

The Mexican check-list mentions skins from northern Sinaloa, from Babizos and Carrizo, on July 14 and April 20, as *C. v. vauxi*. It seems unlikely that Vaux Swifts are actually migrating in July, and further collecting in the area may well result in finding a breeding population, of which these July specimens are probably faded or worn examples.

The status of the various forms of *Chaetura* remains unclear. There is a strong suggestion, however, of a more or less resident population of *Chaetura vauxi tamaulipensis* in the mountains of central western México and locally on the coast.—ALLAN R. PHILLIPS, *Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona*, and J. DAN WEBSTER, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, September 18, 1956*.

**Summer Records of the Golden-crowned Sparrow in Okanogan County, Washington.**—In July, 1956, while engaged in field work near Hart's Pass on the summit of the Cascade Mountains in Okanogan County, Washington, we encountered two territorial pairs of Golden-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*). The male in each of the pairs sang repeatedly. From one pair the male was collected (WSC 56-328, Slate Peak Trail, about 6500 feet, Okanogan County, July 15, 1956); the testes were well developed with a combined weight of about 650 mg. From the other pair the female was collected (WSC 56-329, Slate Peak Trail, about 6475 feet, Okanogan County, July 14, 1956); the largest ovarian follicles had diameters of 1.5 millimeters. These Golden-crowned Sparrows were observed and collected in small clumps of alpine firs (*Abies lasiocarpa*) which are rather widely scattered over sloping meadows. Dwarf willow (*Salix* sp.) grows densely in moist sites; most of the ground is covered with alpine vegetation. Other territorial, and presumably breeding, species included Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*), Oregon Junco (*Junco oreganus*), Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melo-leucophrys*).

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*), and White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia*). Insofar as we can ascertain, the southernmost published breeding record for the Golden-crowned Sparrow is that of Munro and Cowan (Brit. Columbia Prov. Mus., Spec. Publ. No. 2, 1947:228) for Alta Lake, British Columbia, about 165 miles northwest of Hart's Pass. However, Dr. Cowan (personal communication) has informed us that he encountered Golden-crowned Sparrows apparently nesting at the head of the Ashnola River just north of the 49th parallel in British Columbia on July 8, 1951. This locality is about 40 miles north of Hart's Pass.—DONALD S. FARNER and IRVEN O. BUSS, *Department of Zoology, State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington, October 30, 1956*.

**Observations on Birds of Central Oregon.**—The following observations made in central Oregon add to the information on distribution in Gabrielson and Jewett's Birds of Oregon (1940).

*Casmerodius albus*. Common Egret. According to Gabrielson and Jewett, this species is not to be expected north of Harney or Klamath counties in Oregon until after the breeding season. A single bird was seen on April 19, 1953, at Huston Lake, about 6 miles west of Prineville.

*Aix sponsa*. Wood Duck. Within recent years the Oregon State Game Commission has put up nesting boxes along the sloughs of the upper Deschutes River, not far south of Bend, and Wood Ducks now breed in this area.

*Accipiter gentilis*. Goshawk. There seem to be no recent breeding records for this species from Oregon. An occupied nest containing three eggs was found about 30 miles southeast of Bend on May 8, 1955. It was about 20 feet from the ground in a lodgepole pine. At least two other nests were found within 100 feet, apparently indicating previous years' nestings.

*Alectoris graeca*. Chukar Partridge. This species was introduced along the Crooked River east of Prineville four or five years ago. A small covey now seems established on Pilot Butte, just outside of Bend. A female and two young were seen several times in June, feeding along the highway.

*Grus canadensis tabida*. Sandhill Crane. On July 10, 1954, Mr. R. Sawyer, of Bend, told me of having seen two cranes at Swampy Lakes, about 14 miles west-southwest of Bend. I visited the area with him on July 23, when we saw two fully-fledged young birds; they were able to fly but had much cinnamon color in their plumage. This observation, plus that of Gullion (Condor, 49, 1947:128), may indicate the presence of a small breeding population in the lake district around the headwaters of the Deschutes River.

*Charadrius semipalmatus*. Semipalmated Plover. Gabrielson and Jewett mention no records from east of the Cascade Mountains. On May 13, 1953, two birds were seen at Tumalo Reservoir, about 7 miles northwest of Bend, and on August 3, 1953, two more were seen there.

*Sterna hirundo*. Common Tern. Although there are only two previous records for this species from Oregon, Gabrielson and Jewett indicate that careful checking should reveal it to be a more or less regular migrant. At Tumalo Reservoir seven were seen on September 20, 1953, two on the following day, and six on June 7, 1955. Identification was carefully checked with binoculars at distances of 50 to 100 feet, and such fieldmarks as the dark "shoulders" were clearly seen.

*Otus flammeolus*. Flammulated Owl. A small brown owl seen at Tumalo State Park on May 29, 1953, was identified as this species from a distance of only 5 feet as it perched in a willow near a stream. Small ear tufts and dark brown eyes were carefully observed for two or three minutes before it flew away. Gabrielson and Jewett mention two other Oregon records.

*Dendrocoptes pubescens*. Downy Woodpecker. Scattered records show that this species is found around Bend from September 20 to April 18 each year. One was also seen on July 25, 1953. The distributional data presented in Gabrielson and Jewett indicate this species is absent in this part of central Oregon.

*Psaltriparus minimus*. Bush-tit. Small flocks were seen around Bend from January 19 to May 19, 1955, and a female with partially enlarged ovaries was collected on March 25, 1955. The specimen is now in the collection of the Oregon State College Museum of Natural History. In a letter, Dr. K. Burden wrote me that he had seen small flocks of Bush-tits at Warm Springs on April 17 and May 24, 1955.

*Catherpes mexicanus*. Canyon Wren. Although not reported by Gabrielson and Jewett from Deschutes County, this wren is resident in small numbers from March 15 until October 18. Males were singing on March 25, 1955.

*Sialia mexicana*. Western Bluebird. Gabrielson and Jewett place the latest date for this species as November 17, at Klamath Falls. In 1954 they remained in the vicinity of Bend until at least December 27, feeding on mistletoe. The weather was mild throughout most of the winter.

*Myadestes townsendi*. Townsend Solitaire. These birds arrive as winter visitors near Bend (earliest September 19) and immediately show tremendous energy in singing from prominent perches and chasing each other. Apparently they establish winter territories, a fact which I do not believe has been noted before.

*Sturnus vulgaris*. Starling. This species is slowly moving into Oregon from the east and north (see Kessel, Condor, 55, 1953:49-67). On February 24, 1953, a single starling was seen at a farmyard about 6 miles northwest of Bend. A flock of about 50 was reported in Prineville in late February of 1955.—ARYAN I. ROEST, *California State Polytechnic College, San Luis Obispo, California, September 14, 1956.*

**Ancient Murrelet Captured in Southeastern Washington.**—On October 27, 1956, at about 10 a.m., an Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*) landed in the snow within 15 feet of Mrs. Buss who was deer hunting with me in the Blue Mountains of southeastern Washington. This site is at an elevation of 5100 feet, near the head of Devil's Canyon (Cottonwood Canyon), on Sweitzer Ridge, nine and three-fourths miles west of Anatone in Asotin County; it is about 325 miles from the coast. Evidently the bird had strayed far inland from its regular migration route as a result of fog and snow storms; snow had stopped falling locally at about 7:30 a.m.

The Murrelet appeared at close range out of the fog and descended at an acute angle directly into the soft snow which covered the ground to a depth of about 10 inches. It was captured by hand and taken to the Charles R. Conner Museum at the State College of Washington. Examination showed that it was an adult female (WSC 56-420) with a closed bursa of Fabricius and a weight of 148 grams.

Jewett, Taylor, Shaw, and Aldrich (Birds of Washington State, 1953:324) report that, "The ancient murrelet is not regularly observed in Washington waters" and that "... the birds seldom approach land, although Slipp (1941:19) found it common off Steilacoom from November 21 to December 7, 1941." Jewett (Condor, 55, 1953:301) reports finding a live Ancient Murrelet on the railroad tracks at Bend, Deschutes County, Oregon, on November 18, 1950. Bend is about 120 miles