

a pepper tree. All the flocks I saw were in sycamores, eucalyptus, camphor trees and evergreens, on the campus. The fact I wish to call attention to is that they were seen commonly *not* in pepper trees but feeding on the berries of the camphor (*Camphora officinalis*).

I had occasion this spring to witness an act of wanton destruction, committed apparently from jealousy. A Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) had built a nest in a small tree just outside my window. Within fifty feet was the nest of a Cactus Wren (*Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi*). The Cactus Wrens paid little or no attention to the hummer's nest until the two eggs were laid and incubated for one week. During the week of incubation both Wrens were observed to be prowling around acting suspiciously, and finally the female (?) was actually seen to approach the nest when the hummingbird was absent, and to smash both eggs, tear the nest down on one side and then depart apparently satisfied.

On March third, while hunting on the mesa I discovered a Gambel Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*) which had been reduced to a terrible plight by a broken wing. The body was terribly bloated, the neck projected outward and was so swollen that the head was pointed downward and inward, and the bird barely able to run. In spite of this the eyes were bright and vivacious. I sent the bird intact to Mr. H. S. Swarth and he replied saying the body had been bloated and practically skinned alive by air entering through a broken humerus.—LEON LLOYD GARDNER, *Dept. of Zoology, Pomona College, Claremont, California.*

**Cedar Waxwing Nesting in Humboldt County, California.**—On August 3, 1913, my friend, W. W. Moore, came to my home, and told me that a pair of strange birds were getting nesting material in his yard. It was but a short while before I went over there and sure enough there was a pair of Cedar Waxwings (*Bombicilla cedrorum*) one of which was tearing at an old piece of cotton rope, which was tied to a post. After it had enough, both birds flew over a narrow strip of tall alders and down into a gulch heavily covered with young alder, willow and a few myrtle bushes: not a very promising outlook on account of the distance the birds flew before they went over the alders.

The way we found the nest, my friend staid in his yard and I went down into the gulch and when the birds left he would whistle and I would be on watch for their coming so as to get some idea as to where to look for the nest. We had to do this several times before the nest was found, as the birds would go to a different clump of willows each time, and would very soon fly up and go to a patch of myrtles on the bank on the other side of the gulch. The nest when found was about ready for lining, and was left until the 11th of August, when nest and four eggs were taken, incubation indicating a full set.

This is the second set of Waxwing I have taken in this locality, the other having been several years back. I did not keep the date of taking that set.—JOHN M. DAVIS, *Eureka, California.*

**Occurrence of the Yellow Rail in Southern California.**—On January 31, 1914, while I was hunting near Corona, California, in a swampy meadow covered thickly with marsh grass and a few tules, both the grass and tules ranging in height from two to four feet, my dog flushed a strange small bird. It was shot and proved to be an adult female Yellow Rail, *Coturnicops noveboracensis*.

Several days later Mr. A. van Rossem and myself, after much tramping through this same small meadow, flushed another of these birds, which was collected. It was an adult male. Several times on this trip we heard what we were quite certain were the notes of these birds.

Again, about a month later, we visited this same place and while we did not flush or hear any more of these birds, we found some feathers in a small open pool and were very certain that they were from the breast of the Yellow Rail. Diligent searching through the swamps and grass-covered pastures near the above locality failed to disclose any more signs of these birds.—WRIGHT M. PIERCE, *Claremont, California.*

**Nesting of the Allen Hummingbird on Catalina Island.**—While on Catalina Island, March 20 of this year, I examined eleven nests of the Allen Hummingbird (*Selasphorus alleni*), as follows:

Two nests with nearly full-grown young. These young were of such size that I feared too close examination of them would cause them to leave the nest. Three nests with eggs: a set of two, incubation advanced; a set of two, fresh; a set of one, advanced. Six unoccupied nests. Of these three were undoubtedly new nests of the year; two looked like old nests of the previous season; and the remaining one was not examined closely enough to determine its condition.

To give an idea of how commonly these birds were nesting I might state that only

about thirty trees were examined for possible nests and that only 55 minutes was spent in the examination of the above nests, a process which involved the carrying about and placing of a very large and cumbersome ladder.—G. K. SNYDER, *Los Angeles, California*.

**White-throated Sparrow in Oregon.**—On April 27, 1913, I shot a male White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) at Mulino, Clackamas County, Oregon. This is apparently the first record for western Oregon and the second for the state.—ALEX. WALKER, *Mulino, Oregon*.

**The Lewis Woodpecker Nesting in Alameda County, California.**—On June 12, 1914, I found a nest and pair of Lewis Woodpeckers (*Asyndesmus lewisi*) between Pleasanton and Niles, Alameda County. I was attracted to the nest by the female bird which began calling when I came in sight. She had in her bill what looked like a large black beetle. The male did not come around for about ten minutes, but when he did come, the two did not make much further noise. The nest was located in a solitary sycamore tree about forty feet above the ground in a dead limb. This tree was in the creek bottom within a thousand yards of the Grant Gravel Company's plant.—L. P. BOLANDER, *Oakland, California*.

**The English Sparrow as Occurring in Northwestern Montana.**—I should like to make one addition to my list of birds of northwestern Montana, published in the last CONDOR. Through my habit of omitting the English Sparrow from most of my bird notes, I find that I neglected to mention it in the manuscript. Not wishing to convey the impression that any county in Montana is free from this bird, I hereby supply the proper information, as follows.

*Passer domesticus*. English Sparrow. Abundant in all towns along the railroads in both Teton and Lewis and Clark counties. Small flocks also occurred in Choteau, Bynum and Augusta before these towns had railroad connections. Railroads have been built to all of these towns very recently (1913), and it is probable that the species will greatly increase in the near future.—ABETAS A. SAUNDERS, *West Haven, Connecticut*.

**Eye-color of Juncos: a Correction.**—I find the birds I called *Junco phaeonotus dorsalis*, on page 116 of the May CONDOR, are *Junco phaeonotus caniceps*.

We only had the 1910 *Check-List*, and Bailey's *Hand-Book*, with us in the field, and could not decide which subspecies the brown-eyed bird was, eventually deciding on *dorsalis* largely on account of the range as given in the *Check-List*.

Ridgway's *Manual*, however, proves all my birds to be *caniceps*, which he rightly gives full specific rank.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Okanagan Landing, B. C.*

**Early Arrival of the Ash-throated Flycatcher in the San Diegan District.**—The observation of an Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) in Los Angeles, California, on March 15, 1914, affords what is probably the earliest date of arrival of the species in this region. The bird was seen in a pepper-tree bordering the sidewalk, in the southwestern part of the city, on Normandie, near Santa Barbara Avenue.—H. S. SWARTH, *Museum of History, Science and Art, Los Angeles, California*.

**Unusual Abundance of the Glaucous-winged Gull on the Coast of Southern California.**—During the winter of 1913-14 the Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*) was unusually plentiful along the coast of Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties. Although, during ordinary winters, immature birds of the species are rather frequently seen along our coast, adults are usually so far from plentiful as to call for at least a second glance from the bird observer. During the past winter, however, both adults and immatures were abundant at least as far south as San Diego Bay, where I noted many individuals March 13, 1914. On several occasions during the winter months I found the species numerous in San Pedro Bay and along the government breakwater at that place.—G. WILLET, *Los Angeles, California*.

**The Eastern Sea Brant in California.**—On January 30, 1914, there was added to the list of the game birds of the state a new species, for on that date there was secured near Bird Island on Arcata Bay, Humboldt County, a specimen of the Eastern Sea Brant, *Branta bernicla glaucogastra*. This goose, an adult male, was shot from a flock of Black Sea Brant (*Branta nigricans*) by West Dean of Eureka. A splendidly made study skin of this bird was prepared by Mr. Franklin J. Smith, of Eureka; and the owner, Mr. Otto Feudner of Oakland, California, generously donated it to the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology where it bears the number 24588.—H. C. BRYANT, *University of California, Berkeley, California*.