

have extricated itself from such an entanglement.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, July 7, 1936.*

Notes on Some Nests Found in Eastern Riverside County, California.—In company with Mr. W. J. Sheffler and Mr. Robert Hannum of Los Angeles, California, a trip was made to the vicinity of Blythe, Riverside County, California, in the spring of 1936. The object of the trip was the collecting of eggs of the Harris Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*) and Treganza Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias treganzai*).

On April 21, 1935, a similar trip had been made and, after much difficult "slushing" through tule thickets and flooded mesquites, a nesting colony of Treganza Blue Herons was located, but all nests on that date contained young birds. A set of two hawk eggs, incubation advanced, was taken on this date, but it was not certain in our minds that the eggs were those of a Harris Hawk.

On March 21 and 22, 1936, we returned to the vicinity and found that the dead cottonwoods in which the herons had nested in 1935 were blown down. However, after a further search, a colony of about twenty-five pairs of breeding birds was found. In the short time at our disposal, we investigated about half of the occupied nests and found two nests with five well-incubated eggs, four nests with four eggs each (two sets fresh and the other two sets half incubated), and several nests containing three eggs each. The sets of three eggs taken were well incubated, proving that they were full complements. The nests were all placed in dead flooded mesquites, about ten to fifteen feet above the surface of the water, which in many places was well over our heads in depth.

While we were approaching the heron rookery, a hawk was seen to leave a nest placed in the same sort of situation as the heron nests in the dead mesquites. Upon investigating the nest, a set of seven eggs, ready to hatch, was found. We were able to observe the hawk closely and positively identify it as a Harris Hawk. This set of seven eggs appears to represent the laying of two females, for three eggs are easily picked out from the remaining four in size and shape, although all seven eggs were equally well incubated. This set of eggs is now in the collection of Mr. Sheffler. On the same day, March 22, another nest of Harris Hawk was found, containing two eggs slightly incubated, which eggs are now in my collection. These two sets and the set of two taken last year which now may be positively identified establish the Harris Hawk as a regular breeding bird in California.

Regarding the nesting of the Treganza Blue Heron in California, Mr. Sidney Peyton informs me that some years ago he found three nests placed in the tules of Salton Sea, Imperial County, all containing young birds. He attributed these nests to this race, but no specimens were taken for positive identification. A nesting female taken by Mr. Hannum at the colony which we visited has proved to be *Ardea herodias treganzai*. There is some difference in size of the heron eggs, the smallest egg measuring 62×46 mm., and the largest measuring 66×52 mm. The Harris Hawk eggs are indistinguishable in size from those which I have taken in Lower California, Mexico.

An unusual nest of a Plumbeous Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila melanura melanura*) was found on March 21 in a mesquite near Coachella, Riverside County. The bird had used the base, feather lining and outer thorny twigs of a Verdin's nest; she had shaped it a bit to suit her fancy, but had failed miserably to uphold the standard of construction of gnatcatcher nests in general. There apparently had been no attempt made by the gnatcatcher to build her own nest, as the eggs were laid in a lining of Gambel Quail feathers, typically a Verdin trait.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, July 11, 1936.*

A Pacific Golden Plover Reaches California.—Whenever Allan Brooks visits the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, as he last did early this year, he never fails to find something in our collection that has escaped the notice of bird students resident here. This time it was a previously misidentified skin of Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica fulva*)—California-taken at that! And when once pointed out, there is no doubt about the identification.

The bird had, of course, been concealed in a series of Americans. It is no. 43999, Mus. Vert. Zool.; collected by Donald D. McLean on Bay Farm Island, Alameda County, California, January 15, 1922. It is naturally in winter plumage, and it is a close match for a specimen of *fulva* (no. 12519) taken by Miss A. M. Alexander on Molokai, Hawaiian Islands, February 12, 1910. These two *fulva* contrast with California-taken *Pluvialis dominica dominica* most conspicuously, as pointed out to me by Major Brooks, by the coloration of the lower surface; in *fulva* there is a well defined dull brownish chest area set off rather sharply against the extensively clear white abdominal area, whereas in *dominica* the lower surface is mottled grayish brown from the lower throat clear back to the lower tail coverts. In *fulva*, too, there is more extensive pervasion of clear apricot yellow throughout the dorsal surface; also this color extends dilutely over the sides of the head, and even tinges the pectoral area. There are dimensional differences, also. In *fulva* the wing is shorter, the bill longer, than in *dominica*. No. 43999, the California-taken male, gives the following measurements: Wing 166 millimeters, tail 65, culmen 24.4, tarsus 45.0, middle toe without claw 22.9. These measurements have