

142) measurements of 21 specimens from Molokai than with Murphy's (*loc. cit.*) measurements of the Galapagos Petrel (*P. p. phaeopygia*).

This bird came to land at the front of a severe southerly storm. Outwardly it appeared to be in good condition, but its actions were weak, and it died after four days, although force fed. Examination revealed head and leg injuries, possibly suffered at the time of capture or during the period of its captivity. The specimen was mounted for display at Hawaii National Park.—PAUL H. BALDWIN, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California*, and DOUGLASS H. HUBBARD, *National Park Service, Hawaii National Park, Hawaii, April 6, 1949*.

A Heavily Parasitized Flicker.—On March 31, 1948, I had occasion to collect a female Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer*) near Eugene, Lane County, Oregon. Upon opening the coelomic cavity to obtain tissues for histological examination, I found a large number of nematodes present. There were no less than forty roundworms removed, ranging from 150 to 190 mm. in length, having a total volume of about 52 cc. In addition, three acanthocephalid worms were found in the intestinal tract.

Microscopic examination further revealed the presence of embryonated nematode ova near the spleen, ovary and kidneys. Individual ova were found in the renal veins, in the interlobular hepatic veins, and among the intestinal villi. Numerous coccidia were also found in the intestinal mucosa.

Samples of the worms were sent to the United States National Museum for identification. Dr. Benjamin Schwartz of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture identified the nematodes as being of the genus *Diplostriaena* and the acanthocephalids as probably being of the genus *Mediorhynchus*. Poor fixation on my part precluded definite specific identification of the nematodes and even made the generic determination of the acanthocephalids uncertain. Dr. Schwartz suggested the species *D. americana* for the nematodes.

Since this bird was actively excavating a nesting cavity at the time of collecting, this heavy infestation of parasites apparently had not interfered with its activities as yet. The ovary was found to contain several developing ova. The bird's stomach contained several hundred yellow-jackets (*Vespula* sp.) and ants.—GORDON W. GULLION, *Richmond, California, January 8, 1949*.

Striped Horned Owl in Southern Mexico.—On July 20, 1944, I collected a female Striped Horned Owl (*Rhinoptynx clamator*) near Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas. At that time I overlooked the



Fig. 44. Specimen of Striped Horned Owl taken near Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas.

fact that this owl has not often been recorded from Mexico. It is now realized that perhaps the record is of interest; to substantiate it a photograph of the skin is presented. The specimen is in my own collection.—MIGUEL ALVAREZ DEL TORO, *Museo de Historia Natural, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico, March 20, 1949*.

An Extension of the Altitudinal Nesting Range of the Pintail in California.—Bodie, Mono County, California, a deserted mining camp, is situated near the mouth of Cottonwood Canyon at an elevation of 8374 feet. This area is typical of the Great Basin; the dominant vegetation is

Artemisia tridentata. The accumulated talus from the abandoned mines has been processed recently to obtain additional gold, and shallow ditches resulting from this work have filled with water, forming small ponds.

In early May, 1948, J. H. Severaid observed a pair of Pintails (*Anas acuta*) swimming and feeding in one of the ponds. On June 18, 1948, when I camped with Severaid at Bodie, observations were made again on the ducks. This time the drake was absent, and the female was accompanied by nine ducklings.

The pool was approximately 30 feet long and 25 feet wide and varied from one to two feet in depth. The neighboring area, a grassy meadow with scattered clumps of *Artemisia*, offered little cover. Nevertheless, according to Robert Bell, the caretaker, the duck nested on the dry ground under one of the *Artemisia* bushes.

Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:77) give the altitudinal range of this species in California as being from near sea level to 6600 feet. This record of nesting at Bodie extends the known altitudinal range an additional 1774 feet.—PHILIP H. KRUTZSCH, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, February 5, 1949.*

Gyr Falcon Taken in California.—On October 23, 1948, Robert F. Russell of the Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge, while hunting quail about two miles west of Lower Klamath Lake, Siskiyou County, California, shot a Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) which he later prepared as a specimen and sent to me for study. It is labeled as a male. The seventh primary is shorter than the tenth, indicating its affinity to the race *uralensis*. The plumage is that of an immature bird. This is the first record of this species in California.

Mr. Russell's account of the taking of this specimen is worth quoting verbatim: "I shot the hawk while quail hunting in that area. While searching for a cripple with my setter, I noticed a hawk circling, watching our activities. The bird evidently had no fear of man or dog and seemed to resent our presence—perhaps it was interested in the crippled quail. Suddenly the hawk folded its wings and dropped like a stone toward the dog from a height of about 75 feet. Just before the hawk reached the dog it pulled out of its dive, missing the dog's back by a scant two feet . . . The speed of the bird was extreme. I can distinctly recall the sound of the wind in its wings as it dove—like someone tearing a sheet. The hawk duplicated its first dive and I shot it as it came out of it."—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, February 15, 1949.*

Loggerhead Shrike Steals Shot Sparrow.—In early May, 1948, my brother and I were collecting birds at a small marshy pond in a grassy field about four and one-half miles southeast of Reno, Nevada. A Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) flew up to a fence post about forty feet from where we stood. My brother shot the bird. The second it hit the ground, we ran to pick it up but were amazed to see a Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) seize our bird and carry it away. The shrike carried the sparrow with laborious strokes of its wings and flew to a spot in a large field of sagebrush about fifty yards away. Because the prey was comparatively heavy, the shrike flew low over the ground. It seems incredible but we could not locate either the shrike or the sparrow after searching the area for at least a half hour.—NED K. JOHNSON, *Reno, Nevada, February 13, 1949.*

Winter Wren in San Diego County, California.—On October 10, 1941, I saw a Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) on Palomar Mountain, northern San Diego County, at an elevation between five and six thousand feet. On November 4, 1941, I could not find any Winter Wrens at the same location.

On March 6, 1949, I saw two Winter Wrens in Marion Canyon, Agua Tibia Ranch, near Pala, northern San Diego County, California, at an estimated elevation of three thousand feet. The birds gave the loud alarm note and one individual could be seen to curtsy with each double note as it perched in a blackberry tangle. This bird was observed at about twelve feet with binoculars. When the bird moved from one hiding place to another, its small size and the angle at which it held its tail could be noted.

It seems possible that the Winter Wren ranges regularly farther south in California than San Dimas Canyon near Pomona, Los Angeles County, which Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:330) cite as the "southernmost recorded station for wintering" of this species.—ELEANOR GUYER BEEMER, *Pala, California, March 17, 1949.*