

male being very rarely if ever seen after incubation commences. Incubation takes a period of from nine to ten days and seemingly starts with the first egg, since in several nests watched the eggs did not hatch the same day, but were usually one day apart. In one instance, however, there was an interval of over two days between the hatching of the two eggs. The eggs are two in number, white, and a set taken as typical measures .52 by .32, and .52 by .35 inches.



Fig. 28. FEMALE COSTA HUMMINGBIRD; NEST IN OAK TREE AT ESCONDIDO, MAY, 1911

The young when first hatched look like a couple of black bugs; but they grow very fast and in from ten to fourteen days they leave the nest. They are for a time far from self-supporting. It is difficult to determine just how long they are dependent on their parents. The wonderful construction of the nest is shown by seeing two youngsters almost as large as the old bird occupying the same nest; the nest does not break but keeps expanding to make room as it is needed.—J. B. DIXON.

Early Nesting of Allen Hummingbird at Santa Barbara.—The past winter has been unusually warm and dry in southern California, and so far 1912 has been like mid-summer. Consequently I was not surprised, while walking up one of our many little canyons, to find a nest containing two well incubated eggs of the Anna Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*). This was on February 10, so I certainly was surprised, some hundred yards farther along, to come upon an Allen Hummingbird (*Selasphorus alleni*) gathering nesting material. The nest was soon located, about six feet up in a tiny live-oak, and upon returning on the 13th I found it to contain two fresh eggs. Only a short distance from this one I found another nest of *alleni* on the 13th containing two slightly incubated eggs, while on the 14th Mr. W. Leon Dawson found still another that was ready for eggs. These last two nests were in very typical situations, in blackberry vines that hung suspended over a steep bank on the edge of a running stream. It may be of additional interest to state that the middle of February has previously been my earliest record for the Allen Hummer in its arrival from the south.—J. H. BOWLES.