

In Montana this species has been known to occur rarely as a migrant in the far eastern part of the state, but has not previously been reported to occur west of the Rockies, or during the winter season.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Montana, December 8, 1935.*

Shrike Craftiness.—Today (November 18, 1935), as I went back and forth to the clothes line, I was attracted by an unusual bird call. Finally I walked slowly into the vacant lot next door toward the call. I found a shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) sitting in the shadow about half way up in a mesquite bush. When I first saw him he was giving a low plaintive call which aroused the curiosity of several birds and drew them toward him, as he had drawn me. They were a mockingbird, a thrasher, an English Sparrow and several House Finches.

He then changed to a whistling call, similar to that of the Abert Towhee, but not as loud. All this time one House Finch was working down through the branches nearer and nearer the shrike, keeping up the usual House Finch talk. The shrike kept his eye on the finch all the time and began to answer. He carried on a conversation for several minutes, in tones surprisingly like those of the House Finch.

In the meantime the shrike had moved out in the open. I was so fascinated by the shrike and House Finch that I did not notice that the mockingbird had worked around on the ground almost under the shrike. Like a flash the shrike dropped down, striking at the mockingbird, but missed. A chase by the mockingbird ensued.—RUTH M. CROCKETT, *90 Columbus Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, November 18, 1935.*

Northern Records of the Mockingbird.—During the last ten years the list of western Canadian birds has been enriched by the appearance of several unexpected species. Of these one of the most remarkable is the Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*).

On May 31, 1928, the writer was amazed to see a Mockingbird on his ranch (Eastend, Saskatchewan), and on June 4 he collected the bird (*Condor*, 30, 1928, p. 320). This record, however, was not the first; for one was seen on May 2 of the preceding year by Mr. Steve Mann, of Piapot, Saskatchewan, whose farm is about thirty miles north of Eastend. While this was only a sight record, Mr. Mann removed all doubts by securing the next bird he saw, on November 1, 1929.

During 1928 there were several reports of the Mockingbird having been seen in different parts of the prairie provinces, but few, if any, of these reports were substantiated. No doubt many of them were correct, for the species can scarcely be mistaken for any other, particularly if the bird is heard singing. Since that year, a considerable number of Mockingbirds have been seen, and the species can hardly be considered any longer an accidental visitant or straggler.

In 1931 a pair nested at Didsbury in Central Alberta (*Canadian Field-Naturalist*, 46, 1932, p. 67). In 1934 a pair was seen at Wilcox, thirty miles south of Regina, Saskatchewan, that evidently was nesting there. Mr. Mann tells me he noted the Mockingbird in 1932 and 1934 also. In 1935 there were two seen in this neighborhood. Mr. E. H. Knowles, of Regina, informs me that he saw one in 1934, and that more than one pair were seen near Truax, sixty miles south of Regina, in 1935.

In view of all these records for Saskatchewan alone, it is rather surprising to find so few records for the states that adjoin us to the south. Mr. Winton Weydemeyer, of Fortine, Montana, tells me that so far as he knows there are no records of the Mockingbird in that state; and the species is not included by Aretas Saunders in his Montana list (*Pac. Coast Avifauna* No. 14). Mr. H. J. Rust, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, writes me that he has no record for the northern part of Idaho, but thinks the bird may appear occasionally in the southern part of the state.

According to Mr. Otto McCreary, University of Wyoming, Laramie, the Mockingbird is a regular breeding bird of southeastern Wyoming, but he has no record for the northern half of the state. Mr. Pierce Brodtkorb, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, has no record for either Wyoming or South Dakota. According to Professor A. P. Larrabee, of Yankton, South Dakota, the Mockingbird is an occasional visitor to his section and other points in South Dakota. Apparently there are no records at all for North Dakota and none is given in recent issues of the *Auk* or *Condor* for that state or for any of the others mentioned.

The writer does not know whether the few specimens, about three, taken in Saskatchewan belong to the race *polyglottos* or the race *leucopterus*, a question which when decided might indicate whether our birds originate from the southeast or the southwest.—LAURENCE B. PORTER, *Eastend, Saskatchewan, January 14, 1936.*

The Little Blue Heron at Santa Cruz, California.—For a period of about three months, a small white heron has been observed almost daily, feeding along the banks of the San Lorenzo