

east of Athens, in an unplowed garden plot less than 50 yards from her house. Vegetation in the immediate region was very sparse, consisting of very short crab grass and scattered horse weeds, *Erigeron canadensis*.

The nest was a well-built cup, two and one-half inches across and one and one-half inches deep, constructed of coarse grasses and lined with rootlets and hair. It was set on the ground, firmly wedged between three horseweed plants which were three to four inches apart and 15 inches high. The nest contained four bluish, speckled eggs. All four eggs hatched June 15 or 16. The accompanying photograph (Pl. 5), as well as a series of movies, was taken on June 22. The young left the nest June 25 at 9:10, 11:15 a. m., 2:30 and 4:30 p. m. The parent birds and the four young remained in or near the garden at least three days.

On July 27, another brood of three young lark sparrows, not over one day out of the nest, was observed being fed by the parent birds on the lawn adjoining the above-mentioned garden. As no other lark sparrows had been found in the vicinity, and as there was sufficient time between broods, it may be reasonably assumed that the same birds were the parents of both broods.

During the summer of 1945, a pair of lark sparrows was again seen several times on this same hill, but no nest was found and no young seen.—H. T. GIER, *Zoology Department, Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas (Contribution No. 257)*.

White-winged junco killed by Clark's nutcracker.—The week preceding January 28, 1948, was extremely cold; there were about 12 inches of snow on the ground. Many birds came to feeding trays near my cabin. On January 28 I saw a bird swoop against a window and fall to the porch floor. Before I could retrieve this white-winged junco (*Junco aikeni*), a Clark nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) darted down and carried the still fluttering junco to a branch of a near by pine tree. There it killed the junco with a few sharp jabs at its head, and then flew away with it. Its behavior was similar to that of a hawk with a mouse.—HELEN D. MACCRACKEN, *P. O. Box 1115, Estes Park, Colorado*.

Pallas's "Reise."—The bibliographical contributions of Elliott Coues do not mention this work and Zimmer's "Catalogue of the Edward E. Ayer Ornithological Library" (II: 480-481, 1926) annotates only the second edition. In Casey Wood's 'Introduction to the Literature of Vertebrate Zoology' (1931: 511), the original publication is listed as of three parts (volumes) 1771-6. That is correct, but it is highly concentrated information. Pallas, or his editors, used the terms "Theil" and "Buch" in a way misleading to the English-trained reader, but entirely justified in German practice. The copy in the Library of Congress includes five separately bound books, and casual handling of them leaves one in doubt as to whether it technically consists of two, three, or five volumes.

Closer examination shows that the most reliable way of dating the parts is by the running heads (not the inconsistent or even missing title pages), and when arranged in chronological sequence, it becomes apparent that there are three volumes, the first with one part, and the second and third with two parts each. These in Pallasian nomenclature, however, are: Theil = volume, and Buch = part.

The general title applicable to all of the work is: P.[eter] S.[imon] Pallas / D. A. D. Professors der Natur-Geschichte [etc., 5 lines] / Reise / durch / verschiedene Provinzen / des / Russischen Reichs / . The parts may be cited as:

Erster Theil, St. Petersburg, 1771. 10 + 3-504 pp., numerous pls.

Running heads indicate that the explorations dealt with are those of 1768 and 1769. The / Anhang / Descriptiones fugituae animalium atque / plantarum Annis 1768 et

1769 observatorium / (pp. 453-504) contains diagnoses of six species of birds, none of which are as yet known from North America.

Zweyter Theil / *Erstes Buch* / vom Jahr 1770 / *St. Petersburg, 1773, 4 + 3-368 pp., + 6 pp. of errata and improvements, numerous pls.*

Running heads agree as to the year involved. There is no "Anhang," but the plates illustrate seven of the new species of birds described in volume 2, part 2, 1773.

Zweyter Theil / *Zweytes Buch* / vom Jahr 1771 / *St. Petersburg, 1773, 371-744 pp., numerous pls.*

Running heads agree as to the year involved. "Anhang" (pp. 701-744) includes descriptions of 22 species of birds of which two have subsequently been recorded from North America. *Anas rufina* (p. 713) = *Netta rufina* of the A. O. U. Check-List, 1931 edition. *Charadrius tataricus* (pp. 715-716) = *Eudromias morinellus*.

Dritter Theil / *Vom Jahr 1772 und 1773* / *St. Petersburg, 1776, 20 + 3-454 pp., numerous pls.*

This is part of the third volume; the running heads show that only the year 1772 is dealt with.

Dritten Theils / *Zweytes Buch* / *No title page.* [Upon authority: *St. Petersburg, 1776*] 457-760 pp. + 25 pp. (index) + 1 p. (errata), 3 maps but no other pls.

This "Buch" relates to the years 1773 and 1774. "Anhang" (pp. 691-760) contains descriptions of 32 species of birds, of which seven are also North American.

Motacilla montanella (p. 695) = *Prunella montanella*.

Emberiza rustica (p. 698) = the same.

Charadrius hypomelus (pp. 699-700) = *Squatarola squatarola*.

Charadrius mongolus (p. 700) = the same.

Tryngra ruficollis (p. 700) = *Erolia* [*Pisobia*] *ruficollis*.

Anas falcaria (pp. 701-702) = *Anas* [*Eunetta*] *falcata*.

Larus minutus (p. 702) = the same.

Pallas was an all around naturalist, as he described new species of vertebrates, insects, mollusks, and plants from almost the whole range of the plant kingdom. Many of the plants are well illustrated and seven of the new species of birds (none of the North American ones, however) are figured.

His proposals of new species of birds, most of which are still accepted, number 60, and of these nine are included in our Check-List.—W. L. McARTHUR, *Chicago, Illinois.*

Relation of the desert ironwood tree to nesting.—Over vast areas of the hot Sonoran deserts of Southern California, Arizona, Baja California and Sonora grows the ironwood tree, *Olyneya tesota*. It is especially abundant along the numerous dry and sandy water courses which during summer carry the sheet-flood waters of cloudbursts. Many of the trees are 10 to 30 feet in height and for most of the year have a heavy covering of gray-green foliage. In early summer there is generally an abundance of flowers, followed by a heavy yield of pods containing small, round, flattened seeds. Most of the trees are heavily infested with the leafless desert mistletoe, *Phoradendron californica*, the numerous berries of which yield a source of both food and water to a number of the desert's resident and migratory birds. Among these are the phainopepla, *Phainopepla nitens*, western bluebird, *Sialia mexicana*, and western robin, *Turdus migratorius*. The desert ironwood is not only a leafy tree but also a thorny one, and one would expect that quite a number of desert birds such as shrikes, roadrunners, costa hummingbirds, and gnatcatchers, which ordinarily nest in or about thorny trees and shrubs, would often choose the ironwood trees.