

constitute a significant part of the diet of pelagic birds in the warm waters of the world.—HARVEY I. FISHER, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Hawaii, January 30, 1945.*

Hooded Merganser at Los Angeles, California.—On November 30, 1944, and on March 10, 1945, a female Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) was observed by the writer at the lake in Lincoln Park, Los Angeles, for the third successive season. One individual was seen during December, 1943, and January, 1944, and two individuals, both females, during December, 1942, and January, 1943.—J. H. COMBY, *Whittier, California, December 11, 1944.*

Sporadic Recurrence of Red-breasted Nuthatches in San Diego City Parks.—Perusal of the recently issued "Distribution of the Birds of California" by Grinnell and Miller (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944*) reveals the gaps in known ranges and emphasizes the desirability of placing unrecorded notes in print. A case in point is the fact that Henry Grey's observation of the Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) in October, 1919 (*Condor, 27, 1925:37*) is the sole record of this species for San Diego County. The locality was no doubt near Grey's home in Mission Valley, which is within the city limits of San Diego.

The writer now recalls that between December, 1933, and March, 1934, the late A. W. Anthony told several times of seeing Red-breasted Nuthatches in a section of western Balboa Park that is planted with pine trees. In this same general area, Ken Stott, Jr., reported that he observed about ten of these nuthatches on October 4, 1944. On November 29, 1944, Mrs. E. B. Mead found six Red-breasted Nuthatches in a group of incense cedars in Presidio Park, North San Diego. In Presidio Park the writer also observed three birds, probably part of the same group, and heard others, in a small grove of pines on January 20, 1945. Through closer observation, the Red-breasted Nuthatch may be shown to be a regular annual fall or winter visitor to the city of San Diego.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, March 23, 1945.*

A Northern Occurrence of the Brewster Booby.—So far as I am aware, there is but one record of the Brewster Booby (*Sula leucogaster brewsteri*) from the Pacific side of Baja California, that of a female taken near the San Benito Islands on August 7, 1923 (see Huey, *Condor, 26, 1924:74*). In going over some of my Baja California notes recently, I find the entry on July 3, 1925, of an immature bird of this species which for some minutes circled about the ship on which I was a passenger. The latitude and longitude at the time was 31° 30' N., 117° 00' W., a position some 200 miles north of the San Benito Islands.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Dickey Collections, University of California, Los Angeles, December 20, 1944.*

Piñon Jay in Ravalli County, Montana.—On January 27, 1945, Truman Smith of the United States Public Health Laboratory at Hamilton, Montana, observed a flock of one hundred or more Piñon Jays (*Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus*) on Gird's Creek east of Hamilton. From this flock he obtained two specimens, of which one was presented to the University Museum by Dr. William L. Jellison of the Public Health Service. Saunders (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 14, 1921:98*) states that he knew of no records west of the continental divide in Montana. Since that time the following records have appeared: Weydemeyer (*Condor, 29, 1927:159*) observed a flock of about forty near Eureka, Lincoln County, on January 11, 1921, and a small flock on August 21, 1924, north of Libby, Lincoln County. Wells (*Condor, 30, 1928:322*) saw a single individual at Missoula, Missoula County, on November 14, 1926. Weydemeyer (*Auk, 52, 1935:202*) observed a single bird at Fortine, Lincoln County, on November 4, 1932. According to Saunders the bird is not uncommon in parts of eastern Montana. The above flock was apparently the first to be seen in Ravalli County and the two specimens are, to my knowledge, the first to be taken west of the divide in Montana.—PHILIP L. WRIGHT, *Montana State University, Missoula, Montana, March 9, 1945.*

Shrike Robs Sparrow Hawk.—On October 15, 1944, at Chollas Valley, San Diego, California, I saw a male Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius*) perched on a telegraph wire. Closer observation revealed that he was holding a small rodent which had evidently been obtained on a recent foray. I had not given much attention to a Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) which was perched on the same wire not five yards from the Sparrow Hawk, until, suddenly leaving its perch, the shrike flew directly and swiftly toward the hawk, snatched the prey from its talons, and made off carrying the rodent in its beak. This seemed to leave the hawk temporarily dumbfounded. Beal (*U. S. Biol. Surv. Bull. 30, 1907:33*) noted a frequent surveillance of the sparrow hawk by the shrike, which he laid to jealousy and remarked that "no case of actual conflict between the two has been observed." Since I have never read of a shrike's robbing a hawk or seen it except in this instance, I thought that this observation was worth reporting.—M. EUGENE HILL, *San Diego, California, March 23, 1945.*