

above, turning the edges of the rolls of clouds to buff. A passing Marsh Hawk tilted up catching the light so that his breast glowed a warm rufous. Coots grated, Mallards quacked, and Eared Grebes gave their soft *hoy-up, hoy-up*. The buffy clouds turned to a soft veiled salmon. Squad after squad of Crows flew over the lake till several hundred had gone to the roost. High in the sky a small band of Gulls straggled over. Then the bright sunset colors faded in the east to the dull soft pinks and blues presaging night. Our Pelicans would return no more; they had passed on to seek other waters.

(*To be continued*)

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**Trumpeter Swan Breeding in Yellowstone Park.**—During the past summer I found a nest of the Trumpeter Swan (*Olor buccinator*) on a low island in a lagoon northeast of Lewis Lake, Yellowstone National Park, containing five whitish eggs. Other signs of the swans were seen at various times during the summer. On September 6, 1919, I again visited this section and found five Trumpeter Swans (the two parents and three nearly grown young that were then large enough to fly well) in the lagoon and later flying and uttering their far-reaching calls.

In previous years I have seen Trumpeter Swans here and acting in such a way that I believed they were breeding, but I believe that this is the first authentic record for the Park.

Mr. H. M. Smith, Fish Commissioner, reports that on July 16, 1919, he visited a small, unnamed lake lying south of Delusion Lake, Yellowstone National Park, and found therein a pair of swans with six young about the size of teal and swimming actively. This was probably another family, as the two localities are eight miles apart in a direct line.—M. P. SKINNER, *Yellowstone Park, Wyoming, January 28, 1920.*

**Bohemian Waxwing in Southeastern California.**—On December 21, 1919, Mrs. Swarth and I were travelling between the Grand Canyon and Pasadena. At the little desert station of Danby, California, some fifty miles west of Needles, on the Santa Fe railroad, two Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrula*) were seen. Although this is a slight identification, and from a train, I have no hesitancy in placing it on record, with certainty that the birds seen were Bohemian Waxwings and not the smaller Cedar Bird. The train stopped a few minutes at that point, and the birds were seen at quite close range from the observation platform. They were first noted flying past, and they lit in a cottonwood some twenty or thirty yards from the track. They were in plain sight, and their call notes were heard also. As I had but recently seen the species under most favorable conditions for observation (see p. 80), the bird's appearance in life was sufficiently fresh in my memory to enable me to feel certain regarding the minor differences distinguishing the Bohemian Waxwing from the Cedar Bird.—H. S. SWARTH, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, February 7, 1920.*

**Golden Eagle at Porterville, California.**—On January 7, 1920, a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) flew down between two houses in the thickly settled part of Porterville, in an apparently exhausted condition. Two men happened along, and, taking hold of each wing, led it away for four blocks. It was placed in a large shed and then given to the writer. After several days it began to eat, and it now seems to be out of the stupor it was in at first. The only explanation I could make to account for its condition was that it might have been eating poisoned squirrels. It might, perhaps, have come in contact with an electric line, but the former explanation seems more apt to be correct.—L. W. HUDSON, *Porterville, California, January 16, 1920.*

**Southerly Nesting Records of the Arctic Tern in Southeastern Alaska.**—During the summer of 1915 numerous Arctic Terns (*Sterna paradisaea* Brünnich) were observed

about Taku Inlet, southeastern Alaska, and in particular over the sand flats between salt water and the "dead" glacier (Norris Glacier) a couple of miles back. They were obviously breeding although one hasty search failed to locate either nests or young. The following year on May 29, 1916, on the summit of a small rock islet in a shallow glacial lake in front of Twin Glaciers, tributary to the lower Taku River, I found my first nest of the Arctic Tern, containing three eggs. The nest was in a protected place between small boulders and was made wholly of the lichens that are so common on the rocks and flats near the glaciers. On this same islet which is not more than eighty feet long and forty wide, were two nests of Short-billed Gull (*Larus brachyrhynchus*) and one of Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*), and the remnants of a Scoter nest.

Later in the day a friend and myself in a couple hours search of the bare sand flats in front of Norris Glacier counted over fifty nests of the Arctic Tern, almost all of which contained two eggs although there were three nests of three and a few incomplete sets of one. No incubated sets were found. None of the sets were in any especially prepared nest other than a mere depression in the sand. A few were close between rocks of a foot or two in diameter but the majority were not closer than a rod or more to any rock larger than one's fist, or to any other landmark.

In July, 1916, at the Situk River, near Yakutat, and in 1917 again at the Situk and at the Alek River, flowing into Dry Bay, Arctic Terns were common and obviously breeding although no nests or young birds were found in the very brief time available for search. The fishermen on the Situk stated that the Terns were nesting on the sparsely covered grass flats. On the Alek they were undoubtedly nesting on the low flats, scarcely more than bars, where the gulls were nesting so abundantly.

On various occasions when about the Stikine River flats and in LeConte Bay, both near Wrangell, Arctic Terns have been seen and careful search will undoubtedly find them breeding in the vicinity. Apparently the most likely places for them in that locality are on the small unnamed island, locally called Cony Island, on the north side of the Stikine Dry Pass, near the entrance to LeConte Bay, and on the low shore at the right hand entrance to the Bay. It is also possible that they might be nesting on the nearly bare rocks some distance above salt water on the left hand shore near the LeConte Glacier. The finding of Arctic Terns nesting in this vicinity would be a record about one hundred and fifty miles farther south than my southerly record in the Taku Inlet.

Since preparing the above Mr. E. W. Nelson has called to my attention the article by Mr. Willett (CONDOR, XVI, 1914, page 75) of the supposed nesting of the Arctic Tern in the Taku Inlet.—ERNEST P. WALKER, *Phoenix, Arizona, January 2, 1920.*

**Two Birds New to the Lower Colorado River Region.**—While collecting in the Yuma valley on the California side of the Colorado River, during November and December, 1916, I collected the two following birds, which are worthy of record:

*Lophodytes cucullatus.* When crossing over a small bridge that spanned an irrigation canal about three miles north of Bard, Imperial County, California, on November 26, 1916, I flushed a duck that had been feeding in the partially drained canal. On shooting the bird it proved to be a Hooded Merganser. It is an adult female and is now number 820 of my collection.

*Toxostoma curvirostre palmeri.* On December 31, when starting out in the late afternoon to set my line of mouse traps, I noticed a Thrasher scratching on the shady side of a neighbor's wood pile. On collecting the bird I was surprised to find it to be a Palmer Thrasher. This is the first occurrence of the species in California. It is an adult female, taken three miles north of Bard, Imperial County, California, and is number 1020 of my collection.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego, California, January 7, 1920.*

**Red Crossbills at Berkeley, California.**—On January 15, after several unsuccessful attempts to get a close view of the Crossbills which had been present in considerable numbers for a week, I happened upon a flock of eight or ten in an old almond orchard near my house. The trees were absolutely bare, but evidently some of the nuts had fallen to the ground and had escaped the small boys and the Bluejays. The Crossbills picked the almonds from the ground, flew up into the trees and noisily pried open the shells with their bills. After eating the kernels they dropped to the ground again to search for more.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Berkeley, California, February 6, 1920.*