

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Horned Owl Preys on Cooper Hawk.—In early January of 1947, while collecting Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) pellets in the Fern Ridge Reservoir area west of Eugene, Oregon, I came upon a large pellet containing bones somewhat larger than are generally found in pellets of this species. Upon breaking the pellet open, a complete raptor talon was found in addition to several other large bones. The leg piece, consisting of the complete foot, tarsus and a short part of the tibiotarsus, was sent to Stanley G. Jewett for identification. He identified it as a Cooper Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*).

A short time earlier both wings of a Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*) were found lying in soft mud a short distance from the site where the pellet was found. There was no evidence of a struggle and the lack of animal prints in the mud indicated that the bird was killed in the air by another bird. Both wings were broken off in the mid-humerus region, and the body was completely gone. These facts would probably indicate that this Marsh Hawk also fell prey to the Horned Owl, since no other bird in this area would be able to kill a hawk of this size in the air, break the bones, and carry the body off.—GORDON W. GULLION, *Eugene, Oregon, April 10, 1947.*

Screech Owl Egg in Crow's Nest.—In the course of a field trip near Fullerton, California, on April 22, 1945, I was much surprised to find a Screech Owl (*Otus asio*) egg in a set of four American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) eggs. A crow was incubating the eggs at the time of discovery and all eggs showed evidence of fertility. The owl egg was compared with several sets of the species in my collection and corresponded closely in size and shape. The nest tree showed no signs of having been climbed prior to my ascent.—EDWARD M. HALL, *Whittier, California, January 15, 1947.*

Some Bird Records for Southern Nevada.—Linsdale, in his "Birds of Nevada" (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 23, 1936:31), records two Anthony Green Herons taken on May 7, 1934, on the Colorado River opposite Fort Mojave in the extreme southern part of Clark County, Nevada.

On June 30, 1947, the writer observed two Green Herons (*Butorides virescens*) at the mouth of Muddy Creek which enters Boulder Canyon south of Overton, Nevada. On the adjacent mud flats a small flock of seven Western Sandpipers (*Ereunetes mauri*) and one Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) were also seen. These apparently were extremely early fall migrants. Near them were two broods of Cinnamon Teal, a female Shoveller, and two female Mallard ducks.—CLARENCE COTAM, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois, July 16, 1947.*

Black Pigeon Hawk at Santa Barbara, California.—On September 14, 1947, 6 miles east of Santa Barbara, California, in the foothills at 500 feet altitude, two Pigeon Hawks were observed. Shortly thereafter a single individual was taken, probably one of the two first noted. It proved to be a Black Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*); Mr. Egmont Rett of the Santa Barbara Museum made the identification. The bird had eaten at least three dragon flies. There are but four previous records of this race of Pigeon Hawk from southern California, three of which are from Santa Barbara.—EDWARD R. SPAULDING, *Santa Barbara, California, October 11, 1946.*

A Second Record of the Oven-bird on the Mohave Desert.—Hunt (Condor, 22, 1920:190) reported an Oven-bird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) on the Mohave Desert of California near Lavic.

On May 13, 1937, I was camping in the broad smoke-tree wash leading down from the Granite Mountains toward Bristol Dry Lake near Amboy. It was about six o'clock in the morning and I was seated before my camp fire writing up my notes of the previous day. Glancing up I saw on the ground before me not more than ten feet away a small bird whose identity was unmistakable: it was none other than the Oven-bird. During the next half hour I had it continuously under observation. The bird was exceedingly unafraid and as it moved about peering under leaves of ground-hugging annuals for insect food, I slowly followed it. It kept close to the ground rising only occasionally to fly to some new feeding place in the broad openings between shrubs or beneath the shelter of smoke-trees (*Dalea spinosa*). The site where I saw this warbler is but thirty miles away from the place where Mr. Hunt observed the species in 1920.—EDMUND C. JAEGER, *Riverside College, Riverside, California, June 1, 1947.*

White-headed Woodpecker Spends Winter at Palm Springs, California.—I spent the winter of 1915-1916 at Palm Springs, California, on the Colorado Desert. In front of the school building, where I was teaching, was a square 20-foot pole which carried the single telegraph wire which offered the only quick means of communication of the then small village to the outside world. In late November I noticed a White-headed Woodpecker (*Dryobates albolarvatus*) several times a day clinging to the sides of the pole and occasionally near evening going into a hole previously made