

Oahu, as recorded by G. C. Munro and others in numerous articles in volumes 1, 2, and 4 of *The Elepaio*. It is now known to breed on Keaoli Islet off the central southeastern shore of Hawaii, where the writer on August 9, 1945, found two Bulwer Petrels in rock clefts and two white eggs. One of the eggs was outside the entrance to a cleft, while the other was within a cleft near an adult petrel. One of the petrels extracted from its burrow was an adult; the other was not seen and could not be reached, but it made sounds resembling short barks exactly in the manner as the one examined. Both eggs were addled and dried. On August 14 another adult was found, dead; it had been pinned down by a shifting



Fig. 4. Keaoli Islet, off the shore of Hawaii National Park, Hawaii.

rock but a few days before. No downy young were seen. On subsequent days several more visits were made to the islet and no more petrels were seen or heard, hence the colony may have been discovered just before the birds last to leave were ready to depart for the ocean at the end of breeding activities.

A search over the entire  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -acre island revealed the presence of over 100 nests, then empty but recently occupied. If these were nests of departed Bulwer Petrels, the adult population would consist of more than 200 adults. No eggs or individuals of other species of petrels or shearwaters were seen.

The nests were located in chinks and clefts in the lava rock which comprised the island or in spaces under and between boulders. Nests were not on the surface, probably because there were no shrubs to afford protected sites. No burrows of any kind were dug in the small patches of shallow sand. Some of the nests were in narrow, almost closed-off chinks, while others were in open situations where wind and rain must have had free access. None was within reach of the spray drifting from normal-sized waves. They were most numerous in the cracks of a lava hummock at the central part of the islet which reached a height of 36 feet. No sticks, pebbles, or other movable materials were seen at the nests.

No rats or other mammals were present on the islet, although it was only 500 feet off the coast of the main island. This colony of birds has been undisturbed by man for many years.—PAUL H. BALDWIN, *United States National Park Service, Hawaii National Park, Hawaii, October 2, 1945.*

**Yellow-billed Magpies at Santa Barbara, California.**—This past summer Dr. Elmer R. Noble called my attention to the presence of two Yellow-billed Magpies (*Pica nuttallii*) around his home at 1250 Dover Lane in the Riviera section of Santa Barbara, California. This, according to Linsdale's "Natural History of Magpies" (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 25), is the first record of them in Santa Barbara since 1887, although they have been reported by Bond at Goleta, six miles west of Santa Barbara, on July 3, 1941 (Condor, 43, 1941:247) and near Gaviota in the spring of 1935 and of 1937 (verbal).

The birds were first observed by Dr. Noble about July 1, 1945, and on almost every subsequent morning between 6:00 and 6:30 when they were seen and heard as they came to feed on food set out for the dog and cat and on bread crumbs scattered for birds. They stayed in the neighborhood most of the day and were often seen just before dusk. On the occasions I observed them they were seen in the top of a eucalyptus tree in a vacant lot adjoining his home and in the eucalyptus trees and coast live oaks on the steep chaparral-covered slope below his house and southeast of Jefferson School. From about August 13 to August 20, only one bird was seen and since the latter date none has been seen.—MARY M. ERICKSON, *Santa Barbara College, University of California, November 17, 1945.*

**Brewer Sparrow Banded at Hollywood, California.**—On September 28, 1945, I caught a Brewer Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) in a water trap in my yard. The bird was first observed on September 26 but did not venture into the trap until the 28th, which was a very warm day. The bird was no longer seen after banding. Its under parts were unstreaked in contrast with the streaked breast of immature Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella passerina*) with which the Brewer Sparrow might be confused in the fall.

This seems to be the first observation of this species in Los Angeles County since a specimen was taken in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles County, by J. E. Law, on December 27, 1903 (Willett, *Pac. Coast Avif.* No. 7, 1912:80).—C. V. DUFF, *Hollywood, California, November 24, 1945.*

**A New Race of *Aphelocoma unicolor* from Southern Mexico.**—Recent study of a collection of 141 specimens of *Aphelocoma unicolor* from all parts of the range of that species has revealed the presence of an unrecognized race in Oaxaca. Although only three specimens are available to me from that state, the racial characters displayed by them are so distinct that continued nomenclatural association of the Oaxacan population with that of Vera Cruz, Puebla, and Mexico (Hellmayr, *Cat. Birds Amer.*, part 7, 1934:58) would be erroneous. These populations are called *A. u. unicolor* by Hellmayr, but *unicolor* Du Bus has been found recently to apply to and antedate *coelestis* Ridgway of Chiapas and Guatemala; as a consequence, *unicolor* of Hellmayr has become *concolor* Cassin (van Rossem, *Wilson Bull.*, 54, 1942:212; Brodkorb, *Auk*, 61, 1944:402).

In Oaxaca, *Aphelocoma unicolor* is known only from the central highlands surrounding Mount Zempoaltepec. *A. u. guerrensis* occurs approximately 200 miles to the west, *A. u. unicolor* approximately 200 miles to the east on the other side of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and *A. u. concolor* (*sensu stricto*) approximately 100 miles to the northwest. Thus, the Oaxacan population lies geographically between *A. u. concolor* and *A. u. unicolor*. This point is of particular interest in the light of the characters distinguishing the Oaxacan race, which may be known as

#### *Aphelocoma unicolor oaxacae*, new subspecies

*Type.*—Adult female, no. 39121, collection of R. T. Moore, Pasadena, California; taken at Mocmum, Oaxaca, Mexico, on October 18, 1941, by M. Toro Avilés.

*Racial characters.*—Similar to *A. u. guerrensis*, but smaller; closest to that race in color, but slightly less purplish (between Cyanine Blue and Dusky Blue, tending toward Azurite Blue-Indulin Blue, of Ridgway, *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature*, 1912); compared with *A. u. concolor*, distinctly darker (more purplish) and with tail proportionally longer.

*Geographic distribution.*—Central highlands of Oaxaca, southern Mexico; known only from the three specimens for which locality data are given in table 1; reported by Du Bus (*Esquisses Ornithologiques*, livr. 4, 1848:pl. 17 and text) as "*Cyanocorax unicolor*" from Tepitongo and San Pedro, an unidentifiable locality, Oaxaca.

The possibility that an unrecognized race of *A. unicolor* occurs in Oaxaca first came to my notice

Table 1

#### Measurements of *Aphelocoma unicolor oaxacae*

	Adult male (RTM-33382: Totontepec, April 7, 1942)	Adult female (type, RTM-39121: Mocmum, October 18, 1941)	Juvenal male <sup>2</sup> (BS-144631: Mt. Zempoaltepec, July 31, 1894)
Wing	156 mm.	160 mm.	150 mm.
Tail	157	162	146
Bill length	20.2	18? <sup>1</sup>	—
Tarsus	39.7	39.8	39.0
Wing-tail ratio	0.994:1	0.988:1	1.027:1

<sup>1</sup> Tip broken.

<sup>2</sup> In early stage of postjuvenal molt.