than thirty-one were visible at any one time. The huge birds soared over the rim of the ridge and out of sight, singly or in small groups, but shortly either the same birds or others kept reappearing at other points from the opposite side of the same ridge. We estimated that there could easily have been fifty of them along that one valley and the ridge they crossed and recrossed in their wheeling flight. Their activity during mid-day may well have been influenced by the dense, continuous layer of clouds that had blanketed the whole páramo and its adjacent peaks during the earlier hours. On subsequent days when the early morning hours were clear the condors were active for only two or three hours immediately following sunrise and again for a short time just before sunset. Rarely were they seen during the middle of the day.

We were in the Piñan region for some days and saw condors every day, but never again so many at any one time. A half dozen within sight at once was a common occurrence, and not infrequently we counted ten to fifteen within sight of the unaided eye. A lone condor was a rarity, at least within the scope of our limited observations.

Just after sunrise one morning several of our cargadores were attracted by the actions of three condors which had been under observation for several minutes as they wheeled in great circles two or three thousand feet above us. They suddenly plunged downward toward a small draw about a half mile away and disappeared behind an intervening ridge. One of the Indians declared that the condors were attacking a calf or a deer. The mayordomo of our group of native helpers grabbed a shotgun and hustled across the páramo in an attempt to drive off the marauding condors, or to obtain the fresh meat for our own use in case the raptors killed the animal before he reached it. By the time he reached the rise overlooking the point where the condors had disappeared, the calf, for so it proved to be, was dead.

The mayordomo, Manuel Giler, brought the animal back to camp so I had an opportunity to examine the wounds inflicted by the condors and to judge of their manner of attacking the flesh of their kill. A gash on the left side of the chest cut clear through into the chest cavity, between the ribs, and the lung was deeply torn. The heart, however, had not been injured, but a considerable quantity of blood was in the chest cavity. Another gash exposed the flesh of the "saddle" just above the left kidney and perhaps a pound of the tenderloin had been stripped out. Other wounds were present on the nose and about the head of the calf, whether made by claws or by the beaks of the attacking birds I am unable to say. One eye had been pierced but not entirely plucked from its socket. The abdominal wall had been penetrated and about a third of the animal's viscera had been dragged out through a hole less than two inches in diameter. Aside from the areas mentioned, the skin was not torn and the condors appeared to have begun feeding by working through the comparatively small holes instead of by stripping away the covering skin.—IRA L. WIGGINS, *Natural History Museum, Stanford University, California, March 23, 1945.*

Feeding Habits of the Clark Nutcracker.—Like the Canada and Steller jays, the Clark Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) is often attracted to mountain camps and cabins by food scraps. Apparently the nutcracker, like other corvids, will feed on meat or carrion, but usually such feeding is done upon the carcasses of mammals or birds. On a trip to Yellowstone National Park in January-February, 1944, however, Dr. E. R. Quortrup of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge observed a Clark Nutcracker feeding upon the flesh surrounding the lacrimal ducts of an injured cow elk.

Feeding upon sores or freshly made brands of livestock or upon the sores of big game, is not a particularly uncommon practice of the Magpie (*Pica pica*). Adolph Murie, in his "Ecology of the Coyote in Yellowstone" (Fauna Series 14, Conservation Bulletin 4, National Park Service, 1940), mentioned finding magpies that apparently were picking at mites and ticks on live mountain sheep, elk, and bison; he also found ticks in the stomach of a dead magpie. M. P. Skinner, in 1920, reported Clark Nutcrackers in Yellowstone National Park congregating on grounds where elk had bedded; here the birds were finding and consuming large numbers of ticks. O. J. Murie writes (letter, March 1, 1944) that he found a Clark Nutcracker with engorged ticks in its throat. Perhaps this habit of seeking parasites on big game or livestock may lead these birds occasionally to probe deeper and obtain live flesh.

Ten stomachs, critically analyzed in the laboratory of the Fish and Wildlife Service, revealed that these Clark Nutcrackers had taken the following foods in approximately this order of abundance: pine seeds, cicadas, grasshoppers, oats and other grains, spiders, blister beetles, Hymenoptera (including ants, bees, and wasps), weevils, ticks, ground beetles, rove beetles, meadow mice, scarab beetles, and miscellaneous insects.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois, May 4, 1945.*

Miscellaneous Records of Birds Uncommon in Utah.—At various times in recent years the writers have, in their general collecting, obtained birds of relatively rare occurrence in Utah, at

least as indicated by the literature. The data pertaining to these are presented below. A few noteworthy specimens are also reported that have been brought into the University of Utah Museum of Zoology by others. Certain of the specimens have been identified as to subspecies by Alden H. Miller at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and we are indebted to him for this service.

Aix sponsa. Wood Duck. Although probably not uncommon in pioneer days, this duck is relatively rare in Utah today and few records are to be found in the literature for the State. An important specimen, therefore, is a male received from Cyril Fullmer. The bird was taken in the course of a duck hunt at a slough two miles north of Circleville, 5800 feet, Piute County, on October 16, 1942.

Chlidonias nigra surinamensis. American Black Tern. The species breeds in small numbers at refuges and sloughs on the east side of Great Salt Lake in northern Utah and is an uncommon transient over the State. Records are so few, however, that another one may be of value. A male was taken from a pond near the Parrish Ranch, 5175 feet, 5 miles north of Ibapah Post Office, Tooele County, Utah, on May 20, 1942. It was one of three transient Black Terns.

Glaucidium gnoma pinicola. Rocky Mountain Pigmy Owl. There are only about half a dozen records for Utah pertaining to this small resident owl. Two new ones are as follows: a male was picked up dead on January 12, 1941, in Memory Grove, 4400 feet, at the mouth of City Creek Canyon, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah, by Gilbert Barton. A female was taken January 24, 1943, from a willow patch along the Weber River at 33rd Street, 4300 feet, Ogden, Weber County, Utah. This one was collected by Jim Poorman and Warren Jensen.

Hylocichla guttata guttata. Alaska Hermit Thrush. There are but three records of this subspecies that have been reported from the State. An additional one pertains to a transient male taken on May 8, 1942, from a willow patch on the east-central part of Antelope Island, Great Salt Lake, 4300 feet, Davis County, Utah. It is typical both as regards back color and wing length.

Hylocichla guttata polionota. Mono Hermit Thrush. A female taken with the preceding specimen from Antelope Island appears to be closest to this race. The specimen is too pale to be referred to *H. g. guttata.* It corresponds fairly well with intergrades between *polionota* and *guttata* which breed in the panhandle of Idaho, a population to which Bishop (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 46, 1933:201) has applied the name *dwighti.*

Vireo solitarius cassinii. Cassin Solitary Vireo. This race is an uncommon transient in Utah; only a few specmens are on record. A male was taken at the base of the Wasatch Mountains, 5200 feet, 1 mile south of 36th Street, Ogden, Weber County, Utah, on October 6, 1941.

Regulus regulus olivaceus. Western Golden-crowned Kinglet. Woodbury (Condor, 41, 1939: 159-160) summarized all records for this bird up to 1939 and indicates that this kinglet is not only a summer resident in the mountains but also a flocking winter resident of the foothills. During the winter of 1944-45 small flocks were frequently seen on the campus of the University of Utah and one individual was picked up dying. Specimens taken in late years by the writers in Utah are as follows: a male from the west side of the Deep Creek Mountains, at the Queen of Sheba Mine, 8000 feet, Juab County, May 21, 1942; three specimens (2 males, 1 female) from Silver Lake Post Office (Brighton), 9000 feet, Salt Lake County, June 19 and July 10, 1943; a female from Heugh's Canyon, near the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon, 5000 feet, Salt Lake County, March 8, 1944; and the male, noted above, from the University of Utah campus, 4550 feet, Salt Lake City, February 15, 1945.

Dendroica townsendi. Townsend Warbler. This is another uncommon transient in Utah and few specimens have been reported. Another male was taken in Wheeler's Canyon, 5200 feet (a branch of Ogden Canyon), Weber County, on September 10, 1943.

Seiurus noveboracensis. Northern Water-thrush. A specimen taken in the spring of 1942 not only adds to the few thus far obtained in the State, but also presents an interesting case of variation. The bird was a male and was collected at the Parrish Ranch, 5175 feet, 5 miles north of Ibapah Post Office, Tooele County, Utah, on May 18, 1942. The back of this specimen is distinctive, being an extraordinary pure gray color, somewhat dark as in the race *limnaeus* yet not dark enough for that form. It corresponds more closely with *notabilis* in pallor but is not brown enough. In size it is entirely beyond the range of *limnaeus* and is not yellow enough beneath for that race either. About all one can do in light of our present knowledge is to call it an atypical specimen of the race *notabilis.*

Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus. Western Grasshopper Sparrow. A specimen taken recently constitutes an interesting rediscovery of this species in the State. It was reported by all the early collectors (Allen, Merriam, Nelson, Ridgway and Henshaw) around 1872 but seems not to have been detected since. The specimen, a male, was shot from a greasewood bush along U. S. Highway 40, 10 miles west of Salt Lake City, 4250 feet, on September 20, 1942. It was a lone bird.

Spizella arborea ochracea. Western Tree Sparrow. This sparrow has a seasonal status of winter visitant in Utah and in the writers' experience is fairly common. Only a few records, however, throw light on its standing, hence the following data are presented. A flock of about 100 Tree Sparrows was

encountered on January 25, 1941, in the trees and shrubs along the Jordan River near the Jeremy Ranch, west of the Cudahy Packing Plant, Salt Lake County, Utah. Three males and two females were taken as samples. Other specimens collected in recent years from small flocks are a female, taken on November 27, 1942, two miles west of Bountiful, 4300 feet, Davis County, and two females at the Belnap Ranch, 4260 feet, 2 miles north of Hooper, Weber County, collected on December 25, 1942.

Melospiza melodia merrilli. Merrill Song Sparrow. Several wintering Song Sparrows have been collected in recent years but with one exception they represent the breeding race, *montana*. The exception, a male, was taken at the Belnap Ranch, 4260 feet, 2 miles north of Hooper, Weber County, Utah. Although not typical, it seems referable to the race *merrilli*.

Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis. Eastern Snow Bunting. A specimen was collected by Ellis R. Wilson on November 29, 1939, at his home at Bountiful, Davis County, Utah. Another specimen of this species that has been in the collection of the University of Utah for several years is a male, taken by A. V. Hull, November 13, 1932, at the mouth of the Bear River, 18 miles west of Brigham City, Box Elder County, Utah. Johnson (Wilson Bull., 47, 1935:160, 294) reports Snow Buntings from the Provo area.—WILLIAM H. BEHLE and AARON ROSS, *Department of Biology, University of Utah, April 15, 1945.*

Cock Roosts of the Texas Nighthawk.—In the Condor for 1938 (196-197), Pickwell and Smith have called attention to separate congregations of males of *Chordeiles acutipennis texensis*, assemblages which they called "cock roosts." They did not determine the relationship of these males to females breeding in the same locality. My own experince with such roosts is not extensive but such as it is suggests that they are composed in part at least, and possibly altogether, of unattached, non-breeding birds. In combination with the notes on cock roosts I have included some observations on tree roosting since this custom has seemingly received little or no attention.

My first encounter with a cock roost was at Buena Vista Lake, in Kern County, California, a Lower Sonoran Zone locality where the Texas Nighthawk is a common summer visitant. Under date of June 21, 1921, my notes record the following: "In going through a piece of dry pasture land, dotted with occasional willow clumps and some scattering mesquite, I found quite a gathering of Texas Nighthawks in one of the smaller groves. There were about a dozen rather thin [ly foliaged] trees in the clump and all told there were probably twenty (perhaps more) Nighthawks squatted on limbs at varying heights from the ground. Because they kept flying and weaving about through the trees I could not count them, but at any rate all were males. I am certain of this as I looked carefully for females as they flew about. The two which I shot were not in breeding condition. They refused to leave the grove for any length of time, but after flying around awhile all apparently returned. The favorite perches were fair-sized, horizontal branches but a few, as they returned, alighted on quite small twigs. They seemed to have a good deal of trouble in perching on such unstable roosts and did not remain long in such positions." September 15, 1921: "Two male Texas Nighthawks which were squatting lengthwise on limbs of a couple of isolated willow trees were taken. These were the only ones seen." June 19, 1922, with Loye Miller: "In one of the willow groves was the same assemblage of male Texas Nighthawks that was noted in 1921. There were about 12 or 15 and, as before, not one female was present. We found several other parties (also composed of males) in other parts of the willow land." Although the notes are ambiguous on the point, it may be stated that the grove mentioned was the identical one which was occupied in 1921. During January, 1926, tree roostings in small groups were observed in El Salvador but whether or not there was sex segregation my notes do not state.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Dickey Collections, University of California, Los Angeles, December 31, 1944.*

The Calliope Hummingbird at Portland, Oregon.—On April 26, 1944, the Misses Mary Lou Moore and Mary Jo Moore of the Oregon Audubon Society found a dead hummingbird near their home in southeast Portland. Being familiar with the Rufous Hummingbird, the only hummer found commonly in the Portland area, they showed their "find" to several friends without obtaining a satisfactory identification. The bird was finally laid away in a refrigerator to await my return to the city. Nearly a month later the bird was given to me, still in a fair state of preservation. It proved to be a typical adult male Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) the first known record of the occurrence of this species in the Portland area and, in fact, the first reported occurrence west of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, May 9, 1945.*

Winter Bird Observations in the Boise National Forest, Idaho.—During the winters of 1938-39 and 1939-40 the writer, as biologist of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, was engaged in field work near the Deer Park Guard Station on the Boise National Forest in Idaho.