

Hylocichla guttata guttata. Alaska Hermit Thrush. A specimen determined by Dr. H. C. Oberholser as this subspecies was taken by D. E. Beck on Pine Valley Mountain, Washington County, October 12, 1935.

Sialia mexicana occidentalis. Western Bluebird. Since records of this species are not too common for Utah, it seems worth while to record a specimen collected by Clarence Cottam at Kigalia Ranger Station, Bear's Ears, Abajo Mountains, San Juan County, June 27, 1927.

Vermivora luciae. Lucy Warbler. A juvenal specimen was taken by J. W. Bee at Calf Creek, Garfield County, July 4, 1938. This appears to extend the known northward distribution of the species.

Guiraca caerulea interfusa. Western Blue Grosbeak. A pair was taken by the writer at Henrieville, Garfield County, September 7, 1937. Local residents state that the species is fairly common in this section in summer.

Poocetes gramineus affinis. Oregon Vesper Sparrow. One specimen taken by F. Atkin at Panquitch, Garfield County, August 20, 1934, constitutes the second record for the State.—C. LYNN HAYWARD, *Department of Zoology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, April 11, 1944.*

Hooded Oriole Nesting in Banana Plant at Beverly Hills, California.—The use as nesting sites of the native California fan palms (*Washingtonia filifera* and *W. robusta*) by the Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) is well known to bird students. However, the use of the garden-grown non-native banana (*Musa paradisiaca* var. *sapientum*) for that purpose apparently has not been noticed in the literature. The clump of bananas selected for a nest site stood about 15 meters from a house on Canyon Drive in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles County, California, in a protected corner of a backyard garden. Mrs. Verna Mills called attention to a nest between the drooping and sheltering halves of the folded blade of a fully mature leaf of the banana. The nest was constructed entirely of palm fibers brought from veteran washingtonias that form a parkway on Canyon Drive. The palm fibers were sewed into the leaf blade, thereby joining the two halves of the banana leaf together, but the nest was not attached to the sturdy midrib. When in use the nest was entirely concealed within the folds of the untorn leaf. In contrast to the usual choice of a high position in the leaf-crown of fan palms, this nest was but three meters from the ground. It was removed on November 2, 1928, and is now preserved in the nest collection of the University of Colorado Museum. Have other anomalous nesting sites been observed for this oriole? In the light of the fact that abundant sites of much greater comparative safety were so immediately available close by to these orioles, the use of the banana is all the more singular.—J. EWAN, *University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, April 3, 1944.*

Eastern Blue Jay in Idaho.—Because of the lack of published records of the Eastern Blue Jay in Idaho, a positive identification seems worthy of mention. Dr. R. F. Daubenmire of the University of Idaho has allowed me to publish this record. He observed a jay of the species *Cyanocitta cristata* on September 20, 1942, on Moscow Mountain, about seven miles north of Moscow, Latah County, Idaho. "It was alternately picking up something off the ground at the edge of a stubblefield, and flying up in some low ponderosa pine to eat it. We observed the bird closely enough to see the white wing bars, white on tail, and crest on head."—M. DALE ARVEY, *Boise Junior College, Boise, Idaho, April 24, 1944.*

A Flock of Cedar Waxwings Meets Tragedy.—On March 2, 1944, a fine adult male Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) was brought to the zoological laboratory of Fresno State College together with the information that many others of a flock were found dead or dying at the place where it had been obtained in the Holmes City Playgrounds, Fresno, California. Inquiry was promptly made as to the cause of the trouble.

At first thought, death by poisoning was suspected in this multiple destruction. Careful examination and subsequent dissection, however, suggested another cause. It was noted that the mouth of many of the birds held a blood smear while a spot destitute of feathers on the lower throat suggested a possible collision during swift flight. Dissection further strengthened this idea, for the base of the heart was found almost surrounded by heavy blood clot. This condition prevailed to a greater or lesser degree in all the 25 specimens dissected, and it appeared to be due to a rupture of the blood vessels entering or leaving the heart. In many of the more severely injured the clot extended throughout the body cavity.

With these conditions revealed, it seemed more likely that the birds, which often fly swiftly and