

lected. Both birds were in full breeding plumage. On July 18, 1949, several broods of downy young were noted in the same area. Three broods for which accurate counts were obtained averaged 9.0 young. Photographs were obtained of other broods. Search failed to disclose nests in any instance, so no clutch counts were obtained.

The Ring-necked Duck appears to be a more common migrant in Colorado than formerly supposed. In the San Luis Valley proper, individuals were noted on April 14, 15, and 16, 1949, in three separate flocks of Lesser Scaup Ducks (*Aythya affinis*). J. Frank Cassel reports seeing migrant birds in the spring and fall of 1949 in the vicinity of Fort Collins, Larimer County, in the northern part of the state.

In Colorado the Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) was regarded by Sclater (*op. cit.* :4) as a rare migrant. Bailey and Niedrach (Auk, 55, 1938:119) reported an observation of 52 birds as an unusual occurrence. Niedrach and Rockwell (*op. cit.* :25) list this species as an uncommon summer resident, but cite no nesting records. Approximately 50 adult birds were regularly observed by the writer during the nesting season of 1949 on the Russell Lakes, 9 miles south of Saguache, Colorado. These shallow lakes are 7580 feet in elevation and are surrounded by extensive hard-stem bulrush marshes. Nine nests were located in one 320-acre study area, only one-third of which might be considered grebe nesting habitat. The earliest laying noted was on May 6; the earliest young, May 22. One adult male and one downy chick were collected. Pied-billed Grebes (*Podilymbus podiceps*) and Eared Grebes (*Colymbus caspicus*) also nested on this study area.

Bergtold (*op. cit.* :80) considered the White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis mexicana*) to be a rare breeder in Colorado. Sclater (*op. cit.* :77) tells of White-faced Glossy Ibis nests observed in the San Luis Valley by Aiken on July 1, 1875. In 1949, at least 12 pairs were observed nesting in the Russell Lakes study area. The first clutch was noticed on May 22; the first young, June 20. On June 22, Clyde P. Matteson and the writer banded two fledglings and made still and movie photographs of nests, young, and adults. One immature male was collected on July 22.

In recent years, the Snowy Egret (*Leucophoyx thula*) has apparently nested in increasing numbers in Colorado. Bailey and Niedrach (Condor, 40, 1938:44-45) are credited with the first record for the state, a nest found in the Denver area on July 8, 1937. In 1948, two pairs, and in 1949, six pairs, nested at Terry Lake, two miles north of Fort Collins. The writer found this species well distributed throughout the San Luis Valley, with several small colonies located on the bulrush margins of lakes and ponds. The earliest nests located on the Russell Lakes in 1949 were found early in May; the first young were seen on May 30. Twelve fledgling egrets were banded on June 22 and numerous individuals and nests were photographed in the course of the summer. One adult male was collected for a study skin.—RONALD A. RYDER, *Colorado Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College, Fort Collins, Colorado, November 17, 1949.*

Xantus Murrelet Captured in a Dip Net.—In February, 1949, I had the privilege of accompanying Mr. J. W. Sefton, Jr., and several other biologists on a short cruise aboard the "Orca" to San Clemente, Los Coronados, and Todos Santos islands off the coast of southern and Baja California. Late in the afternoon of February 23 we anchored close inshore on the lee side of the southern island of the Coronados group. As soon as darkness set in we began fishing for specimens with a dip net and a shallowly submerged electric light. At about 9:45, Dr. Rolf Bolin, who was handling the dip net from the landing stage at the time, caught a rapidly swimming creature that entered the lighted area about two feet below the surface. When he brought it into the laboratory cabin, it proved to be a mature Xantus Murrelet (*Endomychura hypoleuca*). An hour or so later a second bird was caught in the same manner by another member of the party. Both birds were kept captive until the next forenoon when they were released.

The shrill, plaintive whistle of the murrelets was heard frequently throughout the night, but only the two were attracted to the light. Several others were seen swimming on the surface a few yards from the ship, but at such a distance that the submerged light had no attraction for them.—IRA L. WIGGINS, *Natural History Museum, Stanford University, California, November 26, 1949.*

Slate-colored Junco in Reno, Nevada.—During a period of abnormally cold weather from January 19 to February 13, 1949, a Slate-colored Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) came at frequent intervals