THE CONDOR

Condor Remains from Rampart Cave, Arizona.—Through the courtesy of the personnel of the United States National Park Service and particularly through the continued interest and efforts of Chief Park Naturalist M. B. Ingham, I have been afforded an opportunity to examine a small collection of bird remains from Rampart Cave, Arizona. This cave is situated on the south bank of the Colorado River in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area about fifty airline miles east of Boulder City, Nevada. Studies of associated mammal remains were made by R. W. Wilson and of plant remains, as represented in the abundant ground sloth dung, by Laudermilk and Munz. They indicate an age of latest Pleistocene and possibly a period of somewhat greater humidity than at the present. No traces of man have been reported thus far, although the cave is quite extensive and well protected. Extinct mammals include Nothrotherium shastense, a species of Equus and the small Oreamnos harringtoni. The ground sloth was by far the most abundant animal, its dung having accumulated to a depth of over 20 feet in places and it covered a floor area of 4700 square feet. Bird remains were taken at depths of 30 to 57 inches from test pits dug in the compacted accumulation which has leveled the floor of the cave.

The bird remains are contained in fourteen small packets. Two packets contain mere chips that are not determinable beyond the class Aves. One packet contains a fragment of the pelvis of a hawk not distinguishable as preserved from *Buteo jamaicensis*, although it could represent another buteonid species. All other packets contain fragments of condor bones that are assigned with a fair degree of confidence to *Gymnogyps californianus*, the California Condor. One coracoid is from a nestling bird. The size of the adult bones is fully equaled by those of a Recent bird from Sespe Canyon, California.

All bones except certain phalanges are highly fragmented, which fact I am inclined to ascribe to trampling by the ponderous ground sloths. Otherwise the bones are well preserved except for some rodent nibbling. Parts of condors represented include: carpometacarpus; phalanges one and two of digit two in the hand; the pollex; a claw with complete sheath of right inner toe; phalanx one of the right middle toe; left innominate with acetabulum; synsacrum; fragment of ulna with secondary papilla; coracoid of nestling.

So far as I am able to learn, this is the first time that condors have been reported from Arizona.

Subsequently additional material was separated from a collection of mammal and reptile remains from the cave stored since 1936. In this were found egg shell fragments seemingly of the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), the tibiotarsus of a nestling Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*), and a perfect right coracoid of an Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis*).—Love MILLER, University of California, Los Angeles, California, October 13, 1959.

Notes on Birds from Hart's Pass, Washington.—Hart's Pass lies at an elevation of 6200 feet in the eastern Cascade Mountains of northern Washington. This section of Okanogan County is included in the Pasayten District of the Okanogan National Forest, which was the subject of an ornithological report by Burdick (Condor, 46, 1944:238–242). Most of Burdick's records were from Monument 83 and Early Winters Ranger Station, north and southeast, respectively, of Hart's Pass. Apparently Burdick made only one trip to the pass and to nearby Slate Peak. Thus some recent field work at Hart's Pass has made it possible to augment Burdick's report.

I was at Hart's Pass from July 1 to 4, 1959. By this time much of the snow had melted from the large, open, south-facing meadows, making them very wet. Shaded and drifted areas, however, were still covered with snow up to a depth of two feet. Most of the forest floor was similarly snow covered. Nighttime temperatures dropped to freezing.

Ornithologists from Washington State University visited Hart's Pass in 1953, 1956, and 1957. I wish to thank Dr. George E. Hudson for information on the region and for the loan of certain specimens, reported below, in the Washington State University collection. I also wish to thank Dr. Alden H. Miller for offering critical comments on the manuscript.

Parus gambeli abbreviatus. Mountain Chickadee. This species was abundant near Hart's Pass in 1959, where I collected a pair on July 3. The female weighed 11.5 gm. and had a brood patch; the male weighed 12.2 gm. and had testes enlarged to 7×7 mm. A male collected on June 28, 1953, (WSU 53-179) weighed 12.1 gm. and had testes 8.5 mm. long. Burdick's (*op. cit.*) specimens from Monument 83 were assigned to *P. g. grinnelli*. In his review of this species, Behle (Condor, 58, 1956: 51-70) did not mention these birds, but referred to four specimens from nearby localities (Lost River,

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Mazama, Twisp) as intermediate but "closer to *abbreviatus*." The three specimens reported here must be similarly designated.

Anthus spinoletta pacificus. Water Pipit. Burdick (op. cit.) reported this species present throughout the summer but had no evidence that it bred at Monument 83. In early July, 1959, pipits were common in the meadows above Hart's Pass and were most abundant where large areas of snow remained. Several were seen hovering in display flights. A male taken on July 2 had testes measuring 8×6 mm. and weighed 19.9 gm. Another male (WSU 53-175) collected on June 27, 1953, had testes 9.5 mm. long. The species almost certainly nests in these meadows.

Leucosticte tephrocotis. Gray-crowned Rosy Finch. Burdick (op.cit.) saw this species only at Pateros, in early June, 1942. On July 2, 1959, a flock of at least 25 birds, arriving in groups of three and four, settled near the road between Hart's Pass and Slate Peak, at about 6900 feet. A single male was obtained from this flock; it had testes 4 mm. in length, weighed 26.5 gm., and was moderately fat. This bird (Mus. Vert. Zool. 139886) is clearly referrable to the more eastern race, *L. t. tephrocotis.*. The Rosy Finch normally found in the Cascades is *L. t. littoralis.* A specimen of this latter race was collected on July 4, 1953, at Hart's Pass. This bird (WSU 53-195) weighed 27.9 gm. and had testes 10 mm. long.

Jewett, Shaw, Taylor, and Aldrich (Birds of Washington State, 1953:612) describe L.t. tephrocotis as "apparently rare in Washington," and list but a few records of migrant and wintering birds in the eastern portion of the state. At several localities some individuals of L.t. tephrocotis winter with flocks of L.t. littoralis; at Clarkston, for example, the winter bird ratio was reported to be 1 to 19. It is possible that the bird taken at Hart's Pass in 1959 had been one of such a mixed flock and that it remained with the flock at the time of spring migration. This bird, apparently somewhat tardily approaching breeding condition, was some 250 miles from the breeding range of its race.

Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis. Savannah Sparrow. This was one of the most common species in the meadows above Hart's Pass in 1959. A nest containing five eggs was found on July 2. The single specimen taken, a male with 11×6 mm. testes, clearly belongs to this race. The breeding range of this subspecies in Washington is given by Jewett *et al.* (*op. cit.*: 630-631) as the southeastern part of the state, although they suggest that it may breed "northward in the more arid portions of the Okanogan Valley." Indeed, Munro and Cowan (A Review of the Bird Fauna of British Columbia, 1947:218) consider the race to be a summer resident as far north as Okanogan Landing, British Columbia, in the same valley. The nesting of this arid-country form in a wet mountain meadow at over 6200 feet elevation is of interest. This specimen does not bear out the suggestion of Jewett *et al.* (*op. cit.*: 628) that breeding colonies of the Savannah Sparrow in the less arid portions of northern Washington might be *P. s. anthinus.*

Zonotrichia atricapilla. Golden-crowned Sparrow. Farner and Buss (Condor, 59, 1957:141) found two pairs of this species nesting near Hart's Pass in 1956, establishing the southernmost breeding record for the species. During my short visit in 1959 I was unsuccessful in finding any of these birds. Sporadic occurrence of a species colonizing an area peripheral to its normal range is probably to be expected.

Passerella iliaca olivacea. Fox Sparrow. This was an abundant bird at Hart's Pass in 1959 and Burdick (op. cit.) had reported it for nearby areas. A pair of birds was observed carrying food, presumably to nestlings, on July 3. Males obtained on July 1 and 2 had enlarged testes and weighed 26.6 and 28.3 gm., respectively. Burdick (op. cit.) had no specimens of the Fox Sparrow; my specimens confirm the presence of *P. i. olivacea* in this section of the Cascade Mountains.—RICHARD C. BANKS, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, December 17, 1959.*