willows to preserve the specimen, he had roughly skinned the bird and dried the hide. As suspected, it proved to be an Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*), and on my suggesting that the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley would be a good place to preserve the record he gave me the evidence (skin) to forward there [now no. 63663].—R. H. BECK, Planada, Merced County, California, December 30, 1933.

**Additional Fall and Winter Records for the Lutescent Warbler in California.**—Among the specimens of the Lutescent Warbler (*Vermivora celata lutescens*) in the Los Angeles Museum are the following, all from Los Angeles County: Male (no. 2690) taken by J. Hornung at Greening, October 4, 1918; female (no. 10888) taken by F. S. Daggett at El Monte, December 16, 1898; male (no. 18230) taken by G. G. Cantwell

at Del Rey, January 8, 1934; and male (no. 13668) taken by C. H. Richardson, Jr., near Toluca, February 12, 1908.—G. WILLETT, *Los Angeles, California, January 12, 1934.*

**Records of Lesser Snow Goose and Whistling Swan in Arizona.**—Swarth's Distributional List (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 10, 1914, p. 14) gives the status of the Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea hyperborea*) in Arizona as follows: "There is a record by Coues (1866a, p. 98) of 'specimens taken near Fort Whipple, Oct. 17, 1864.' Seen on the Colorado River, near Needles, February 16 and 23, 1910 (Mus. Vert. Zool.)." So far as I can determine there has not been any additional record of this species published since the appearance of Swarth's work. It therefore seems worth while to place the following occurrence in the record.

Two geese of this species were killed on a large represo at Sells (Indian Oasis), the Indian Agency of the Papago Reservation 60 miles west of Tucson, on September 18, 1922, by Mr. J. G. Upham and Mr. A. E. Crepin, of Tucson. One of these birds was brought to me in the flesh by Mr. Upham for identification. I carefully checked the identity of the bird, but did not record in my notes what authority was used for that purpose. I feel sure, however, that I used the Game Birds of California, by Grinnell, Bryant, and Storer, with its excellent diagnostic sketches of the beaks of the Lesser Snow Goose (fig. 30) and the Ross Goose (fig. 31).

It seems an odd coincidence that Swarth's list should show not only the same number of occurrences of the Lesser Snow Goose and the Whistling Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) in Arizona, but in the same years. Concerning the latter species Swarth says (p. 15), "Recorded by Coues (1866a, p. 98) from the Colorado River and Fort Mojave. There is a recent record of its occurrence at Sacaton, Pinal County, November 21, 1910 (Gilman, 1911a, p. 35)."

One additional record has since appeared in the literature. W. B. Mershon, under date of March 22, 1919, reported the appearance of eleven swans about the middle of the previous December on Howard Lake, near Williams, Arizona (Condor, 21, 1919, p. 126). Two of the birds had been collected and preserved, one of which was seen by Mershon and identified as of this species.

On December 3, 1919, a young Whistling Swan was brought to the University aviary. This bird had alighted some days previously in a ranch yard about 4 miles south of Tucson. It was apparently uninjured but not disposed to fly. It was in exceedingly poor flesh and could walk only with difficulty. It swam across the small pool in the aviary but immediately landed and staggered to a resting place. Efforts to induce it to take food were unavailing and although some food was put down its throat it refused to make any effort to feed itself. The bird died the following day.

On December 15 another specimen of *columbianus* was brought to the University. This one, also young, was killed by a hunter who claimed to have mistaken it for a goose. It was taken in the valley east of the Baboquivari Mountains, about 65 miles southwest of Tucson, where there is a fairly large lake and a number of smaller reservoirs or represos.

At the time of recording the above occurrences it was supposed that these birds might appear here more frequently than the literature showed, but no further reports have since come to my attention, save one. A Phoenix news item, about 1919 or 1920, stated that a swan dinner had been tendered his friends by a Salt River Valley hunter (whose generosity was greater than his knowledge of the law) who, in consequence, had been arrested and fined a substantial sum. I do not have the date of this incident.—CHARLES T. VORHIES, *University of Arizona, Tucson, December 1, 1933.*

**English Sparrows Make Nuttall Sparrows Trapwise.**—In the Condor (31, 1929, p. 192) there is an article by the present writer giving his experiences in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California, when banding Nuttall Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*), wherein is set forth this bird's habit of colonizing in small groups, closely adjacent to one another, of which the respective members seldom mingle with those of other groups.

Since that paper was written changes have taken place on that banding ground, close to the California Academy of Sciences and the Steinhart Aquarium, that have