

Conover's (Auk, 58, 1941:376-380) diagnoses of *hendersoni*. Jewett (Condor, 44, 1942:79) has recently recorded this race for the first time in Washington on the basis of a single spring bird collected at Westport, on the coast.

Tryngites subruficollis. Buff-breasted Sandpiper. This rare species was met with on two occasions at Nisqually during late August, 1940. On the 25th a single bird was seen near the mouth of the river, and on the 28th one was collected in the same area (δ , 1080 JWS). There is, moreover, a male in the E. A. Kitchin collection taken on the Tacoma tideflats on September 7, 1919.

Crocethia alba. Sanderling. The Sanderling is rare on southern Puget Sound. On September 19, 1940, I collected a solitary female on the beach northeast of Dash Point near Tacoma, and on September 21, 1941, I saw a flock of 7 at the same place. In the San Juans it was "seen in considerable numbers on Smith Island by Rathbun, March 26, 1910" (Miller, *et al.*, *op. cit.*:58). Dr. Scheffer and I found them common at the same place precisely 32 years later (March 25 to 27, 1942; one collected on the 26th).

An albino skin of this species in my collection may be of interest. It is a female, collected on March 5, 1939, on the beach at Ocean City, Grays Harbor County. The soft parts were noted at death as follows: iris and bill dark brown, feet pale grayish brown. A normal specimen collected at the same time had the feet and bill black, iris dark brown. The plumage is generally white except for notable amounts of dull brown on the primary coverts, the pigment continuing proximally in a more dilute tint as far as the wrist and distally for about half the length of the outermost primaries.—JOHN W. SLIPP, *Tacoma, Washington, August 21, 1942.*

Uncommon Birds at the San Gabriel River Bird Sanctuary, California.—A Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) was seen by many people at various times between March 27 and April 25, 1943, at the San Gabriel River Bird Sanctuary, 12 miles east of Los Angeles, California. It was among a concentration of White-crowned (*Z. leucophrys*) and Golden-crowned (*Z. coronata*) sparrows. Once the writer heard its soft musical notes. It was generally found on or near a local garden adjacent to the sanctuary where birds were fed daily.

A Green-tailed Towhee (*Oberholseria chlorura*) also spent most of the winter around the feeding table of the sanctuary.

A Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) was seen and heard in the sanctuary by the writer on February 12. It showed reddish on the rump and shoulders. Although the spot was visited for several days, the bird was not seen again.

A Western Flycatcher (*Empidonax difficilis*), not uncommon in summer, was seen and heard by the writer and Mrs. Comby on February 12 and 15, and before and after those dates.

A White-throated Sparrow (*Z. albicollis*) was seen and heard both this spring and last spring. Black-and-White Warblers (*Mniotilta varia*) seem to be regular visitors in the fall. They have been observed for the last six years by the writer and others.—J. H. COMBY, *Pico, California, June 19, 1943.*

Flight-Feeding of the Ring-billed Gull.—Although no known nesting colony of the Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) is located in the Lahontan Valley, Churchill County, Nevada, the species occurs within this valley at all times of the year. On three occasions, in this area, Ring-billed Gulls have been seen feeding in flight. This behavior, similar on all three occasions, may be described as follows.

Flight was slow and irregular and often birds within a flock were flying in opposite directions. Repeatedly it was noted that an individual would cease flapping its wings and sail upward. Then it appeared to hesitate momentarily, as it probably captured an insect and then dropped downward for a short distance as normal flight was resumed.

A flock of about 50 gulls was seen feeding in this manner 2 miles east of Lahontan Dam on September 12, 1942. They were flying and feeding from 100 to 500 feet from the surface of the ground. The distance between the two outside individuals of the flock did not exceed 600 feet.

Another flock of about 30 gulls was seen feeding in flight $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles west-southwest of Fallon on October 5, 1942. Mr. Vernon L. Mills obtained two of the gulls from this flock. Examination of their stomachs, gullets, and mouths revealed many insects. Those in the mouths were saved and later identified by Herbert T. Dalmat of Cornell University as ants of the species *Lasius* (*Acanthomyops*) *murphyi* and *Lasius* (*A.*) *latipes*, and the host of these two, *Lasius* (*Lasius*) *niger americana*; there also were two stink bugs (Pentatomidae).

The third flock, consisting of about 100 gulls, was seen 4 miles west of Fallon on October 17, 1942. These were feeding about 60 to 300 feet above the ground. Examination of one gull that was