

Fewer Golden-crowned Sparrows at Woodacre Station this Winter (1937-38).—The Golden-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia coronata*) appeared at my banding station near Woodacre, Marin County, California, in lesser numbers this fall and winter than has been the case since the station was established, in 1928. Instead of several hundred of them wearing new bands only 87 have been banded so far this season. On the other hand there have been relatively more *returns* than in any previous season. Of these latter the year of banding and the number of returns were as follows: 1930, 1; 1931, 1; 1932, 0; 1933, 3; 1934, 2; 1935, 5; 1936, 22; 1937 (spring), 3: a total of 37 individuals. (In bird banding a "return" follows an absence of at least six months.)

Of the above returns the outstanding record is that of one that was banded as an immature, with band number A176908, on October 20, 1930. This bird was found in a trap on November 25, 1931; on April 3, 1932; November 6, 1933; February 11, 1934; December 2, 1934; November 8, 1935; October 25, 1936; and on December 5, 1937. Each time it returned it repeated a few times and disappeared again.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, February 6, 1938.*

The Clark Nutcracker at Sea Level.—In September, 1935, one of our local bird students called me at the museum and reported seeing a flock of 12 Clark Nutcrackers (*Nucifraga columbiana*) on La Cumbre Peak, which is approximately 8 miles air line from Santa Barbara and with an altitude of 4000 feet. I thought this interesting, as these birds are rarely seen in this vicinity at such a low altitude. However, on September 24, 1935, while on the beach near Goleta, Santa Barbara County, California, I thought I heard the call of a Clark Nutcracker. The notes came from some Monterey pines located in the door yard of a ranch house situated perhaps 450 yards from the beach. Upon scrutinizing the trees, I saw one of the birds pecking at a cone vigorously. While watching this one, I saw another in the same tree.

I collected both birds. One proved to be an adult male and the other an immature female. The male (no. 2962) I mounted for our exhibition collection in the hall of local birds, and the female (no. 2997) is in our study series. These are apparently the second and third specimens from the vicinity of Santa Barbara, a female (no. 843) having been picked up in Montecito, October 15, 1919, by Mr. William Barker.

On October 16, 1935, while collecting near the mouth of the Santa Clara River in Ventura County, I saw a single Nutcracker flying low over the willows.—EGMONT Z. RETT, *Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, February 28, 1938.*

Red-naped Sapsucker and Rufous Hummingbird.—An interesting case of Rufous Hummingbirds (*Selasphorus rufus*) making use of Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*) workings was observed July 14-15, 1934, in a canyon a few miles northwest of Strawberry Reservoir, Wasatch County, Utah. The tiny stream of water in the bottom of the canyon was lined with clumps of willows, with stems up to an inch in diameter. The sapsuckers were observed in several places, working on the stems in the usual woodpecker fashion, holding with the feet, bracing with the tail, and picking at the stem.

Upon investigation, it was found that large numbers of stems had small patches of bark removed, up to one or two inches in length. Sap juices were slowly exuding from the cambium layer under the bark on to the edge of the bare area. Our observations seemed to indicate that in some cases the sapsucker had taken not only the exuding sap, but also some pieces of bark from the edge, thus enlarging the area.

It was noted also that the Rufous Hummingbirds made use of these same bare spots by standing in the air on their fluttering wings, probing with the bill as if sipping the exuding juices, and moving from bare spot to bare spot to repeat the probing. Whether the hummingbirds also picked up some of the insects collected around the exuding sap could not be determined; but our observations of the Western Yellow Warblers (*Dendroica aestiva morcomi*) flitting about in the willows, at least aroused the suspicion that they were taking such insects.—A. M. WOODBURY, *University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 5, 1938.*

Black Oyster-catchers at Point Lobos.—On October 24, 1937, the sun came into a clear sky, but on the far horizon beyond the blue sea there was a heavy bank of fog. We were walking in the Point Lobos Reserve, Monterey County, California, when we spied what we took to be a flock of crows perched in an unusual situation. The birds were resting high and dry, yet not much above the splash of the sea. The perching site was on one of those sandstone humps that reach out into the sea from the south shore of the Reserve.