

under this nest. On March 15 two birds were found incubating. On April 18 these two nests were still occupied, but I could not see what was in them. On April 22 ten pigeons were seen together on the telephone wire, some of them apparently young birds. On May 12 a pair was seen building, and the young bird left this nest on June 24.

In 1940, on May 20, a pigeon was found sitting, this being the third successive year that this nest was used. On July 15 several pairs were about, one of which was feeding young. On July 20 I found a nest with a young bird, which left the nest on July 29. On July 31 a pair was building, and later sitting; but after a few days they deserted. On September 2 I found a pigeon incubating, and the young bird subsequently was raised. On October 5 I found a nest, with the bird incubating; the juvenile was still in the nest on October 27.

All of these nests were in oak trees, from fifteen to thirty-five feet above the ground and mostly inaccessible. I am told on good authority that pigeons have nested in San Marino, Los Angeles County, in recent years and also near Covina. A young pigeon fell from a nest in the southwest part of Pasadena about July 1, 1940, and was raised by hand and released by me. The earliest date of nesting was on February 27, 1939, when a nest was being built, and the latest, November 1, 1937, when a young bird left the nest. As far as I know there has not been more than one egg in each nest and the proportion of successful nestings has been small.—WALTER I. ALLEN, *Alladena, California, February 13, 1941.*

Additional Records of the Western Mockingbird in Oregon.—On July 25, 1940, while the author and Mr. Forrester Carpenter were assisting in taking the monthly bird census on the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon, a Western Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) was observed at the south end of "Big Sagebrush Field" in unit 10. The following day Mr. John C. Scharff observed what probably was the same individual near the place where it was noted the day before.

In the course of the next monthly census, on August 23, another mocker was seen at "Grain Camp Dam" in unit 6 by the author and Mr. R. M. Tullar. Also, Mr. Groves of the refuge staff reported that the day before a mockingbird (evidently the same bird) lit on a hay rack he was preparing to load in the grain field just east of the dam.

Previous to these records a group of ornithologists from La Grande, Oregon, while visiting the refuge in the latter part of May, reported seeing a Western Mockingbird in Burns (Hyde, Condor, 42, 1940:305). Gabrielson and Jewett (Birds of Oregon, 1940:462) cite five records from the Steens Mountains and the Blitzen Valley, and recorded the bird as rare.—CLARENCE A. SOOTER, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Burns, Oregon, December 26, 1940.*

Prairie Falcon Parasitizing a Marsh Hawk.—About 1:15 p.m., on January 27, 1941, while driving on the highway from Benicia toward Cordelia, Solano County, California, about two and one-half miles south of the latter place, Mrs. Parmenter and I saw a Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonius*) take a Coot (*Fulica americana*) from the surface of the water. When abreast of us, it dropped the coot and at that instant we saw that the hawk was being pursued by a Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*).

As the Marsh Hawk dropped the coot, the falcon landed on the ground where the coot had fallen, it having caused the hawk to drop its prey. The hawk continued its flight, leaving the falcon at the dropped coot. The Marsh Hawk returned shortly, accompanied by a second hawk, and the two drove off the falcon. The two hawks remained at the spot only a short time and then flew off to the northward. The falcon in a few minutes returned to the spot and we had a perfect view of it with our binoculars.

On our return home we consulted various sources in our literature concerning the Prairie Falcon. In Fisher's Hawks and Owls (U. S. Dept. Agriculture, Div. Orn. and Mamm., Bull. 3, 1893:104) is a quotation from Ridgway: "Late in November, of the same year [1867], . . . [the Prairie Falcon] was noticed again among the marshes along the Carson River [Nevada], near Genoa, where it was observed to watch and follow the Marsh Hawks (*Circus hudsonius*), compelling them to give up their game which was caught by the Falcon before it reached the ground; this piracy being not an occasional, but a systematic habit."

Decker and Bowles (Auk, 47, 1930:25-31), state that "a large female [Prairie Falcon] at Santa Barbara, California, had killed a Coot (*Fulica americana*) with which it tried to fly across the road." This shows that Prairie Falcons are not averse to taking a coot occasionally. Most authorities agree that the Marsh Hawks frequently take water birds and wounded ducks.

In the twelve miles from Benicia to Cordelia we saw about seventeen Marsh Hawks. New moon occurred that day and accordingly there was a six-foot tide. Because of this and the fact that the numerous fields were covered as a result of the previous rains, conditions were ideal for the Marsh Hawks in their search for food.—HENRY E. PARMENTER, *San Francisco, California, February 14, 1941.*