to 29 are occupied by a communication from Professor J. D. Whitney on the progress of the Geological Survey of California. On page 27 appears the following statement and table: In the zoological department—in charge of Dr. J. G. Cooper, who has been employed about half the time since the survey was commenced—the annexed table gives a succinct idea of what had been accomplished, up to the close of the year 1862, in the way of collecting.

	Number of species in the collection	Of which there are new to California	Believed to be new, or undescribed	Other Californian species not yet collected	Total number credited to California	Of which there are found east of the Mississippi
Mammalia	32	10	3	45	77	14
Birds	170	28	4(?)	150	320	141
Reptiles	36	6	3	9	45	0
Fishes	58	16	16	75	133	0
Mollusca	335	123	123	65	400	0(?)

—H. S. SWARTH, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, October 10, 1935.*

Unusual Sets of Bush-tit and Green Heron.—On April 15, 1935, while on a trip through the willows of Del Rey tide flat near Los Angeles, my wife and I found a nest of the Coast Bush-tit (*Psaltriparus minimus minimus*) containing 15 eggs. As this was an unusual set, we took particular pains to search the immediate vicinity for any disengaged individuals, or pairs not already nesting, but without results. The event was duly recorded "with reservations" until every element of doubt was eliminated. A week of watching failed to disclose any other birds than the one pair claiming the nest. The parents deserted the set after the 3rd day, no doubt, because of our continued presence in the vicinity. The nest and set were then taken and are now in our collection.

We were a little hesitant in reporting this find until, on May 4, we located a new nest, presumably of this same pair, some 60 feet from the old site. This nest contained 11 eggs, all well-incubated. On account of pressing business matters, we were unable to follow up this last set to see just how the parents handled the brood to maturity. It certainly would have been interesting to have observed how the parents kept fifteen or eleven young supplied with food.

There can now be no doubt in our minds that these two sets were laid by the same pair, and that both sets are unusual. Dawson states (Birds of California, **2**, 1923, p. 628) that *P. m. minimus* lays from "5 to 8, usually 7". In over 100 nests I have examined previously, 7 eggs comprise the largest set found.

On returning to this same swamp one week later (May 11) to make a nesting survey of Anthony Green Herons (*Butorides virescens anthonyi*), a nest of this species, apparently an old one, was discovered 25 feet up in a large willow and placed some eight feet out. Although we had seen a green heron fly from the tree, we were inclined to pass it up, for only rather insecure footing was available to reach it. However, my wife, who is considerably lighter built than myself, made the climb and found the "old nest" overflowing with ten eggs, the bottom sagging so badly that it was a miracle just how it held, especially with the additional weight of the parent bird. While attempting to get the camera in position for a shot, there was an ominous report. The limb on which the nest was located, and upon which my wife had put too much pressure, snapped at the trunk—and I found myself suddenly smothered in an avalanche of limbs, camera, eggs and wife.

When the "dust settled," I found that, by some miracle, I had made a despairing dive for the nest as it descended and saved it from being dashed to bits. However, the bottom came out even as I lowered it to the ground and eggs were scattered everywhere. *Yet not one egg was cracked.* A reason was discovered when they were blown. The shells were too thick to drill by the ordinary method, so I used a large darning needle to puncture them.

As there were only four pairs of Green Herons nesting in this area (and each pair had its own nest), there is no doubt in our minds that this is a legitimate set, laid by one female. In examination of over forty nests of this heron, we have never found more than five, the average set being of four eggs.—L. B. HOWSLEY, *Los Angeles, California, October 10, 1935.*

Large Set of California Jay.—A number of years ago I was surprised to find a nest of the California Jay (*Aphelocoma californica californica*) containing six young birds. It was in a juniper tree on the Mohave Desert, about forty miles from Colton. Since then diligent search has been made for a nest containing such a large number of eggs or young, and on April 21, 1935, I found one containing seven eggs. This nest was in a juniper two feet from the ground and so