

shinned, Cooper, Marsh, and Sparrow hawks were found on the ranch. The collectors also found a Golden Eagle, a Horned Owl (later identified as *Bubo virginianus occidentalis*), and a Long-eared Owl.

Two species of game birds—a flock of Sage Hens and the Western Mourning Dove—had found sanctuary at the McCuistion ranch.

Fifteen Lewis Woodpeckers (*Asyndesmus lewis*) (one of which was collected) and several Red-shafted Flickers were noted. It was interesting to find that, because of their effectiveness in controlling grasshoppers and crickets, a flock of about 200 American Ravens was encouraged around the farm.

In a small currant patch a single late migrant Sage Thrasher, two Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and an Orange-crowned, an Audubon, two Townsend, and several Tolmie warblers were noted. Unfortunately, neither the Orange-crowned nor the Audubon warbler was collected: specimens taken in near-by Utah proved to be *Vermivora c. celata*, *V. c. orestera*, *Dendroica a. auduboni*, and *D. a. memorabilis*.

It was surprising to find a Bobolink in this desert area. Western Meadowlarks, English Sparrows, Lazuli Buntings, House Finches, Pine Siskins, and Song and White-crowned sparrows were common.

In addition, one atypical Nevada Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis*) and one Lincoln Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni lincolni*) were collected.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C., January 31, 1942.*

Black Pigeon Hawk Taken in Eastern Washington.—In a group of interesting predators recently sent to me in the flesh by Mr. Harold Witham, Superintendent of the State Game Farm at Kennewick, was a female Black Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*). The bird was taken on or about December 23, 1941, at Finley, about 5 miles southeast of Kennewick in Benton County, Washington, and is now preserved as a study skin (no. 1000) in my collection. Data obtained during preparation are as follows: wt. 218 gm., but little fat; length, 12.6 inches; extent, 25.5 inches; wing, 215 mm.; ovary evenly fine-granular. So far as the information in my files goes there are no previous definite records of *suckleyi* in eastern Washington, although there are several for eastern Oregon (Gabrielson and Jewett, *Birds of Oregon*, 1940:204) and the Okanagan region of south-central British Columbia (Brooks and Swarth, *Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 17, 1925:58). Mr. Stanley G. Jewett (letter of January 3, 1942) indicates that this is also his impression and advises placing the Finley specimen on record.—JOHN W. SLIPP, *Department of Botany, University of Washington, Seattle, February 9, 1942.*

An Additional Note on English Sparrows Feeding on Ants.—In the Condor for November, 1935 (pp. 284, 285) Uhl R. Kuhn reports English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) feeding on ants, and considers this an unusual food habit of this species. Mr. Kuhn was fortunate in his opportunity of observing them feeding on ants that had just been uncovered. I would not venture to say to what extent this feeding habit may be unusual, for it would be easy to overlook birds picking up an ant here and there among grass and other vegetation.

Through an observation in the summer of 1940 at my home near McMillan, Luce County, Michigan, I can add another case of the English Sparrow feeding on ants. A female was coming often about the well, and I noticed her taking ants that were on the boards at that place. As the ants became scarce, the bird's trips to the spot decreased; the locality was soon deserted by the bird after a few trips had met in failure in finding ants.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, *McMillan, Luce County, Michigan, December 20, 1941.*

Food of the Barn Owl at Soda Lake, Nevada.—On February 22, 1941, the writer and Miss Laura E. Mills visited the north end of Soda Lake, Churchill County, Nevada. Here, in a south-facing vertical bank, Miss Mills had seen Barn Owls (*Tyto alba*) on several previous occasions. In the bank, less than thirty feet from the water's edge, we found an opening, about fifteen inches in diameter. Seven feet from the base, the hole went straight into the bank for about two feet, then made a ninety degree turn to the left and extended for about three feet farther. With the aid of a mirror placed at the turn, so as to reflect light into the hole, we could see an adult Barn Owl standing near the end of the burrow. Miss Mills had earlier in the day seen two Barn Owls fly from this location. Examination of the ground at the base of the bank below the opening revealed numerous pellets judged by us to have been ejected by the Barn Owls. A total of 89 that were reasonably fresh were picked up for study. Each of the 73 food items listed in the table was represented by the major part of a cranium.