

Colton called my attention to a drowned bird in a bowl of water in her flower garden. It proved to be an immature male, Z8.524, of this species. Identification checked by McCabe.—LYNDON L. HAR- GRAVE, *Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, February 18, 1936.*

**Notes from Maricopa County, Arizona.**—During the period between January 31 and February 9, 1936, the writer, with three student assistants, S. G. Harter, Philip Lichty and Norris Bloomfield, collected birds and mammals for the San Diego Society of Natural History from a base camp 10 miles south of Gila Bend, Maricopa County, Arizona. Among the birds taken were a few worthy of mention, either for the locality or their occurrence at this season.

Green-tailed Towhees (*Oberholseria chlorura*) were particularly abundant and many were seen all during our stay. A single Woodhouse Jay (*Aphelocoma californica woodhouseii*) was seen and shot at by the writer on February 1; and two specimens of Chestnut-backed Bluebirds (*Sialia mexicana bairdi*) were taken from a small flock that was found ranging over the desert plains on February 8. Both the Leconte Thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei lecontei*) and Crissal Thrasher (*Toxostoma dorsale dorsale*) were singing; a female of the former species that was collected showed signs of incubating. A single Myrtle Warbler (*Dendroica coronata hooveri*) was secured on February 8, and of two specimens of white-crowned sparrows collected, one was *Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii* and the other *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys*; taken on February 1 and 2, respectively. A pair of Canyon Towhees (*Pipilo fuscus mesoleucus*) was found, which, both from their behavior and from dissection, were apparently settled for the breeding season.

A small fresh water mollusk (*Succinea*) was found in the rump feathers of a Western Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus confinis*) collected on February 4, and was the first example of molluscan "hitch hiking" via the avian trail that the writer had ever seen.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, March 11, 1936.*

**Asiatic Gyrfalcon in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia.**—The Asiatic Gyrfalcon so seldom is recorded from southern British Columbia that any observations of its actions would seem of interest to place on record. On December 19, 1935, a young female (*Falco rusticolus uralensis*) was collected under the following circumstances.

I was motoring past a small brush-fringed creek in otherwise open country when some one shot at, and missed, a female mallard which then flew over the open range toward Okanagan Lake. A large falcon suddenly appeared and flying after the duck on the same level gained upon it rapidly, whereupon the duck swerved from its former straight course and the falcon shot past it. The duck then spiraled down to a small ice-covered pond where it alighted. The falcon flew swiftly toward the standing bird and in the next five minutes or so swooped at it again and again, each time clearing the duck by a foot or more. After this it alighted on the ice about eight feet from the duck and remained there motionless for a few minutes. The mallard quacked continuously but did not move from its position. The falcon then rose and again began swooping at the duck. By this time my companion and I were walking toward the pond, one on either side and several hundred yards apart. When distant from the pond about 75 yards the mallard rose and flew toward Okanagan Lake and the falcon, passing close to my companion, was shot.

In the crop of the gyrfalcon were approximately two ounces of flesh from the breast of a male mallard, identified by the presence of the characteristic chestnut-colored breast feathers. The weight of this specimen was three pounds and twelve ounces; bill, cere, and rectus pale green-blue gray; the bill darkening to dark gull gray toward center, and with the terminal third black; tarsus court gray; iris dark brown.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, B. C., January 15, 1936.*

**Bird Records from near Phoenix, Arizona.**—Sheltered canyons in the vicinity of Phoenix, Arizona, have offered us many thrills, but the greatest probably came on January 23, 1936. We were below the Stewart Mountain Dam in a great semi-circular area made by the dam and the canyon sides. The winter had been mild, one side of the canyon was covered with generous splotches of chuparosa (*Beloperone californica*) in bloom. When we drove into the area we remembered having seen Costa and Black-chinned hummingbirds on February 10, 1934, in a similar situation about 25 miles away.

With the aid of 8-power binoculars we started working the area and soon found several each of Costa and Black-chinned hummingbirds and then noticed a larger one, which seemed to be spending at least a part of the time in the trees going over the undersides of the leaves and branches. Between feedings he chased a gnatcatcher away. Soon we saw the bright color of the bill and on consulting the guide realized we were seeing a Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cyanthus latirostris*). We each saw it six or eight times at close range and with binoculars.