

within about ten feet of one of the birds taking a sun-bath on a wire fence, and could see the little songster so easily that identification was possible, even if I had not been equipped with army binoculars which I used. I still have no record of a nest in this state. The elevation at this point was about 1100 feet, which is about 1800 feet lower than my most southerly record for the nearby North Carolina mountains, and it may be possible the bird was a mere temporary straggler from over the high state boundary ridge.

*Pipilo erythrophthalmus alleni*. WHITE-EYED TOWHEE.—One of my most faithful correspondents, Mr. Wm. Hahn, Jr., before leaving the state on a collecting tour left with me some interesting data collected around Greenwood, desiring that any material found unusual be published. One of his best records is that of a White-eyed Towhee found nesting in May, 1923. From the nest, which contained the young, he secured one egg that failed to hatch. This is apparently a record for this subspecies both as to altitudinal and northern range. To Mr. Hahn I am also indebted for the next two records.

*Protonotaria citrea*. PROTHONOTARY WARBLER.—In a letter from Norwood, Ohio, is recorded a find that indicates a hitherto unrecorded adaptability on the part of this attractive Warbler. A bird was found at Indian Lake nesting in a tin can nailed to a tree 15 feet from the ground. No great amount of doubt remains after reading the description in the letter and recalling the nesting habits of all our eastern Warblers, and since this is not on the list of species, recorded by the U. S. Biological Survey as availing themselves of man-made nesting sites, I think it worthy of record.

*Troglodytes aëdon aëdon*. HOUSE WREN.—As this bird is unusual in upper South Carolina at any season it is worth recording that one nested on the front porch of another upper South Carolina nature-lover, Dr. S. C. Hodges of Greenwood, S. C., in June, 1925.—A. L. PICKENS, 202 Grove St., Greenville, S. C.

**Swimming Ability of Fledgling Birds.**—On August 6, 1927, a Barn Swallow's nest was discovered under a wharf at Coronado, Calif., by some bathers. The nest was the normal mud cup lined with feathers and it contained well-feathered young. One of these became frightened by the too close approach of the observers and jumped from the nest. As it was unable to fly it fell into the water. It at once started to swim and with apparent ease reached one of the wharf pilings where it clung on a bunch of barnacles. This perch was rather precarious and the baby bird was splashed by every wave. From here it was rescued by two Boy Scouts who, after much effort, succeeded in placing it near the nest on one of the girders.

On July 21, 1924, I saw two fledgling Arizona Hooded Orioles leap from their nest in a eucalyptus tree and fall twenty feet into a pond. They at once swam ashore, paddling with their feet and with their wings spread

out on the water. As the little birds could not fly and rats were numerous about the pond I took them home with me and finished raising them by hand.—FRANK F. GANDER, *P. O. Box 395, East San Diego, Calif.*

**Birds Slaughtered by Automobiles.**—The observations of Mr. F. B. White in his article "Birds and Motor Cars" (*Auk*, XLIV, 1927, pp. 265) are so very different from my own that I have decided to submit my observations for record. On August 7 I took a twenty mile hike over paved highways adjacent to San Diego and in that short distance saw the crushed or mangled bodies of four birds. The first of these was an immature *Zenaidura macroura marginella* which was freshly killed and with the skin badly torn across the breast; next was the badly flattened-out remains of an *Astragalinus* sp. which had been dead for some time; then a freshly killed male *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis* in full adult plumage; and last an immature *Lanius ludovicianus gambeli* which was recognizable only by its feathers.

A young friend of mine, Leroy Arnold, has picked up the bodies of an immature *Petrochelidon lunifrons* and an immature *Sturnella neglecta* in the streets during the last thirty days—both apparently killed by cars. On May 18, Mr. L. M. Huey picked up on one of the city boulevards a dead *Toxostoma redivivum* which had just been killed by a car. This was an adult male and I had banded him just 8 days previous to the accident. On July 10 I saw a *Chondestes grammacus strigatus* killed on the highway near Ramona, Calif. I was not prepared to collect it at the time and when I again passed that way, in about half an hour, it was smashed and flattened until scarcely recognizable as a bird.—FRANK F. GANDER, *P. O. Box 395, East San Diego, Calif.*

**Robin Killed by Eating Twine.**—It is a trite saying that animals know what is good for them, which is anything but the truth, as is substantiated by stock eating loco weed, etc. I recently picked up in the park bordering my home a Robin which had not been long dead. It was an adult bird. Autopsy showed that it had died from obstruction of the bowels caused by a mass of manila twine. The lower end of the intestinal tract was plugged by a lump of twine, the piece being twenty inches long and about a sixteenth of an inch in diameter. It hardly seems probable that the bird mistook this twine for a worm. However if the twine had been smeared with blood or fat, as when used to tie up a package of meat, the taste might have misled the bird. This is not putting too great a stretch on possibilities, as Stefansson lost a valuable dog while on his long ice sojourn, through the dog swallowing a fat soaked rag.—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver.*