

**The Siberian Rough-legged Hawk in Alaska.**—The last edition of the A. O. U. Check-list gives only one form of the Rough-legged Hawk, *Buteo lagopus s. johannis*, as occurring in North America. However, while studying this species in connection with my work on the continuation of Ridgway's unfinished "Birds of North and Middle America," I found that the Siberian race *pallidus* has been collected at St. Michaels, Alaska. A male shot there by E. W. Nelson on September 16, 1879, is so much closer to Asiatic birds (*pallidus*) than to the American subspecies that I consider it to be *pallidus*; a female without definite locality other than "West Coast, Alaska," taken by J. W. Johnson, April 10, 1886, is intermediate in color between *s. johannis* and *pallidus*, but is large like the latter form; a male taken at St. Michaels by L. M. Turner, April 10, 1876, agrees in color with *s. johannis* but in size with *pallidus*. The race *pallidus* is larger than *s. johannis* and has the pale margins of the feathers of the upperparts lighter and broader than in the latter, especially in the young birds. The three Alaskan specimens mentioned above have wing lengths of 430, 434 mm. (males) and 447 mm. (female), as against 397-415 (average 407 mm.) in the males, and 395-438 (411 mm.) in the females of *s. johannis*.

A male from Kowak River, Alaska, kindly loaned me by Dr. Grinnell from the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (no. 32253) is small like *s. johannis* (wing 392 mm.) but is unusually pale for that form, suggesting an approach to *pallidus* in color. It is interesting to note in this connection that a specimen in the U. S. National Museum from Bering Island is large like *pallidus*, but is dark for its race, approaching *s. johannis*. These two, the St. Michaels bird collected by Turner, and the specimen taken by Johnson, suggest that in a region where the two races merge (as in the Bering Sea area) the size character remains more fixed than the coloration and is therefore a more reliable criterion.

The single specimen recorded from the Pribilof Islands is of the American form *s. johannis*, which is the race found throughout the Aleutian Islands as well.—HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *U. S. National Museum, August 18, 1934.*

**The Anthony Green Heron Again in Northern Oregon.**—In the Condor (30, 1928, p. 129) I recorded the occurrence of *Butorides virescens anthonyi* at Portland, Oregon, on the strength of a sight record. At that time, and until recently, no actual specimen had been preserved from any locality north of Mercer Lake, Lane County, Oregon.

Near my home in southeast Portland, well within the city limits and adjacent to the Willamette River, is a large undeveloped tract of "bottom land" that is overflowed to a depth of several feet each spring. During the rest of the year it is fed by several small springs which support a fair growth of tules and other swamp vegetation attractive to several species of ducks and swamp-loving birds. Several times my son has reported the presence of Green Herons in this area during the summer months. Near this swamp is the slow-moving Crystal Creek fed by large springs from Reed College Campus. On this creek is a commercial trout pond often visited by Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night Herons, and kingfishers that feed on the trout. The owner keeps several traps set for these visitors, and, on the morning of June 22, 1934, one of these traps held an Anthony Green Heron. My son was notified of the capture of this bird, which he soon secured. It proved to be an adult male in bright breeding plumage and with testes much enlarged. The specimen was preserved and is now no. 8510 in my collection and, so far as I know, constitutes the first actual specimen taken north of Lane County, Oregon.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, August 14, 1934.*

**Through a Hospital Window.**—From June 23 to November 4, 1933, I spent my days in Burnett Sanitarium, Fresno, California. Since that is the season of the year when the greatest number of birds are at Florence Lake, I spent no few hours bemoaning the fate that kept me away from our beloved mountains.

The window of my room framed but the tops of the trees in a garden across the street. And though I caught occasional glimpses of fluttering wings, I could not identify the birds. However, the third week I was in the hospital, I awakened with familiar bird songs ringing in my ears. For an instant I thought I must have dreamed them. But again I heard a meadowlark song and when I looked for it I saw only a Western Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*) perched on top of the cross arm of a telephone pole.

In quick succession this bird poured forth a volley of imitations. The Red-shafted Flicker, meadowlark, robin, Blue-fronted Jay, quail and Red-winged Blackbird, with a few notes in between that I did not know. As he sang he would hop two or three feet straight up into the air, as though the buoyancy of his renditions carried him off his perch.

For over a month the nurse knew when I was awake. When she heard the mocker, she came in to say good morning. To this day I am not sure whether this bird awakened me or awaited my waking to start his concert. But I rather suspect it was a case of coincidence in two habit forming creatures. On the stroke of six I awakened and quite likely that was the time allotted by the mocker, for mimicking the mountain birds.

I would see or hear this individual at other times of the day but only at six in the morning did it utter the notes, with which I am familiar.

Shortly after the mocker ceased his morning entertainments, I was allowed to spend part of the time in a wheeled chair. Then I was able to watch the happenings in the street. A line of cars was always parked in front of my window and the English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) became my source of amusement. Up and down, on the side walk in front of those parked cars, these busy little fellows hopped. The insects impailed on the radiators were the attraction. As all persons know, the newer radiators afford no support for bird feet and the sparrows knew this also. They hopped along, inspecting each radiator until they came to the old crisscross type. Then up they would jump to pick that radiator clean before searching for another. If a car drove into the line they had already looked over, they would fly back to see what it was like, before proceeding onward.

After all the easy ones had been gleaned they would fly up and "catch as catch can" from the vertical radiators. Or, if the line-up presented none of the older cars, they did not waste time bemoaning that fact, but merely went ahead and got whatever they could. It interested me greatly to see how they made use of their heads instead of expending unnecessary labor.—LILA M. LOFBERG, *Florence Lake, Big Creek, California, May 2, 1934.*

**American Egrets at the Jornada Experimental Range, New Mexico.**—Two migrating American Egrets (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) were observed at the Jornada Experimental Range near Las Cruces, New Mexico, on April 23, 1934. As this species is not listed in Mrs. F. M. Bailey's "Birds of New Mexico," this note is offered as a migration record. Since they probably are becoming more numerous as a result of protection, these rare birds doubtless have been observed previously by others within the state.

These American Egrets remained most of the day around the water tanks at the Headquarters of the Jornada Experimental Range, on a desert mesa about fifteen miles east of the Rio Grande, and attracted the attention of everyone at Headquarters. The distinguishing marks of the species, the white plumage, black legs and feet, yellow bill, and on one bird aigrette plumes, were clearly observed with prism binoculars of 8 diameter magnification at a distance of 125 feet. Pictures were taken at this distance also. The egrets stayed near the tanks with the cattle and were not easily frightened. When approached too closely by persons, they would fly to another tank a short distance away.

On the morning of October 16, five more egrets on their southward migration were seen at Road Tank, six miles northeast of Headquarters.

In order to be certain that these birds were not the smaller, Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*), the writer examined a specimen of the latter species in the museum of the New Mexico State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts. Living Snowy Egrets also were seen at Picacho-Bosque on the Rio Grande near Las Cruces, where about twenty-five pairs nested this year.—ELBERT L. LITTLE, JR., *Las Cruces, New Mexico, October 22, 1934.*

**The Golden Plover on the Beach at La Jolla.**—On the morning of November 2, on the beach at La Jolla, San Diego County, California, we saw a bird that looked very much like the Black-bellied Plover and yet there was something odd, something different about its manner or its appearance that attracted our attention. As we