

An Albino Magpie.—An Albino Magpie (*Pica pica hudsonia*) was observed by the writer near the Teton River, a few miles above Collins, Montana, on July 20, 1918. It was associated with others of its species, and flew across the road, in front of me, to alight on a fence post where it sat "singing" the characteristic magpie notes. It was entirely of a grayish-white, or very pale gray color, and did not exhibit any definite markings so far as I was able to discern.—A. D. Du Bois, *Dutton, Montana, August 12, 1918.*

New Records for Some of the Islands off the Coast of Southern California.—Through the courtesy of the State Fish and Game Commission of California an expedition from the California Academy of Sciences was given the privilege of transportation, and when necessary, even accommodation, on the new launch "Albacore" during a recent patrolling and fishery investigating trip to some of the islands off our southern coast. Captain Nidever and his crew did all in their power to make the trip a successful one and to ensure the welfare of his temporary passengers, and hearty thanks are hereby accorded to the Commission and its able assistants for the kindness and courtesy shown to each member of the party.

Under the leadership of Dr. Barton W. Evermann, Director of the Museum of the California Academy of Science, the party consisted of the following besides himself: Dr. John Van Denburgh, herpetology and oology; Joseph R. Slevin, herpetology; Joseph Mailliard, ornithology. Dr. Evermann was interested in botany and oology on this particular trip. On its way to the starting point the party was joined at Los Angeles by J. Eugene Law, who was interested in herpetology and ornithology. Santa Catalina, San Clemente, San Nicolas and Santa Barbara islands were visited, though but a few hours stay was made on any but San Clemente, where several days were passed at different points, Wilson's Cove being the first landing made, on March 23, and which proved the most prolific of results of any point visited. The oological part of the trip was a distinct disappointment, but the other departments were very successful and many specimens were secured.

According to the lists in Howell's "Birds of the Islands Off the Coast of Southern California" (Pacific Coast Avifauna no. 12), the following are new records for the islands named.

On San Clemente Island Dr. Evermann was positive that he saw several Cactus Wrens (*Helodytes brunneicapillus couesi*), and he shot at one at quite long range with a collecting pistol, but failed to secure it. We were lying at Wilson's Cove on March 24, and started collecting early in the morning on the ridge above the sheep corrals. Dr. Evermann at one time came over the top of a hill that separated us at the moment and called to me that there were some Cactus Wrens up there. I went to the top of the ridge as fast as possible and for some distance chased what I supposed were a pair of these birds but did not succeed in approaching within shooting distance, or even near enough for positive identification, before they disappeared. The next day Dr. Evermann saw several near the same spot, shooting at one with the pistol as above mentioned, but none of the rest of the party came across any of the birds nor were any signs of nests discovered in the cactus. There have been no records of this species from any of the islands, and it is unfortunate that no specimen was secured on this occasion, but it is hardly possible that any one with as much ornithological experience as Dr. Evermann could have been mistaken under such circumstances as he related.

On Santa Barbara Island, visited March 29, the Audubon Warbler (*Dendroica auduboni auduboni*) was seen by several of the party at very close range, it being quite tame around the house of the keeper of the island. Though no specimens were taken there was no possible doubt as to its identity. A Junco was seen by myself but not secured, probably *Junco oreganus thurberi*; and a Dusky Warbler (*Vermivora celata sordida*) was noted by both Dr. Van Denburgh and myself, but was not shot as it was impossible to retrieve it among the thick cactus where seen, and from which it did not seem to care to be separated. It was my good fortune to secure a Western Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina arizonae*) and a Lincoln Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni lincolni*), neither of which had been recorded from this island. It happened that several small sparrows popped up out of a small heap of dead ice plant near me and stopped for a moment on top of it, long enough for a snap shot. Two of these were secured and proved to be the Western Chipping and Lincoln sparrows. No others of these species were identified.

On Santa Catalina Island, March 30, a Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)

was noted in Holland's Cove, swimming around our launch, and ashore at the same place a flock of Arkansas Kingbirds (*Tyrannus verticalis*), of half a dozen individuals, lit on a telephone wire near me and one was secured for the record. One or two others were noted as well in that vicinity.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *San Francisco, California, May 6, 1918*.

Extension of Known Distribution in Some Northern California Birds.—In company with Mr. W. C. Jacobsen, State Superintendent of Rodent Control under the Horticultural Commission of California, the undersigned was privileged to cover several of the northern counties of the state in rapid reconnaissance during the latter part of May, 1918. With previously known facts of bird distribution in the region traversed pretty well in mind it was possible to recognize any occurrence of species beyond their previously recorded limits. The more important cases of this sort were as follows:

Sayornis nigricans. Black Phoebe. On May 13 a pair was seen under a bridge across the Trinity River near Lowden; another pair was seen May 14 near and under a smaller wooden bridge at Hayfork; and a third pair the same day near a bridge over the East Fork of the Trinity River, at Minersville. In the second instance one of the birds was carrying nesting material. All three localities are in Trinity County; all possess a number of species of plants and animals usually found in the Upper Sonoran Zone, but in each place the bulk of the fauna and flora appeared to be Transition.

Aphelocoma californica immanis. Long-tailed Jay. Seen almost continuously on May 18 through the Upper Sonoran Zone in Modoc County, from Cornell on the east side of Tule Lake, to a point some seven miles southeast of Straw, and again along the escarpment between Canby and Alturas. In Lassen County the same day this jay was encountered near Madeline, near the shores of Horse Lake, and in the valley of Susan Creek five miles northeast of Susanville. In all these localities the Long-tailed Jay was closely associated with the juniper belt.

Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus. Pinyon Jay. A large straggling flock seen among the junipers near Straw, Modoc County, May 18.

Chondestes grammacus strigatus. Western Lark Sparrow. Noted at Weaverville and Hayfork, Trinity County; near Gazelle, in Shasta Valley, Siskiyou County; and seven miles southwest of Macdoel, in Butte Valley, Siskiyou County; as also at many points within the more commonly known range of the species. This bird is one of the frontier species of the Upper Sonoran Zone, in the direction of Transition.

Amphispiza belli belli. Bell Sparrow. Numbers noted in full song May 13 in the plant association characterized by the dominance of the chemissal (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) on the south and southwest facing slopes towards the head of Sawpit Gulch, 3000 to 3500 feet altitude, on Shasta County side of divide between Redding and Weaverville (see Weaverville quadrangle, U. S. G. S.). The occurrence seemed to be perfectly normal and indicates the existence of this Upper Sonoran sparrow doubtless as a permanently resident species around the extreme head of the Sacramento Valley. The northernmost previous record-station for the Bell Sparrow is Rumsey, Yolo County (see Pacific Coast Avif. no. 11, 1915, p. 121).

Mimus polyglottos leucopterus. Western Mockingbird. Three individuals observed along the state highway in the suburbs of Corning, Tehama County, on May 20. This is exactly as might have been expected, since Corning is well within the Lower Sonoran life-zone, though near the northern limits of it in California. The extension of orchards of olive and citrus trees in that neighborhood is likely to favor the further spread of the Mockingbird. (See Auk, xxxviii, 1911, pp. 293-300.)—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, July 1, 1918*.

Long Waits for Sets of Winter Wrens.—On April 18, 1908, a nest of Western Winter Wren (*Tannus hiemalis pacificus*) was found in a small huckleberry bush, ready for the inner lining of feathers. On May 24 it contained six fresh eggs. On May 7, 1916, by watching the bird carrying nesting material, another nest was found among the roots of a fallen tree. When next examined, May 21, it was ready for the inner lining, on May 28 it was in the same condition, and on June 3 it contained one egg and not a bit of lining. On June 11 it was thickly lined with small feathers, and contained six eggs.—JOHN M. DAVIS, *Eureka, California, February 4, 1918*.