

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

English Sparrow Eaten by Bullfrog.—One of the most interesting spots in our garden at Compton, California, is a pool inhabited by goldfish, two small turtles, and several frogs and toads, including two large bullfrogs of six and eight inches in length. Many hummingbirds, sparrows, warblers, and phoebes come to the pool to drink from the dripping water source or to bathe at its shallow end. The many water lilies and water hyacinths doubtless conceal the frogs from these birds.

One morning a commotion attracted me to the pool, where a few moments before a flock of English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) had been bathing. I was amazed to find that the smaller bullfrog had a female English Sparrow in its mouth. The frog submerged, but appeared again with the wings, tail, and legs of the unfortunate sparrow still protruding. After six minutes, it had succeeded (with great effort) in swallowing the entire sparrow except for the tips of the tail feathers.

Once before I had found in the pool the skeleton of a bird, lacking all flesh, but with the larger wing and tail feathers still attached. It puzzled me at the time, but I believe the above incident explains it as the regurgitated remnant of another bullfrog feast.—FRED H. W. LUEDERS, *Compton, California, January 5, 1941.*

MacFarlane Screech Owl in Harney County, Oregon.—A female MacFarlane Screech Owl (*Otus asio macfarlanei*) was taken by a local trapper in a steel trap set for mink near Ruby Spring on McCoy Creek in the Steens Mountains, Harney County, Oregon, on December 13, 1940. The bird was given to John C. Scharff of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, who had it preserved as a study skin. This is the first record of the occurrence of *macfarlanei* in Harney County coming to the writer's attention. The specimen is typical of the race as compared with specimens from other parts of eastern Oregon. Ruby Spring in the Steens Mountains is at about 4500 feet altitude, which is considerably higher than other localities where this bird has previously been taken in Oregon. The present specimen is being preserved in the bird reference collection at the Malheur Refuge.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, January 2, 1941.*

A New Record of the Semipalmated Plover in Nevada.—On May 5, 1940, while we were making a bird survey in the Truckee Meadows, about three miles southeast of Reno, Nevada, we noted a strange bird flying with three killdeers; it alighted near a small flock of feeding Least Sandpipers. The bird was about forty feet away, but by careful maneuvering, we managed to approach within fifteen feet of it. The single neck ring, stubby, black-tipped bill and orange legs left no doubt that the newcomer was a Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*).

This is the first record of this species in the Truckee Meadows, but it possibly is not as rare as might first be supposed. The species is recorded by Linsdale (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 23, 1936:52) from Smoke Creek, Washoe County, where Streater took a male on May 11, 1896. Grater (Condor, 41, 1939:221) reported two individuals from Lake Mead, near the site of the abandoned town of St. Thomas, Clark County, on May 7, 1938.—GLEN CHRISTENSEN and THOMAS TRELEASE, *Reno, Nevada, February 10, 1941.*

Nesting of Band-tailed Pigeons at Altadena, California.—In the past fifty years I have frequently seen flocks of Band-tailed Pigeons (*Columba fasciata*) in the fall and winter feeding on the acorns at my home in Altadena, Los Angeles County, California. Not until 1933 did I notice pigeons nesting or staying here throughout the year. The elevation at Altadena is 1000 feet and the distance from the nearest regular nesting place known to me, on Mount Wilson, is about one and a half miles. There are many live oaks and Englemann oaks on and around my place.

In 1933 one pair of pigeons was seen frequently from May to September but no nest was found. In 1934 one pair was seen frequently from April to August and in July a nest was found and a dead young pigeon on the ground under it. I have no record for 1935.

In 1936 pigeons were seen feeding young on July 4, incubating on July 7, and building a nest on August 25. This latter nest was deserted a few days later.

In 1937 a pigeon was seen on March 19 sitting on a last year's nest, which it apparently deserted later. At least one pair was seen about all summer. On October 6 a nest was found with a young bird. This young one was raised and left the nest on November 1.

In 1938 at least two pairs were seen around all summer. On August 8 I found a pigeon incubating. The young bird left the nest September 11. On September 12 five pigeons were seen, two of which were young.

In 1939 a pair was seen building a nest on February 27. On April 1 I found a dead young bird