

County and did not once record this species although I do not doubt that it does occur sparingly there.

The comments of Weydemeyer (Condor, 35, 1933:121), cited by Porter, concerning the breeding of the American Rough-legged Hawk in northwestern Montana are not verified by specimens nor do they sound convincing to me (identification of two "young" birds on the wing on August 8, 1922). It would seem to me that Swainson Hawks are probably referred to (I have seen them myself in similar situations in northern Idaho). There is no real evidence to extend the breeding range of the American Rough-leg into northern Idaho or northwestern Montana.—MALCOLM JOLLIE, *University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, January 12, 1952.*

**Song in Hand-reared Birds.**—The present writer has twice written on the subject of song in hand-reared birds, although the statements have been brief. In 1921 (Condor, 23:43) the call note and the first song or tribal song of the House Finch or Linnet (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) were both considered to be inherited and free from the influence of associated sounds. That the more finished performance of the adult male might be modified by association was conceded to be possible or even probable.

Some years later I became acquainted with a hand-reared male Linnet in Los Angeles which was so very aberrant in its song as to lead me to comment as follows (Condor, 31, 1929:221): "He was struggling with a voluble performance that was all his own! It was not like any other bird song I ever heard, and was apparently not imitated." This bird was a great pet that had only human associates who fed him any and everything that he could be induced to take from the hand or from the table. It was known to the indulgent household as "Tweeie."

Since publication of this second note my attention has been more carefully directed to the subject of the linnets' notes in the field with the result that one wild male was heard at El Segundo, California, who had in his song a tone quality that duplicated the tone, as registered by the ear, which characterized "Tweeie's" vocal efforts. It is the only wild linnet that I have ever heard produce such a tone. The song pattern, however, was that of the average wild bird.

"Tweeie" did not live to a ripe old age on his highly artificial diet and was sent to me to be converted into a specimen showing the yellow plumage induced by cage conditions. The body was found to be markedly pathologic, with nodular masses of fatty tissue unevenly distributed beneath the skin and among the viscera. Unfortunately a microdissection of the syrinx was not made.

After the passing of "Tweeie," a hand-reared linnet was presented to me by a student. This bird, "Ricardo," was of course in yellow plumage but seemed to be in quite normal health although perhaps slightly less than normal in size. Ricardo was fed only on commercial bird seed with addition of fresh lettuce, dandelion, and fruits. His song was voluble and it almost perfectly duplicated that of wild birds. It was carefully noted by myself and by one of my equally critical colleagues in ornithology but we could see no greater aberration than is evident in shifting from one local population to another in southern California. Unfortunately I have no subsequent history of this bird since he died in my absence from Los Angeles. It had, however, been under observation for a number of months.

W. E. D. Scott (Science, n.s., 14, 1901:524-526) indicates that hand-reared Baltimore Orioles did not sing the oriole's song. Mrs. M. M. Nice informs me that her hand-reared meadowlarks do not sing the normal song of the species. I would suggest that both orioles and meadowlarks are perhaps more difficult to handle in dietary matters than is the fairly strictly vegetarian linnet or of course the long domesticated "canaries" of the pet trade. I am strongly tempted therefore to postulate that the aberrant vocalizations of certain cage bred individuals of native species are possibly due to malformations resulting from our inability to duplicate the normal diet and the tireless devotion of normal parents in their upbringing. The "miracle" is that we sometimes achieve so nearly natural results in that delicately balanced, anatomic, physiologic, and psychologic complex that blossoms into the bird's natural song.—LOVE MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, June 5, 1951.*

**Current Status of the Starling in North-central Colorado.**—While the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) continues to expand its range into the Pacific Coast states, it appears to have settled permanently in Colorado. The first record of the species in this state was in 1938, the first positive breeding