

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Ivory-billed Woodpecker's Beak in an Indian Grave in Colorado.—A WPA crew excavating near Johnstown, Weld County, Colorado, last January unearthed two human skeletons, male and female, probably either Arapaho or Cheyenne Indians. With the skeletons were various pieces of trade goods secured from whites, showing the remains were not of very great age; but of interest to bird students were the bills of an Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*) and a Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophloeus pileatus*). As there was no direct contact of the plains Indians with those of the Gulf coast area, it is probable that the beaks changed hands several times before reaching Colorado.

W. Z. Parks (Northwestern University Studies in the Social Sciences, no. 2, 1938) states that specific animals were thought by the northern Shoshone to be useful in curing specific diseases. Eagles were associated with fevers, bears with open and bloody wounds, and woodpeckers with venereal diseases. According to Parks, head-dresses of woodpecker scalps were worn by the Klamath and Shasta shamans, and in California they were donned by dancers participating in Yurok and Hupa jumping dances. Consequently, from the above, it may be judged that the finding of woodpeckers' beaks in Indian graves should not be unusual, except for the geographic location of the find of a portion of an Ivory-billed Woodpecker upon the Colorado plains.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado, March 24, 1939.*

European Jack Snipe and Franklin Gull in California.—On November 20, 1938, while shooting Wilson Snipe about four miles northwest of the Marysville Buttes, Butte County, California, I saw an unusual snipe get up in front of me. The bird appeared small and did not fly in a zig-zag erratic flight, nor did it give any call upon rising. I shot the bird and discovered it to be a female adult European Jack Snipe (*Lymnocyptes minimus*). I believe that this is the first record for the United States proper, and the third one for North America, one having been taken on the Pribilof Islands and one in Labrador. This specimen is now in my collection.

On May 18, 1939, while checking the southwest end of Tulare Lake, Kings County, for possible duck disease, I collected a female immature Franklin Gull (*Larus pipixcan*) that was in company with a number of immature Ring-billed Gulls and a few California Gulls. There were also a few Bonaparte Gulls on a sand spit. It was easy to distinguish this species from the Bonaparte because of the lack of a large amount of white on the primaries. The birds were feeding on carp that had died in a barrow pit along the southwest border of the lake. This particular bird was changing from the first winter plumage to the first breeding plumage. It is, therefore, a rather interesting specimen.—D. D. McLEAN, *Division of Fish and Game, San Francisco, California, May 20, 1939.*

The House Finch in the Willamette Valley, Oregon.—In April, 1937, at Corvallis, Oregon, two pairs of House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*) for a time came regularly to the same feeding table as purple finches and sparrows. Later in the spring, House Finches were seen about Corvallis, and at least one pair nested on the campus. In the last two years this has become a fairly common bird on the campus and it has been seen in the surrounding country. I have also seen it at Eugene, and have had unverified but quite circumstantial reports of it from other towns in the valley. In the past it has not been recorded in western Oregon north of the Rogue and Umpqua river valleys.—KENNETH GORDON, *Department of Zoology, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon, May 15, 1939.*

Notes on the Distribution of the Lesser Canada Goose and Cackling Goose in California.—*Branta canadensis leucopareia*. Lesser Canada Goose. Of the several kinds of geese wintering in California, this is the latest to arrive in autumn. Its migration appears to be largely inland, in contrast with the more coastal flights of Cackling Geese, and Lesser Canada Geese enter the state in its northeastern corner or along the eastern border.

On account of confusion with the much more abundant Cackling Geese at Tule Lake, Siskiyou County, H. M. Worcester (MS) records the present subspecies definitely in the autumn of 1932, first on December 3, and common by the 5th. It is probable that some Lesser Canadas were present earlier. His notes for the same season record large numbers arriving at the Refuge, which was then solidly frozen over, on December 15, 17, and 20. About 2000 were present December 27, but all had departed by January 2, 1933. I observed no Lesser Canada Geese among thousands of Cackling Geese at Tule Lake on November 29, 1933. Worcester (MS) noted the first Lesser Canadas for the spring of 1933