

Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*). At Guidici Ranch, July 6.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*). Three nests located, July 6.

Brewer Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus minusculus*). About Blairsden and Portola meadows, in territory apart from red-wings.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis*). At meadow about old barn on Blairsden road from camp, on several occasions.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*). Same locality as last, but only on June 30.

Lincoln Sparrow (*Passerella lincolni*). In full song.

The subspecific approximations are based largely on Grinnell, Dixon and Linsdale's "Vertebrate Natural History of Lassen Peak Region" (*op. cit.*). It is hoped that the area, a provocatively interesting one from the distributional standpoint, may receive a closer examination from a collecting ornithologist, for then the precise subspecific relationships can be established.

Berkeley, California, July 27, 1935.

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**Speed and Eyesight of a Pigeon Hawk.**—In an experiment with a female Eastern Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius columbarius*) trained for falconry the bird came at once to the lure from measured distances up to 900 yards. The lure was a flat, padded bag, approximately 3 by 4 by 1.5 inches in size, with a pair of small-bird wings fastened to each flat surface. It was swung in a circle at the end of a 3 foot thong to call the bird; to human eyes at such distances it was perfectly invisible. The hawk was timed in both directions on a nearly windless day over a course of 1542 feet, and it averaged 29.9 miles per hour. It is well known that a trained bird makes no such effort or speed in coming to the lure as it shows in pursuit of live quarry. This hawk seemed, purely by guess, to go about 50 per cent faster in pursuing a live bird.

In comparing it with birds it was attempting to capture, it was observed that the Pigeon Hawk flew faster than quail (*Lophortyx californica*) or Meadowlarks (*Sturnella neglecta*), and more slowly, at least in a rising flight, than Horned Larks (*Otocoris alpestris*). It could catch a shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus gambeli*) in a long course free from cover; it was keener after shrikes than after any other bird. It could catch, bring down and kill a dove (*Streptopelia risoria*), or even a strong adult common pigeon if released within about 50 feet, but was easily outdistanced by these birds after they had attained top speed.

The hawk was often harassed by hummingbirds, sometimes six or seven at once. They flew circles around her. Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) usually outmaneuvered the Pigeon Hawk, but few of them seemed to outspeed her. A wild, male Western Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius bendirei*) attacked her one day, kicked several feathers loose from her, and finally drove her to the ground. His speed was greatly superior to hers.—RICHARD M. BOND, *Oakland, California, December 3, 1935.*

**The Brown Thrasher in Utah.**—On December 6, 1935, while banding birds in Zion Canyon, at an elevation of 3,900 feet, I twice observed a bird that was thought to be a Sage Thrasher. The next day, December 7, this bird was trapped and banded (number 34-354902). After repeating three times the day following, making possible further study of its markings, the original identification was doubted.

On December 9, the bird again repeated and this time was collected for a specimen. It proved to be a female Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) in rather worn plumage. So far as ascertainable, this is a new record for the state of Utah as well as an addition to the few records west of the Rockies. The specimen (number 114, in the Zion National Park Museum) was made up and identified by W. S. Long, Wild Life Technician, Zion National Park.—HENRY GRANTHAM, *Zion National Park, Utah, December 12, 1935.*

**New Nesting Records for Yosemite Valley.**—The chart of daily bird records over a period of thirteen years in Yosemite Valley discloses the fact that the Mountain Bluebirds (*Sialia currucoides*) are not to be expected during the summer months. However, birds of this species may be found in the Yosemite any time between the middle of October and the middle of