

bills on Mount Lemmon in the Santa Catalina Mountains. An adult female Goshawk responded to my squeak and lit in the tree over my head. I collected the bird, and by its large size and dark dorsum it proved to be referable to *A. g. apache*. It is the first record for the species from the Santa Catalina Mountains and the northernmost record of the race *apache*.

Rallus limicola. Virginia Rail. An immature male taken at a slough along the Salt River several miles west of Phoenix on August 22, 1953, is the earliest fall record for the state. The species is not known to breed in the lowlands of southern or central Arizona.

Caprimulgus vociferus. Whip-poor-will. On November 4, 1952, I picked up a very dark male Whip-poor-will dead on the road four miles south of Roosevelt, Gila County. This is the first specimen taken between October and April in Arizona. Comparison with specimens from the collections of Cornell University, American Museum of Natural History, and Donald R. Dickey showed it to be similar to specimens from El Salvador of the eastern race *vociferus*, a subspecies not previously taken in Arizona.

Sphyrapicus varius. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. A dark red-headed sapsucker with an almost solid black back was taken in the bottomlands along Sonoita Creek, three miles southwest of Patagonia, Santa Cruz County, on February 2, 1953. It was identified as probably *ruber* by T. R. Howell and is the second record of that race for Arizona.

Corvus brachyrhynchos. American Crow. A flock of about twenty crows was seen on several occasions about the north end of Roosevelt Lake in February and March of 1952. Two adult males were taken from this flock on March 20. One (wing chord 317, tail 177) was identified as *hesperis*; the other was larger (wing chord 335, tail 188) and was determined to be *hargravei*, the race breeding in Arizona. I saw and heard a pair of crows in the same vicinity on April 13, 1953. This is the second record of crows occurring at this locality during the breeding season. It is an area of cottonwoods and willows along Tonto Creek, in the Lower Sonoran Life-zone. The normal breeding range of the crow elsewhere in Arizona is in the Transition Life-zone.

Hylocichla guttata. Hermit Thrush. A very pale bird taken six miles southwest of Roosevelt, Gila County, on April 9, 1952, is the northeasternmost record of *H. g. slevini* in the state.

Hylocichla ustulata. Swainson Thrush. A juvenile molting into first-winter plumage was taken at Jack Smith's Cabin, in the cork-bark fir belt of the San Francisco Peaks, Coconino County, on August 29, 1953. This is the locality where Phillips (Condor, 49, 1947:122) reported hearing them earlier in the summer. It is the first breeding record for this thrush in Arizona and the only record for northern Arizona of the controversial subspecies *almae*, which was previously considered merely accidental in the state.

Cassidix mexicanus. Boat-tailed Grackle. A first-year male, as determined by plumage, was taken at Apache Lake, Maricopa County, on May 10, 1952. This is to date the northernmost and westernmost record of the large, slender-billed race *monsoni*.

Euphagus cyanocephalus. Brewer Blackbird. A heavily molting male was taken just west of Phoenix on July 26, 1953. Its testes measured 3 and 4.5 millimeters. The record is interesting for the date involved.

Piranga rubra. Summer Tanager. The first tanagers along Rock Creek (eight miles northwest of Roosevelt) in 1952 were seen April 20, when two males were taken. One (RWD 572) was of the local breeding race, *cooperi*, while the other (RWD 573) was a first-year male (the molt into first breeding plumage nearly complete) of the eastern form *rubra*. This is the third specimen of *rubra* for the state.

Loxia curvirostra. Red Crossbill. An adult male and two accompanying juveniles, with bills just beginning to cross, were collected on February 26, 1953, on Mount Lemmon, in the Santa Catalina Mountains. This is the first breeding record of the Red Crossbill for that range.—ROBERT W. DICKERMAN, Arizona Co-operative Wildlife Research Unit, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, October 28, 1954.

Black Scoters Reported from Baja California.—As I have seen all three species of scoters along the northwestern coast of Baja California and as all three have been reported wintering south to San Diego County, California (Grinnell and Miller, Pac. Coast Avii. No. 27, 1944: 89-91), it is surprising to find no record of the Black Scoter or American Scoter (*Oidemia nigra*) from Baja California or elsewhere in México. It is not included in the treatises by Grinnell (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 32, 1928:77), by Friedmann, Griscom, and Moore (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 29, 1950:45), or by Blake

(Birds of Mexico, 1953:58-59). Two definite records of this species are for 3 to 4 miles and 6 to 7 miles south of the mouth of Río Vicente (or Río San Isidro), respectively, on April 10 (one male, alone), and on August 8, 1954 (several males, in a raft of scoters including also at least one male Surf Scoter). On each occasion the birds were at rather close range in the surf.

The occurrence of this cool-water species in Baja California was to be expected, as the inshore temperatures of the northern part of the outer coast of Baja California are generally lower than those encountered along most of the southern California shoreline. Because of the cool upwelled water, many marine organisms of various groups that reach the San Diego region, and even some that skip that warmer area, are being found to occur in Baja California, and it is to be anticipated that nearly all of the northern types that reach the San Diego area will eventually be found to occur in the cooler stretches of the coast of northwestern Baja California.

The record of August 8 is much earlier than any reported from California, according to the listing by Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:90-91). Their summary of the known records encompasses the months from November to April. It is possible that the August bird, like a few Surf Scoters and a few White-winged Scoters, was a non-migrating individual—CARL L. HUBBS, *Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, La Jolla, California, November 8, 1954.*

Taxonomic Comment on Races of Leach Petrel of the Pacific Coast.—Several years ago A. J. van Rossem described (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 55, 1942:10) a new subspecies of the Leach Petrel, *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, from the Los Coronados Islands, off the coast of Baja California, under the subspecific name *willetti*. He compared it with the other Pacific coast races of *leucorhoa*, that is, with *beali* and *chapmani*, and also with *socorroensis*, which he considered to be also a race of *leucorhoa*. It was said to differ from *chapmani* of San Benito Island in its slightly lighter and distinctly more plumbeous body coloration, in its paler and more variably white upper tail coverts and in its slightly larger size. In the Carnegie Museum there are 34 specimens from the Los Coronados Islands that presumably represent the race *willetti*. I must confess my inability to distinguish them satisfactorily from our series of 44 specimens from San Benito Island—topotypes of *chapmani*. Only one of our Los Coronados specimens shows any great amount of white on the upper tail coverts; a few others have some white feathers. The body coloration is the same as in the San Benito birds so far as I can see, although it may be that freshly collected specimens might show a difference. The difference in size is inconsequential, as may be seen by consulting Loomis' table of measurements (Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., ser. 4, 2, 1918:168-169). Thus only the color of the upper tail coverts is left as a differential character, and this would serve to distinguish not more than one out of five specimens. Therefore I cannot see how a case can be made out for *willetti*. Moreover, two of our San Benito specimens show traces of white on the upper tail coverts.

So I concluded a few years ago. Subsequently van Rossem, at my request, sent me 20 of his specimens from the Los Coronados Islands. My first step was to compare these with our series from the same islands, to discover if there had been any color change in the fifty years since ours were collected. Apparently there has been none. I have re-examined our material in connection with his, bearing in mind the points of difference which he specified, but I still fail to make out any differences which I would consider of subspecific value. Were the labels removed, it would be impossible, in four out of five cases, to refer a given specimen to one or the other race. Van Rossem sent me his measurements, as follows:

25 *willetti* ♂ ♂, wing, 146-161 (152.1); tail, 74-88 (81.6); bill, 14.2-17.5 (15.6).

25 *chapmani* ♂ ♂, wing, 138-154 (148.5); tail, 70-82 (76.9); bill, 14.7-16.0 (15.3).

These figures, overlapping as much as they do, in my opinion fail to justify a formal separation by name of the two populations. The photographs van Rossem sent me were not any more convincing.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 15, 1954.*

Nesting of European Starling in Western Montana.—On May 15, 1943, Mills (Condor, 45, 1943:197) observed the first nesting of the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in Montana. This was near Havre in Hill County, central Montana, at the frontier of the westward-expanding breeding range of the species at that time (see Kessel, Condor, 55, 1953:64). The following is apparently the first record of nesting west of the continental divide in Montana.

On May 23, 1954, about 6 miles west of Dixon in Sanders County, along a half-mile of narrow