

In hunting for rosy finches, I was guided by the statement (p. 124) that, "At an altitude of 10,000 to 11,000 feet . . . , Vernon Bailey saw half a dozen leucostictes August 17, and again the next day . . . feeding among the rocks and on the glacier which occupies the deep cross gulch just below Konwokitan glacier." In this gulch, and on the east rim of it, at the head of Mud Creek, I found rosy finches on July 15, 1939. Three were noted, and two collected, at 10,000 feet. One of the birds, a female (Mus. Vert. Zool. 76205) was carrying a large supply of insects in her mouth, and she had a brood patch. Evidently leucostictes were nesting sparingly and scattering in the crumbling cliffs about the glaciers. The gulch was exceedingly barren of life. Rock Wrens (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) were the only other birds seen at 10,000 feet. Clark Nutcrackers (*Nucifraga columbiana*) and Mountain Bluebirds (*Sialia currucoides*), sub-alpine types, stayed lower, not venturing far above the highest thickets of timberline scrub at 9000 feet. A Townsend Warbler (*Dendroica townsendi*) was found dead in the snow at 11,000 feet, evidently a bird lost in the preceding spring migration.

The leucostictes proved to be *L. t. littoralis*, the Hepburn Rosy Finch. Thus the breeding range of this distinctive form is extended southward into California from the Three Sisters region of central Oregon. Rosy finches breed at Crater Lake, Oregon, 100 miles north of Shasta, but to my knowledge none has been collected there for racial determination. There is little doubt now that they also would be *littoralis*. Between Mount Shasta and the northern end of the breeding range of the Sierra Nevada Rosy Finch (*L. t. dawsoni*) is a gap of somewhat over 150 miles.

The Shasta specimens show gray checks and a broad gray nuchal area that are typical of summer specimens of *littoralis*. On some of the auricular feathers there are cinnamon brown areas, but such may be seen occasionally in worn July-taken skins of *littoralis* from coastal British Columbia. Although there is no decisive evidence of intermediacy between *littoralis* and *dawsoni* in the color pattern of the head, the color of the body is somewhat intermediate. The back is dark as in *littoralis*, but the cinnamon brown under parts are of a lighter tone than in *littoralis*. This tone is as light as in *dawsoni*, but the color is not so gray or neutral as in that form. *Littoralis* and *dawsoni* do not differ significantly in dimensions. The two birds from Shasta are small, near the minimum for most measurements of *littoralis* and *dawsoni*.

The sparse population of rosy finches on Mount Shasta, when it is further sampled, may yet prove to be consistently different from neighboring races to the north and south. From data we now have, however, we can but view the slight departure from *littoralis* as intergradation toward *dawsoni*. This conclusion should not obscure the fact that the fundamental relationship of the Shasta birds is with *littoralis*.—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, September 5, 1939.*

The Glaucous Gull at Santa Barbara, California.—On April 4, 1939, I noticed among a flock of Western, Glaucous-winged, and Ring-billed gulls, a large, very whitish gull. This was at the Santa Barbara city dump where there is always a great number of gulls of various species feeding on the refuse. I saw immediately that this bird was much larger and lighter in color than the Glaucous-winged Gulls which were standing near it.

The bird was collected and is now no. 3613 in the collection of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. It proved to be a female Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) in the light plumage of the second year.

This species of gull has been reported in this region several times, but as far as I can learn this is the first specimen that has been collected here.—EGMONT Z. RETT, *Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, April 27, 1939.*

Shrikes, Red-wings, and the Cowbird.—The White-rumped Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides*) is one of the few smaller passerines that is not known to be parasitized by the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*). On June 8, 1938, at Eastend, Saskatchewan, the writer found a shrike's nest with six eggs, and later, the nest of a Brewer Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) containing five eggs and one of a cowbird. The cowbird egg I took and placed in the shrike's nest, removing one of the six to make the number as before.

On June 15 the cowbird's egg was found to be hatched. On June 18 the young cowbird was still in the nest and apparently well cared for; the shrike's eggs still were unhatched. On June 22 the cowbird was in the nest, but on my close approach it took flight to a willow bush some sixty yards away. All five shrike eggs were now hatched, but the nestlings were scarcely able to hold up their heads and were evidently *in extremis*. On the following day the nestling shrikes had disappeared. The parent birds were close by, looking somewhat disconsolate, but they still appeared to be feeding the cowbird, which was very wild.

It would seem, then, that if a cowbird could steal unobserved into a shrike's nest and lay her egg, it would be accepted; but the vigilance and aggressive nature of the shrikes would prevent this happening.

During the summer of 1931 a few pairs of Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) nested in the brush alongside the river. Two of the male red-wings were most intrepid in defense of their nests. Whenever the writer or any other person approached the spot, the red-wings would attack from above; and only by constantly brandishing a stick could they be kept from vicious pecking of one's head. Nevertheless, in one red-wing nest a cowbird was reared; in the other nest two cowbirds. How was it that the vigilance and extremely aggressive nature of the Red-winged Blackbirds did not suffice to keep the cowbirds out as the White-rumped Shrikes appear to do?—LAURENCE B. POTTER, *Gower Ranch, Eastend, Saskatchewan, Canada, May 1, 1939.*

House Finch Nesting in British Columbia.—In June, 1939, a pair of House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus* subsp.) built their nest in a Virginia creeper (*Ampelopsis cinquefolia*) which climbs up the veranda of my house at Okanagan Landing. The nest, sheltered from view by thick foliage, was fastened securely between one of the veranda posts and a branch of the vine. When first examined, it contained five eggs. Both birds were shy and quiet, contrary to their usual habit elsewhere. The female would leave the nest at the least disturbance in the vicinity; the male was seen in her company and also on his singing perches, one of which was a nearby telephone wire, another a fence wire. The eggs hatched on June 18; the young left the nest a week later and up until the date of writing neither the adults nor the young have again been seen in the vicinity.

Two earlier observations of the nesting of this species in British Columbia (Penticton in the Okanagan Valley, and Victoria on Vancouver Island) are recorded by Cowan (*Condor*, vol. 39, 1937, p. 225). Okanagan Landing, which is about seventy miles north of Penticton, would appear to be the third locality from which the species has been recorded in Canada.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, B. C., July 8, 1939.*

An Occurrence of the Arctic Horned Owl in Western Colorado.—On the afternoon of May 10, 1939, while walking up the south fork of Quartz Creek above the town of Pitkin, Gunnison County, Colorado, at an elevation of approximately 9400 feet, I came upon a group of feathers. The snow had just gone off the ground and it was apparent that the feathers had been on the snow, as the ground nearby was devoid of any marks or tracks. Further inspection revealed that no one else had been in the gulch since the snow had melted. The surrounding timber is a mixture of Engelmann spruce, lodgepole pine and aspen growing close to a beaver-inhabited stream. Some of the feathers were sent to Dr. Joseph Grinnell who kindly identified them for me as those of the Arctic Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus subarcticus*). It is apparent that this winter visitant met its death between October 28, 1938, when I passed the same spot, and May 10, 1939. There are comparatively few records of the Arctic Horned Owl in Colorado.—ARTEUR F. HALLORAN, *Pitkin, Colorado, May 26, 1939.*

New Bird Records for Clark County, Nevada.—Observations made during the past year in the Boulder Dam Recreational Area have resulted in a number of bird records. Most of these observations were made in the vicinity of Hemenway and Las Vegas washes near Boulder Dam, in the Virgin Basin east of Boulder Canyon, and at St. Thomas and Kaolin Reservoir on the north arm of Lake Mead. The following is a list of species heretofore unrecorded from Clark County, Nevada.

Eared Grebe. *Colymbus nigricollis californicus*. Uncommon resident. Recorded in April, May, June, August and December, 1938, in Hemenway wash and at St. Thomas. Young were observed on June 14, 1938.

Western Grebe. *Aechmophorus occidentalis*. Resident. Records for May, July, September and December, 1938, at St. Thomas and along the Colorado River below Boulder Dam.

Pied-billed Grebe. *Podilymbus podiceps podiceps*. Resident. Records taken throughout 1938-1939 at St. Thomas and Hemenway wash.

Brewster Egret. *Egretta thula brewsteri*. Transient visitant. Records for May, August and September, 1938, at St. Thomas and Hemenway wash.

American Bittern. *Botaurus lentiginosus*. Transient visitant. Observed at St. Thomas in April and May, 1938.

Western Least Bittern. *Ixobrychus exilis hesperis*. Transient visitant. Records for August and September, 1938, at Hemenway wash and St. Thomas. First records for southern Nevada.

White-faced Glossy Ibis. *Plegadis guarauna*. Transient visitant. Observed at St. Thomas in April, May and September, 1938.