

exaggerated impression. In describing how fast mice can scoot I could, with a dishonest sort of truthfulness, state that I have seen them run down by automobiles going at sixty miles an hour.

On July 21, 1919, H. G. White and I were travelling by Ford down the Arroyo Seco Canyon, Monterey County, California. Rounding a curve at very low speed we surprised a Valley Quail in the road. Like the Irishman on the track in front of the onrushing locomotive, who said his life would be saved if he reached the switch first, our quail seemed to figure that its only salvation lay in outsprinting the Ford down the road. We gradually increased our speed till the bird was pressed to its utmost and could no longer gain on us. At this stage of the race our speedometer registered 12 miles an hour.

Next day, when en route from Soledad to the Gabilan Range via Stonewall Creek, we had exactly the same experience with a Roadrunner. At the top speed to which we provoked our victim, the famous runner was moving at the tremendous rate of 10 miles an hour on a practically level piece of road.

These two records would be more conclusive if backed up by others of the same kind. Both birds, however, seemed to be able-bodied adults with nothing the matter with their legs, and their speed, it seems fair to believe, must have been not far from average. It would nevertheless be of interest if other ornithological motorists could make similar tests. Considering the propensity of both the Roadrunner and the Valley Quail for getting in the road ahead of machines and trying to beat them to the next turning-off place, it ought to be possible for observers to gather some data on the subject. Is the Quail really swifter than the Roadrunner? Have we any bird swifter—or less slow—than either? For example, how about the Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus torquatus*), or even the barnyard rooster, when urged?

It might be in good order here to urge again the opportunity offered motorists for testing the speed of birds in flight, as already discussed by Alexander Wetmore (Condor, xvii, May, 1916, pp. 112-113). It is of common occurrence for birds, scared up at the roadside, to fly long distances just ahead or abreast of the machine. Some seem to imagine they are thereby escaping from danger. Others *act as if* they considered the thing a sort of game. That suggests another idea: do birds have a game-playing instinct or capacity?—RICHARD HUNT, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, June 11, 1920.*

Notes on Some Birds of Santa Cruz Island, California.—Through the courtesy of Mr. F. Caire of San Francisco, the writer was enabled to spend from January 22 to January 26, 1920, on Santa Cruz Island. The following additions to Mr. A. B. Howell's excellent paper on the Birds of the Channel Islands may be of interest.

Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli. Specimens of this subspecies, put by Mr. Howell in the hypothetical list, were taken and identified by Mr. L. E. Wyman. The subspecies seemed about equally numerous with *Z. l. gambeli*.

Hylocichla guttata guttata. A small dark Hermit Thrush was taken and sent to Mr. Swarth. The skin reached him in poor condition, but he writes that he believes it to be the Dwarf Hermit Thrush. This subspecies was also placed by Mr. Howell on the hypothetical list.

Telmatoodytes palustris plesius. A single Marsh Wren taken at Prisoner's Harbor in the only patch of cat-tails seen on the island, was identified by Mr. Wyman as of this subspecies. It has not before been recorded from Santa Cruz Island.

Geothlypis trichas scirpicola. A female of this subspecies of Yellowthroat was taken in the same patch of cat-tails at Prisoner's Harbor. It has not before been recorded from the island.

Sialia currucoides. Mountain Bluebirds, not before recorded from any of the Channel Islands, were observed in three different localities. A scattered flock of over twenty were hovering and feeding on the mesa near Black Point at the west end of the island. Another small flock was seen near the ranch house at the west end, and two birds were seen in the pines in the central part of the main valley.

Nucifraga columbiana. Clark Nutcrackers were reported in the winter of 1919-1920 from many points near the coast, but it is nevertheless surprising that they crossed the twenty-six miles of channel and reached Santa Cruz Island. The birds, called Jack-

daws by the local fishermen and ranchers, attracted their attention as early as October, 1919. These men had never seen them on the island before. Scattered birds were seen by the writer throughout the pine belts in January and again in the first week of April, on a second trip to the island. It is tempting to speculate what might happen if the nomadic impulse had died out after six months and the species should become a permanent resident of the pine forests on the island, in which Crossbills and Red-breasted Nuthatches are already resident.—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Stockbridge, Massachusetts, June 4, 1920.*

A Peculiar Flicker Habit.—For a time a Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer colaris*) enjoyed himself by drumming on a sheet metal air vent on the roof of our house. As a rule he did his drumming early in the morning. One time I caught him in the act of drumming and it was interesting to watch him. The noise sounded very much like a small riveting machine at work.—LUTHER LITTLE, *South Pasadena, California, July 15, 1920.*

Authors' Names in the Second Condor Index.—In the Second Ten Year Index to The Condor for 1909-1918, by J. R. Pemberton, full names of authors were included as far as possible. In about 40 cases it proved impracticable to secure the names in full, but about half of them are now known. In presenting these names the opportunity may be taken to correct a few errors which inadvertently occurred in printing the Index. Such corrected names are marked by an asterisk, and names not generally used are enclosed in brackets.

Following are some of the incomplete names in full:

Alexander, Annie Montague	Figgins, Jesse Dade
Bailey, Vernon [Orlando]	Hunt, Richard Montague
Bergtold, William Harry*	Kirn, Albert* Joseph Bernard
Brooks, Allan [Cyril]	McAtee, Waldo* Lee
Bryant, Amy Morrish	McLean, Donald Dudley
Bunker, Charles Dean	Mailliard, Ernest Chase
Buturlin, Sergius Alexandrovich	Palmer, Robert Hastings
Cameron, Ewen Somerled	Vogelsang, Charles Adolph
Dixon, Joseph [Scattergood]	Wetmore, [Frank] Alexander
Dubois, Alexander Dawes	

On pages 7 and 8 of the Index are given full names of authors whose papers appeared in the first ten volumes of THE CONDOR. To this list should now be added Gerald Bamber Thomas and Clark Crocker Van Fleet. Three names in the list require correction, viz., Stephen Alfred Forbes, Frederick Hall Fowler, and William Le Grange Ralph. Examination will show that the first two were inadvertently combined and the last contained a typographical error. These additions leave 31 names in the first Index and about 20 in the second, still incomplete.—T. S. PALMER, *Washington, D. C., July 19, 1920.*

Bryant Marsh Sparrow in the Hills.—In The Condor for March, 1920 (page 63), there is an article by Joseph Mailliard and J. W. Mailliard relative to the breeding of the Bryant Marsh Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis bryanti*) in other than low ground. My records show that a set of four eggs, with nest and parent bird, was taken by H. H. Bailey in San Mateo County, California, on May 1, 1904. The nest was placed on the ground in a slight depression, well hidden by a clump of grass four inches high. The location was almost at the top of a hill, between the bay and ocean, and, as I remember it, three miles or more from the salt marsh. The elevation, I judge, was around 350-400 feet.—HAROLD H. BAILEY, *Newport News, Virginia, July 12, 1920.*

Blue-fronted Jay Nesting in Los Angeles, California.—A number of Blue-fronted Jays (*Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis*) spent the winter of 1919-20 in different parts of Los Angeles and were reported in THE CONDOR from several localities. A group of them lingered late into the spring in Griffith Park where they were noted by the President of