

killed each fall. We examined two that were killed at Carson Lake on November 4, 1951. One of these birds was sent to the Charles R. Conner Museum at Pullman, Washington, and the other is to be mounted for display at the Sagebrush Cafe in Fallon. A larger number of these birds than usual turned up in the Fallon area in 1951, when a minimum of five was shot by hunters.

*Aythya valisineria*. Canvasback. Linsdale did not list this species as breeding. According to unpublished reports and the personnel of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Nevada Fish and Game Commission, it is a common breeding duck at the Ruby Lake Refuge in Elko County.

*Clangula hyemalis*. Old-squaw. This species has not previously been listed for the state. According to Vernon L. Mills, a mounted Old-squaw at the Oats Park School in Fallon, which we examined, was killed in the 1920's in the vicinity of Stillwater, Churchill County. A more recent specimen present in the Sagebrush Cafe in Fallon was shot at Carson Lake about October 20, 1949.

*Perdix perdix*. Hungarian Partridge. This species is not listed by Linsdale. It is well established over a wide area in the northern part of the state. Alcorn collected one about 10 miles south-southeast of Denio, Humboldt County, on January 29, 1942. Two others were shot by Vernon L. Mills on April 21, 1942, about 15 miles north of Winnemucca and prepared as specimens by Alcorn. This species has been seen by Alcorn as far south as the southwest side of Smoke Creek Desert in Washoe County and at Kingston Canyon on the east side of the Toyabe Range in Nye County.

*Alectoris graeca*. Chukar Partridge. Linsdale states: "Reported by Alcorn (1946:132) as resident, not common, in cultivated areas near Fallon." In a later publication, "The Chukar Partridge in Nevada" (Alcorn and Richardson, Jour. Wildlife Manag., 15, 1951:265-275) this bird is reported as now being well established over a large part of Nevada.

*Charadrius alexandrinus*. Snowy Plover. Evenden (Condor, 54, 1952:174) found the first evidence of this species nesting in the state, a downy young seen at Fernley Sink, Lyon County. On June 19, 1951, Marshall observed an adult snowy plover incubating three eggs at the northeast corner of the Stillwater Marsh, Churchill County. On June 21, 1951, two additional nests, both also with three eggs, were found approximately 100 feet from the former.

*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus*. Willet. Linsdale says this bird may breed in Nevada. Alcorn counted seven adults and three young on June 28, 1943, a few miles north of Minden, Douglas County.

*Sturnus vulgaris*. Starling. We have the following additional locality records. From 2 to 27 were seen by Alcorn from December 14, 1945, to February 21, 1946, on four occasions about 10 miles north of Beatty, Nye County. Twenty-two were seen near Fallon on February 2, 1947. On February 3, 1947, two were collected at this location, one of which is no. 97196 in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. They were feeding on Russian olive berries (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*). Starlings were again seen in the Fallon area in the winter of 1948, and since have become more numerous each winter. Flocks totaling up to 200 birds were seen at various locations in the Fallon area in October, November, and December of 1951 by Alcorn, Mills and Marshall. Marshall saw a flock of 50 near Imlay, Pershing County, on November 20, 1951.—DAVID B. MARSHALL, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service*, and J. R. ALCORN, *Fallon, Nevada, January 10, 1952*.

**Willet Eats Jack Smelt Eggs.**—On April 4, 1951, at Ocean Beach, San Diego, California, I observed a lone Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*) feeding in a shallow salt water pond. This bird was shaking and thereby separating a stringy mass into smaller portions which were then swallowed. This feeding behavior was observed many times with 8 × 30 binoculars at a distance of approximately 40 feet. As the mass was quickly diminishing in size, I flushed the bird, causing it to drop the food. The remaining food was put into a jar of sea water and examined the following day. It consisted almost entirely of fish eggs adhering to a few leaves of Torrey surf grass (*Phyllospadix torreyi*). The mass was somewhat cylindrical in shape with rounded ends and measured 2.5 cm. in diameter and 12.5 cm. in length. The eggs were not viable. They were later identified as those of the jack smelt (*Atherinopsis californiensis*). Within the mass were three immature beach hoppers (*Orchestoidea*) all less than 2 mm. in length and some bits of calcareous algae.

Jack smelt are known to spawn in surf grass along the coast. During heavy surfs, surf grass is commonly cast up on the beach.—HOWARD R. ATTEBERY, *San Diego, California, April 26, 1952*.