FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Northern Record for the Gray Titmouse in Oregon.—On February 9, 1936, while looking for winter birds in the Blitzen Canyon, Steens Mountains, Harney County, Oregon, I was attracted by the call of a titmouse, coming from a tangle of dead willows in a dry wash at the base of the canyon wall. The bird was collected, and it proved to be an adult female *Baeolophus inornatus griseus*. This species is extremely rare in Oregon, the only other records of its occurrence being in the juniper belt just west of South Warner Valley, Lake County, near the California-Nevada border.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Burns, Oregon, October 27, 1936.*

The Effect of Smudging upon Birds.—During California's recent cold wave, I spent the day of January 25, 1937, observing birds at the mouth of San Gabriel Canyon, some three miles north of Azusa, Los Angeles County. The sun was seldom visible through the dense blanket of smudge which had periodically covered many miles of the near-by citrus groves for the previous week. I mention this fact to introduce the cause of such a marked change in the appearance of the birds throughout this area.

Those birds most noticeably blackened were the House Wren, California Thrasher, Audubon Warbler, Willow Goldfinch, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, California Towhee, and Pallid Wren-tit. Some were so heavily covered with smudge that the natural colors could hardly be imagined, while others were only slightly darkened on the chin and forehead. The latter inhabit areas less densely covered, which are not protected by trees or overhanging growth.

Of particular interest was the normal activity of all the species. At least outwardly they showed no evidence of being bothered by such an abnormal environment. A Rufous-crowned Sparrow was singing; others were feeding and flying about in their usual cheerful manner. Evidently the small amount of carbolic acid present in the crude-oil vapor is not enough to be fatally poisonous. When considering the great quantity of seeds and animal matter consumed, it seems unlikely that smudging could have a poisonous effect upon our birds, even should it continue many days. Luckily, that will probably never be necessary.

To give some idea as to how completely saturated the poor little fellows were, I might mention the difficulty I had in even partly restoring specimens to their normal color. Even solutions that normally dissolve grease and oil with ease I found to be of little use. I doubt if the bird itself could be instrumental in restoring its natural color. The spring molt will most likely be the only remedy.—GILBERT PHILP, *Beverly Hills, California, January 30, 1937.*

Ring-necked Duck in Ventura County, California.—A male Ring-necked Duck (*Nyroca collaris*) was found dead near Fillmore, Ventura County, January 27, 1937, and it was forwarded to the Los Angeles Museum by Sidney B. Peyton. It was mounted for display in a southern California duck group.—G. WILLETT, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, February 1, 1937.*

Parasites of Fish-eating Birds at Yellowstone Lake, Wyoming.—In the course of studies of the cestode parasites of trout in Yellowstone Lake, Wyoming, the digestive tracts of some 22 specimens of fish-eating birds, of eleven species, were examined in an effort to determine possible hosts. Four adult White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*), examined from the colony on the Molly Islands, gave results as follows:

June 22, 1931: *Contracaecum spiculigerum* present in large numbers in both esophagus and stomach; stomach also contained one mature trout (*Salmo lewisi*); the small intestine contained one small tapeworm (*Hymenolepis* sp.) and two larger tapeworms (*Diphyllobothrium cordiceps*).

June 22, 1931: *C. spiculigerum* present in large numbers in esophagus and stomach; stomach contained one mature, gravid, female trout; small intestine contained one small tapeworm (*Hymenolepis* sp.).

July 1, 1931: 17 small specimens of *C. spiculigerum* present in stomach; 2 *Hymenolepis* sp. present in small intestine.

July 23, 1931: Stomach contained the remains of one gravid female trout, and a large number of *C. spiculigerum*; two species of cestodes (*D. cordiceps* and *Oligorchis longivaginatus*) were present in the intestine.

Examination of three pelicans from Great Salt Lake Valley, Utah, in the spring of 1932 at the University of Utah, revealed large numbers of *C. spiculigerum* in the esophagus and stomach but failed to reveal any specimens of *D. cordiceps*.

Of three young pelicans examined on the Molly Islands, a week-old individual had no fish food in its stomach and no parasites; one two weeks old with its stomach filled with fish food had