

on two occasions the male gave a note that was entirely new to both of us. It was like the Pigmy Owl's metronomic whistle rendered at much higher pitch and frequency but was more softly pronounced and in much shorter phrases.

The Elf Owls appeared to be especially interested in certain woodpecker holes which we discovered the following morning. Eggs had not been laid, however, since the female showed greatly enlarged ova but no corpus luteum. There was an incipient brood patch visible. We were confident that actual egg laying would have occurred within a week at most and that the nest hole had probably been selected.

The birds were not mere wanderers in the region. Dr. R. B. Cowles and party from the Los Angeles campus of the University of California had heard them at the same spot nine days earlier but had been unable to identify them beyond the order Strigiformes. Did selection of mates occur before their arrival at this far western point and the pair then start their westward pioneering together? It seems hardly probable that several birds came to the same outpost at the same time and that the selection of mate then took place. On the other hand, despite the extremely inhospitable aspect of the intervening area, there may be "stepping stones" for diffusion in the form of arborescent growth tucked away in canyons of the clinker-like masses of low mountains that lie well separated in the desert, like an archipelago stretching eastward to the Colorado. A thorough search of these "islands" at the right season might place on record still other breeding pairs of the Elf Owl.—LOYE MILLER, *University of California, Los Angeles, California, May 25, 1946.*

**Wintering Mountain Bluebirds on the Santa Barbara Coast.**—While stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station, Goleta, Santa Barbara County, California, I was surprised to find the Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) wintering along the seashore. On December 18, 1945, while observing a flock of Western Bluebirds (*Sialia mexicana*), I noted a bird of striking blue color. Upon closer examination it was found to be a Mountain Bluebird. Further observation showed that there was a mixed flock of Mountain and Western bluebirds here, numbering about 25 birds. The two species were about equally represented. They were usually seen perched on and foraging from some telephone wires on a bluff about one hundred yards from the coast, although on several occasions they were observed on the sand within a few feet of the ocean. These two species were seen together nearly every day until my transfer from this station on January 19, 1946.—GEORGE S. MANSFIELD, *Atascadero, California, June 15, 1946.*

**The Orange-crowned Warbler in Oregon.**—Recently Carl Richardson of Prospect, Oregon, sent me several birds collected in southern Oregon with a request that I identify them for him. His number 226 proved to be an adult female *Vermivora c. celata*, taken on May 5, 1944, eight miles southwest of Prospect, Jackson County, Oregon. The identification of this specimen has been verified by Dr. John W. Aldrich of the Fish and Wildlife Service. To the best of my knowledge this warbler has not previously been reported as collected in Oregon.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, March 6, 1946.*

**A Record of the Myrtle Warbler for Box Elder County, Utah.**—On May 7, 1946, at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, Brigham, Utah, a male Myrtle Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) was first observed by Lloyd F. Gunther and John B. Van den Akker. On various occasions for the following five weeks it was also observed in the same vicinity. This record is of interest in that this warbler has not been previously listed as occurring in this section of the state. The only other known record is that reported by Cottam (Wilson Bull., 54, 1942:254), who reports a specimen taken on October 9, 1870, barely in Utah, in the Uinta Mountains in the extreme northeastern corner of the state.—LLOYD F. GUNTHER and JOHN B. VAN DEN AKKER, *Bear River Refuge, Brigham, Utah, June 28, 1946.*

**Phainopeplas at Atascadero, California.**—I spent June 22 and 23, 1946, on an 11-acre tract at Atascadero, San Luis Obispo County, California, the elevation of which is about 850 feet. Live-oak trees grow to immense proportions there. In addition to live oaks, there are a few fruit-bearing trees and shrubs, such as mulberries, elderberries, blackberries, and cascara. Near the house, between two mulberry trees which were loaded with ripe and ripening fruit, there was an almost constant traffic of Phainopeplas (*Phainopepla nitens lepida*), a bird which my sister who had lived there for twenty-five years had not seen in previous years, nor had I on my previous visits to Atascadero. I found two nests in her yard near the house, both in live oaks, one twenty-five feet, the other fifteen feet above the ground; the latter contained three eggs near hatching.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California, June 29, 1946.*