

compactly in flocks, might have struck a large tree-reflecting window. On inquiry, it was learned from the caretaker of the playgrounds that the birds had first been noticed fluttering upon the lawn near the tennis courts in a far corner of the parked area of the grounds. On examining the location the answer to the cause of the accident became apparent almost at once, for there in the one-inch mesh wire netting surrounding the courts along a section of about 20 feet little groups of feathers of the birds were still found fluttering in the breeze. The birds were first noticed about one o'clock in the afternoon on March 1, and some members of the flock were still alive; others died while under observation. A few revived sufficiently to flutter away, and two which had reached the lower branches of a near-by tree remained there all afternoon but were gone next morning. In all, 29 Cedar Waxwings had been killed in this accident.

With such an abundance of material in hand, all taken in the wild, and at the same instant, it was thought opportune to record as many facts as possible as shown in the following summation. (1) Of 24 birds examined, 11 showed marks of external injuries about the head and neck, such as areas destitute of feathers, torn skin, and injured mandibles. (2) Of 24 dissected, 23 showed blood smears, clots and ruptured vessels about the mouth, heart and body cavity. (3) Of 23 dissected, the sex ratio showed 12 females to 11 males. (4) All 25 were non-breeding. (5) Of 10 possessing wax-like tips on the wing feathers, 5 were males and 5 females. Only one, a male, had both wing and tail feathers marked in this way. (6) The food found in the alimentary tract was almost entirely from one kind of *Viburnum*, being the seed, an ovate drupe 8 or 9 millimeters long, with a one-seeded, slightly compressed stone 7 millimeters long. Sixteen birds had whole drupes in the mouth and gullet; 19 had drupes or pits of drupes in the stomach, and in the intestine of 10 birds there were pits from which the covering had been entirely digested. That the pits were ready for elimination through the intestine would suggest that the waxwing could be a disseminator of the seed of the viburnum. The greatest number of seeds found in the mouth and gullet of any one bird was 7; in the stomach, 3; and in the intestine, 4. (7) No external or internal parasites were found.—WILLIAM T. SHAW and A. E. CULBERTSON, *Fresno State College, Fresno, California, March 30, 1944.*

The Black Pigeon Hawk in New Mexico.—While William L. Finley and Irene Finley were on a photographic expedition to New Mexico in the winter of 1943-44, they were stationed for some time at the Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu, Rio Arriba County. In early December, 1943, a rather heavy snow storm covered the area with a white blanket that lasted several weeks. The natural food supply for the large numbers of wintering juncos and other ground-foraging birds being covered, feeding was resorted to by the ranch owners. The resulting congregation of small birds attracted two or three small hawks that constantly preyed on the smaller birds. On December 26, 1943, one of these predators was shot by a ranch employee and the bird was skinned by Mr. Finley and sent to me for identification. Much to my surprise, it proved to be an adult Black Pigeon Hawk, *Falco columbarius suckleyi*. Unfortunately, the bird was not sexed at the time of preparation.

The normal range of this bird is the humid coastal belt from southeastern Alaska south rarely to northern California. The only other recorded occurrence of the subspecies anywhere so far to the southeast of its regular range is one reported by Alfred M. Bailey as taken by Lloyd Triplet at Weldona, Morgan County, Colorado, on December 14, 1940 (*Condor*, 44, 1942:37).—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, March 29, 1944.*

Unusual Nest Site of the Western Kingbird.—On June 6, 1943, while driving along the highway leading to Bakersfield, Kern County, California, I noticed two nests in one tree and stopped to investigate. The two proved to be old Bullock Oriole nests, but a pair of Western Kingbirds (*Tyrannus verticalis*) put up such a fuss that I decided to climb to them. In the lowest oriole nest were found young kingbirds almost ready to fly. No other kingbird nests, nor orioles, were present in the vicinity. This is the first time I have observed Western Kingbirds using anything but their own construction for a nest.—RAY QUIGLEY, JR., *Los Angeles, California, April 1, 1944.*

Unusual Records of Birds from the Boulder Dam Area, Nevada.—On January 14, 1944, a Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was seen by the writer on the shore of Lake Mead at the western end of Boulder Canyon. Although the Bald Eagle has been reported from the Charleston Mountain region some 50 miles west of Lake Mead (van Rossem, *Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 24, 1936:21), this is the first known record of its occurrence within the boundaries of the Boulder Dam National Recreational Area.

What was probably the same Bald Eagle was sighted the following day about 15 miles farther up Lake Mead near the Temple. The bird was then circling high overhead along the shore of the lake; it eventually disappeared from view near the junction of the Virgin and Colorado River arms of Lake Mead.

Another uncommon bird in this area, the Black Brant (*Branta nigricans*), was also seen on this same trip, approximately fifteen being noted during the two days spent on the lake. Other water birds recorded included 6 Baldpates (*Mareca americana*), 4 Buffle-heads (*Charitonetta albeola*), 4 Mergansers (*Mergus merganser*), and numerous Coots (*Fulica americana*) and Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*).

While on another trip on Lake Mead on March 30 and 31, the following water birds were noted: 40 Black Brants, 10 Baldpates, and fully 500 White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*).—GORDON C. BALDWIN, *Boulder Dam National Recreational Area, Boulder City, Nevada, April 8, 1944.*

Seeds of Legumes Eaten by Birds.—In an extensive paper issued by the Soil Conservation Service in 1939, and entitled "Legumes: Their Erosion-Control and Wildlife Values," Graham discussed the species of birds and mammals that are known to feed on various legumes. Recently completed examination of a large series of stomachs and crops of the White-winged Dove (*Melopelia asiatica*) from Arizona, Texas, Mexico, and Central America and the earlier examination of a large series of crops and stomachs of the Band-tailed Pigeon (*Columba fasciata*) enable the writer to add to the lists given by Graham. His nomenclature is followed in so far as is possible.

Band-tailed Pigeon: garden peas (*Pisum sativum*) formed 4.8 per cent of the food of 639 individuals collected in five western states. The peas were all found in birds collected in Washington; Taverner and Munro have each described the same feeding habit from British Columbia and it is known from certain areas in California and Oregon. Gabrielson and Jewett (*Birds of Oregon, 1940:326*) reported the taking of the seeds of *Lupinus lyalli*. Seeds of unidentified species of clover (*Trifolium*), lupine (*Lupinus*), and trefoil (*Lotus*) were found in specimens collected in California.

White-winged Dove: seeds of *Acacia* are freely taken in most areas where acacias and White-wings are both found; the only species identified were *Acacia greggii* and *Acacia constricta* in specimens from Arizona and Sonora, but seeds of unidentified species of *Acacia* were found in specimens collected in Texas, eastern and southern Mexico, and Guatemala. Peanuts (*Arachis hypogaea*) were found in one specimen from Oaxaca, Mexico. Seeds of false mesquite are freely taken in Arizona; *Calliandra eriophylla* and *C. reticulata* were identified. Seeds of unidentified species of sweet clover (*Mellilotus*), trefoil (*Lotus*), and wild bean (*Rhynchosia*) were found in Arizona specimens, the latter also in Mexican material.

Seeds of mesquite (*Prosopis chilensis*) were taken only sparsely, as also those of a mimosa (*Mimosa dysocarpa*), ironwood (*Olneya tesota*), a few unidentified legumes. Cowpeas (*Vigna sinensis*) were found in one Mexican specimen. Hunters reported that near Yuma, Arizona, in 1939 a large flock of White-wings fed in stubble fields of black-eyed peas (*Vigna catajang*) and that the crops of birds shot were filled with these beans. Specimens from Texas, eastern and southern Mexico, and Central America also contained occasional traces of seeds of unidentified species of the *Pithecolobium* group.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*): in San Diego County, California, a considerable acreage is planted annually to the garbanzo (*Cicer arietinum*) and occasionally severe damage results from the attack upon the maturing pods by meadowlarks.—JOHNSON A. NEFF, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, Colorado, May 4, 1944.*

Notes on Leucostictes Wintering in Salt Lake Valley, Utah.—Flocks of rosy finches are fairly common in Salt Lake Valley in the winter months and recently a rather unique opportunity was afforded for obtaining a good-sized sample of the winter population. A former student in the biology department at the University of Utah, John Van den Akker, who had had some training in ornithology, was employed as a guard at the Hercules Powder Plant at Bacchus, Salt Lake County, Utah. On March 27, 1942, he brought to the writer two rosy finches which he had caught early that morning by reaching up and grabbing them from the sill above the door of a shed. He reported that rosy finches were the commonest birds around the plant in winter, being far more numerous, even, than English Sparrows.

The leucostictes occurred during most of the daytime in flocks which ranged in size from about 75 to 150 individuals. The average size of the flocks was about 100 birds. During the daytime these finches were very gregarious except when actively feeding, at which times they occurred singly, in