

the pulp and scatter the seeds, which then germinate more readily. If one could only reclaim the seeds after the birds have cleaned them, it would be a real coöperative enterprise!—E. C. MORAN, *Medora, North Dakota, March 13, 1939*. [Transmitted by Prof. O. A. Stevens.]

New Bird Records for Nevada.—The following observations made along the shore of Lake Mead near the site of St. Thomas, Clark County, Nevada, provide new records for the State of Nevada.

Squatarola squatarola. Black-bellied Plover. On May 6, 1938, ten of these birds were observed along the lake shore. The following day no trace of them could be found. Apparently they had stopped only briefly on their flight northward.

Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis. Louisiana Heron. Observed along the lake shore on November 21, 1938. A careful search of the vicinity revealed only the one individual.—RUSSELL K. GRATER, *Boulder Dam Recreational Area, Nevada, December 10, 1938*.

Eastern Brown Thrasher Banded in Hollywood Hills, California.—On January 13, 1939, I trapped and banded a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*). The bird was subsequently observed daily up to February 28, 1939. It appeared to be here alone. This bird was also seen by Mr. Josiah Keely and Mrs. Mary Barnes Salmon, both of whom are familiar with this species in the East. [The bird is still present on April 17.]

Mr. George Willett advised me that the Brown Thrasher has only been observed once before in southern California when it was seen in Pasadena from December 1, 1932, to March 12, 1933.—C. V. DUFF, *Hollywood, California, March 6, 1939*.

Guadalupe Island Xantus Murrelet in California Waters.—After reading the interesting article by J. Elton Green and Lee W. Arnold, in the Condor for January, 1939, the writer studied, in comparison with their findings, the specimens of *Endomychura hypoleuca* in the Los Angeles Museum. The series now in this institution (collections L. A. Museum, L. B. Bishop, J. S. Garth, and G. Willett) numbers 31 birds, two from Guadalupe Island, fourteen from Los Coronados, the remainder from Californian waters.

The results of this study appear to substantiate the conclusion of Green and Arnold that there are two races of *hypoleuca*, one of which has been found nesting only at Guadalupe Island. Our two examples from the latter locality are like the ones figured by Green and Arnold. There are, also, two specimens (nos. 2803, 2804 coll. G. W.), undoubtedly migrants, taken by the writer in the channel between San Pedro and Catalina Island, August 11 and 13, 1928, that appear referable to the Guadalupe Island form, *E. h. hypoleuca*. That this bird should occur as a migrant along our coast is not strange, when the rather common occurrence of the related species, *E. craveri*, is considered.

That the relationship of the Guadalupe Island bird is closer to the breeding bird of California than it is to *craveri*, is substantiated by a study of our specimens. The black area beneath the eye is quite variable in width, and in some of our birds from Los Coronados Islands and Anacapa Island it is much narrower than in the figured type of *scrippsi*.—G. WILLETT, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, January 30, 1939*.

White-throated Sparrow Coincidence and Other Notes.—At my home in Eureka, Humboldt County, California, on November 29, 1934, I took a male White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) from a flock of Golden-crowned Sparrows. I shot this bird from my pantry window at a distance of 22 feet. On March 13, 1938, I took a male White-throated Sparrow from a flock of Golden-crowned Sparrows, also shot from my pantry window at a distance of exactly 22 feet and in almost exactly the same spot, under a mock orange bush.

June 21, 1938, I took a male specimen of the Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*) from a fresh-water slough two and one-half miles north of Arcata, Humboldt County. This was at 10:30 a.m.; the female taking wing made a circle, doubling back, just out of gun range, then turned due west, fading from sight in the distant perspective. At six p.m., I went back and the female was in the slough, near where I took the male. After a half-mile circle on the old county road, I approached to a high bank shooting position; but the female was gone. It seems very unusual to find this species here in the month of June.

On August 21, 1938, I took a specimen of Surf Bird (*Aphriza virgata*), male, from a group of three at roaring surf's edge, open ocean, at the base of high cliffs on the south edge of Trinidad Head, Humboldt County.—C. I. CLAY, *Eureka, California, February 14, 1939*.

Winter Bird Notes from Roosevelt Lake, Arizona.—Roosevelt Lake, at an average altitude of about 2000 feet, is at the junction of Salt River and Tonto Creek, at the western edge of

Gila County, Arizona. The surrounding country is all within the Lower Sonoran Zone, is hilly and brush-covered. The lake is favored by ducks as a resting place during migration; but because of a constantly fluctuating shore line few species of water birds are found there in numbers during the winter. The lake constitutes a Federal Bird Refuge.

From January 24 to 31, 1939, I observed birds at this lake and was surprised to see so few, both of species and individuals. No specimens were taken, but observations were made mostly under conditions favorable for accurate identification. Ducks were negligible, there being only a few hundreds. Lesser Scaups (*Nyroca affinis*) were most abundant, with Canvas-backs (*Nyroca valisineria*) second. There were a few Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*), Green-winged Teals (*Nettion carolinense*), and Shovellers (*Spatula clypeata*). Wintering geese were abundant, however, although there are few published records of geese from Arizona. I saw several large flocks and heard others. On one occasion I was able to approach within less than 75 yards of a flock of 49 Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis canadensis*) that were grazing on young blades of Bermuda grass on a slope more than one-half mile from the lake shore. At such close range the large size of the geese was apparent. That the geese range even farther away from the lake is attested by a reliable report that six were seen grazing on the mesa more than two miles from water.

About December 23, 1938, a Canada goose, reported to weigh nearly 10 pounds, was shot at the eastern end of the lake. Local residents estimate there are at least 500 of these large geese wintering at the lake. They also said that in 1938 the geese did not come to the lake before November. Only one other species of goose has been identified, *Chen hyperborea*, as determined from the statement that a white goose weighing seven pounds was shot some time in November, 1938, from a flock of three. The wings of this goose have been acquired for the avian osteology collection of the Museum of Northern Arizona. Two other white geese are reported to have been seen several times during January feeding with a large flock of Canada Geese on the Tonto Creek end of the lake.

No shore birds were observed, but pelicans, cormorants, herons, coots, and gulls were common. White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) for years have been regular winter visitors at this lake, one or more hundreds being found at the mouth of Tonto Creek. From 1919 to 1924 inclusive, I observed them in this abundance and I found this year to be no exception. Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) appeared to be less numerous than formerly, but they could be seen at most any time resting upon snags in Salt River below the dam. They were not infrequently seen flying over or resting upon the lake.

Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*) were abundant, there being single birds scattered along the shore every few hundred yards. Although not seen by me, Mr. James J. Lane reports that from about the end of October to early January he occasionally saw a white heron about the same size as the blue herons (probably *Casmerodius albus egretta*). He estimated 3 or 4 to be on the lake. Coots (*Fulica americana*) were seen at any time, but the total number probably would not exceed seven hundred, a relatively small number for the estimated 12 square miles of water.

Gulls were seen frequently, and in this respect were common although there were relatively few individuals. Generally a single bird could be seen on the lake, but I did not count more than twelve within sight at one time. I do not recall them being more numerous in years past than at present. Local residents report three different sizes, but all I saw appeared to be the Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*). I know of no specimens having been taken in this locality.

Land birds that frequently are found about water numbered but two. One adult Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was seen circling over the lake on January 25. Although not strictly from the lake, a record of the Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*) should properly be recorded at this time. I did not record dates, but about 20 years ago I saw this bird in the cold rushing water below the dam. The temperature of the water at that place generally is between 50 and 55 degrees F.; the river resembles a mountain stream. I have not seen the Dipper immediately below Roosevelt Dam within recent days but the bird does occur under similar conditions below Horse Mesa power house at Apache Lake, 13 miles by river below Roosevelt Dam, according to Mr. F. K. Lane. He described the appearance and actions of this bird so accurately that there seems to be no doubt of the identification. Mr. Lane reports that three or four have been there for several weeks. This species has been reported from few localities in Arizona and never before, to my knowledge, from localities strictly within the Lower Sonoran Zone.

Strictly land birds were of normal occurrence according to the season and zone and need not be mentioned but for the fact that every species noted, with the exception of the Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo borealis*), Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*), Raven (*Corvus corax*), Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*), Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*), Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*), and Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), was observed daily to feed upon the exposed seed-pulp of fully ripened pomegranates still hanging upon the bush. These birds are the Gila Woodpecker (*Centurus uro-*

pygialis), Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*), Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Palmer Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*), Crissal Thrasher (*Toxostoma dorsale*), Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), Cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis*), House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), Junco (*Junco oreganus*), and Gambel Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*).—LYNDON L. HARGRAVE, *Arizona Game Department, Phoenix, Arizona, January 31, 1939.*

Eastern Hermit Thrush in Colorado.—An Eastern Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata faxoni*), a race hitherto unrecorded from Colorado, was found dead in west Denver, by H. M. Baldry, on February 8, 1939. The specimen (no. 19869, Colo. Mus. Nat. Hist.) was an adult female. Such a winter occurrence would have been unusual for even our common thrushes, as they rarely appear in our area before the last week in April.—ALFRED M. BAILEY and ROBERT J. NIEDRACH, *The Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado, February 24, 1939.*

Another Record of the Bohemian Waxwing at Grand Canyon, Arizona.—On Sunday, February 20, a dozen Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrula*) were discovered feeding upon juniper berries on the north side of El Tovar Hotel on the south rim of Grand Canyon, Arizona. Their size quickly led to further discernment of distinguishing marks from the Cedar Waxwing, of pale color, lack of yellowish on underparts, white wing bars, cinnamon under tail coverts and weak lower-pitched call note. Reaching for a juniper berry a bird would roll it in its bill and flick the core away. Beneath the tree the soft snow was pitted with the dropped cores. Once a few of the birds dropped to a space on the ground, bare of snow, seemingly for gravel.

A small group of Bohemian Waxwings was observed by H. S. and W. W. Swarth (Condor, vol. 22, 1920, p. 79) in almost the same location on December 18, 1919, the only other recorded occurrence for Grand Canyon.—HAROLD C. BRYANT, *Grand Canyon, Arizona, February 24, 1939.*

Black Phoebe in British Columbia.—Shortly prior to his death, the late R. A. Cumming wrote to Mr. J. A. Munro, of Okanagan Landing, B.C., requesting that he prepare and publish a note recording the first capture of the Black Phoebe in British Columbia. As the Cumming collection, including this specimen, has been incorporated in the Provincial Museum collection, Mr. Munro has forwarded the letter to me with the request that I put the specimen on record.

The specimen in question is a well-made skin of a female *Sayornis nigricans nigricans*. This bird, to quote from Mr. Cumming's letter was "taken November 11, 1936, on the B. C. Electric Railway tracks near Marpole. The afternoon was cold, after a rainstorm. My son Gordon was with me at the time."

Had it been in the summer or early fall this occurrence could have been more readily understood. However, it is interesting, perhaps significant, to note that the other recorded occurrences of vagrant flycatchers in British Columbia were also in the fall and winter. Thus the only known specimen of *Tyrannus dominicensis* from the Province was taken at Cape Beale, V. I., on October 9, 1889, and the single specimen of *Tyrannus melancholicus chloromotus* was shot in February, 1923, at French's Beach, V. I.—IAN McTAGGART COWAN, *Provincial Museum, Victoria, B. C., February 20, 1939.*

Adult Lamprey Eaten by a Great Blue Heron.—In the course of field work for the California Division of Fish and Game, on the South Fork of the Eel River, a quarter mile below Benbow Dam, Humboldt County, California, on November 17, 1938, occurred the incident here described. It concerned a great blue heron (*Ardea herodias hyperonca*) and a lamprey eel (*Entosphenus tri-dentatus*).

At 2:28 p.m., while I was watching from cover the opposite shore of a crescentic pool at a bend in the river, a Great Blue Heron walked into view about a hundred yards away. It slowly and deliberately waded upstream in the shallow, marginal water, then walked out onto the rocky shore at the edge of the pool, all the while peering for food. Presently, the bird waded deeper into the pool. After poising its head for an instant just out of water, it struck quickly at something below the surface. Straightening up, the heron waded to shore with an adult lamprey held firmly by the head in its beak.

At a point about five feet from shore the heron dropped the twisting lamprey onto the gravel. Each time the lamprey wriggled and contorted its body the heron struck at the head with its dagger-like beak. At 2:34 p.m., the lamprey wriggled once more, whereupon the heron, after poising its head momentarily about two feet above the lamprey, drove its beak hard into the gill region and quickly withdrew it, watching, then, for further movement. Once again the lamprey moved and again it received a severe thrust from the beak of the heron. After another moment of watching the