

Zenaidura macroura. Mourning Dove. A male Mourning Dove taken by Merrill on September 14, 1912, was recorded by Willett as *Z. m. marginella*. The species has been seen at Sitka by the writer only once—a single bird that loitered about the Sheldon Jackson School campus for several hours on September 9, 1940.

Nucifraga columbiana. Clark Nutcracker. A single specimen was taken by Bischoff at Sitka (Dall and Bannister). One was seen about the houses of Sitka for several days in March, 1933. In April of the same year a lone individual was noted three miles south of town.

Nannus hiemalis pacificus. Western Winter Wren. Common resident. Noted daily from February 26 to September 7 in 1940; a specimen was taken on July 25; it was a juvenile about ready to leave the nest.

Acanthis linaria linaria. Common Redpoll. Several specimens were taken by Bischoff. A single redpoll was found dying on a road near Sitka in January, 1930.

Passerella iliaca unalaschkensis. Shumagin Fox Sparrow. Large gray fox sparrows were noted at sea level near Sitka on September 6 and 7, 1940. One was secured and proved to be a female of this race (no. 9211).—J. DAN WEBSTER, *Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, January 14, 1941*.

American Egret, Treganza Heron, and Ring-billed Gull at Malheur Lake in Winter.—

On December 21, 1939, in the vicinity of Malheur Lake, Oregon, fourteen American Egrets (*Casmerodius albus egretta*), eight Treganza Herons (*Ardea herodias treganzai*) and one Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) were recorded along with other waterfowl. A number of the egrets were seen with large flocks of Whistling Swans feeding in the shallow waters near the southeastern shore of Malheur Lake. The egrets and herons appeared to be having a hard time keeping warm and did little flying or wading. Many of the herons were standing humped up on top of muskrat houses. The maximum temperature during the day was 40° F.; prior to December 21 the lowest maximum daily temperature recorded in the fall was 36° F. The minimum temperature prior to that date was 10° F. In general the weather had been mild. On the night of December 22 it became colder, and until December 26 the maximum daily temperatures remained freezing or below and the minimum temperature was 4° F. On December 27, in the course of a trip around the lake, no egrets were seen, and only one Treganza Heron was noted with the other waterfowl.

Several herons were observed on a number of occasions in the Blitzen Valley, which is part of the Malheur Refuge, in each of the succeeding winter months. The birds evidently wintered there fairly successfully.

The above records are interesting inasmuch as the latest date recorded for the American Egret in Oregon by Gabrielson and Jewett (*Birds of Oregon, 1940: 107*) is November 19. They list the Treganza Heron as wintering regularly in Deschutes, Malheur, Klamath, Wasco, and Umatilla counties, and they give casual winter records for Crook, Grant, Union, Baker, Morrow, and Morrow counties. It may be that the Treganza Herons have wintered in the Blitzen Valley in the preceding mild winters. The Ring-billed Gull was probably a stray, as the gulls normally leave Malheur Lake much earlier in the season.—CLARENCE A. SOOTER, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Burns, Oregon, December 26, 1940*.

Elderberries as Food for Birds.—In June of 1940, I was camped on Rattlesnake Island in Clear Lake, Lake County, California. While there, I saw many birds feeding on elderberries. These included Red-shafted Flickers (*Colaptes c. collaris*), Downy Woodpeckers (*Dryobates p. turati*), Nuttall Woodpeckers (*Dryobates nuttallii*), Western Kingbirds (*Tyrannus verticalis*), Ash-throated Flycatchers (*Myiarchus c. cinerascens*), California Jays (*Aphelocoma c. immanis*), Plain Titmice (*Baeolophus i. inornatus*), Yellow Warblers (*Dendroica a. brewsteri*), Long-tailed Chats (*Icteria v. longicauda*), Bullock Orioles (*Icterus bullockii*), Black-headed Grosbeaks (*Hedymeles m. maculatus*), and Spotted Towhees (*Pipilo maculatus*, subsp.?). Of this group, the California Jay most frequently visited the elderberries. The next most frequent visitors were the Bullock Orioles and the Spotted Towhees, in that order. The other birds named were seen to eat the berries only once or twice.

Of the birds living on the island, the Song Sparrows and Yellow-throats were much more numerous than any of the other birds. Spotted Towhees and California Jays came next. The Bullock Oriole, although apparently not residents, flew to the island from the mainland about one-quarter to one-half mile away, and were seen eating the elderberries more often than the resident towhees. The orioles were not seen eating the berries as often as the jays, but there were more of them at one time and their total consumption was probably greater.

The only birds identified as juveniles which fed on the elderberries were orioles and jays.—NED W. STONE, *Berkeley, California, November 10, 1940*.