

ple, W. K. Fisher (loc. cit., p. 70) recorded specimens that he took to be *leucurus* from Ft. Tejon, Kernville, and Quincy, but at the same time remarked on their small size. Only the last named locality is likely to produce individuals even approaching true *leucurus* in relationship.

In the considerable series of *turati* in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, even when specimens are considered only from the metropolis of the race, wide variation is observable in all the features used in distinguishing the subspecies of *pubescens*: whiteness versus smokiness of varying degree on the under surface and head, amount of spotting on the remiges and their coverts, barring on the outer rectrices, and measurements of wing, bill, etc. It seems not out of place for me to repeat what I have urged elsewhere; namely, that, on the basis of superficial resemblance alone and irrespective of the probabilities of immediate blood relationship, it is a grievous error to diagnose an extreme of individual variation in one subspecies as belonging to another subspecies.

At the present writing, the only part of California whence good specimens of *Dryobates pubescens leucurus* have been collected is the Modoc region of the northeastern corner of the state, where so many other Rocky Mountain and Great Basin races of birds occur. The undersigned would be glad of the chance of examining examples of supposed *leucurus* from anywhere else in California.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, August 3, 1922.*

The Tree Swallow Added to the Pribilof List.—The list of avian visitors to the Pribilof Islands is slowly growing and bids fair, in course of time, to include nearly every species of bird that may be found near the shores of either continent adjacent to the Bering Sea.

The latest wanderer to be recorded is a male Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) which was taken by John Hanson, a native who has been quite interested in observing strange birds on these islands. This specimen was secured by Hanson at Northeast Point, St. Paul Island, Alaska, on May 25, 1922. It was shot with a .22 rifle, much to the detriment of its appearance. It is now in the collection of the Academy.

This species is found on the mainland of Alaska, but has never been recorded from the Pribilofs.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, October 27, 1922.*

Dwarf Cowbird Nesting in Alameda County, California.—While collecting near Irvington, Alameda County, California, on May 23, 1922, I found a nest of the Golden Pileolated Warbler containing one egg of the warbler and one egg of what I first thought to be a Santa Cruz Song Sparrow, but which later proved to be the egg of the Dwarf Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*). I collected the egg of the Cowbird and left the egg of the Pileolated Warbler so the latter could complete her set.

About twenty yards from the nest of the Pileolated Warbler (on this same date) I found a nest of the Santa Cruz Song Sparrow containing three eggs of the Song Sparrow and one egg of the Dwarf Cowbird. I continued my search and my next find was a nest of the Willow Goldfinch containing three eggs of this bird and one egg of the Dwarf Cowbird.

I returned to this same location on May 26, and visited the nest of the Pileolated Warbler from which I had collected the one egg of the Cowbird and found that the Pileolated Warbler had laid one more egg and was incubating, so I collected the set. I continued my search and about thirty yards distant I found another nest of the Pileolated Warbler containing one egg of the Cowbird only.

I made four more trips to this same location and collected the following sets: June 8, Golden Pileolated Warbler nest containing two eggs of the Warbler and one of the Cowbird; June 8, Santa Cruz Song Sparrow nest containing one egg of the Song Sparrow and one egg of the Cowbird; June 17, Golden Pileolated Warbler nest containing one egg of the Warbler and one egg of the Cowbird; June 17, Santa Cruz Song Sparrow nest containing one egg of the Song Sparrow and one egg of the Cowbird; June 23, Golden Pileolated Warbler nest containing one egg of the Warbler and one of the Cowbird; June 30, Santa Cruz Song Sparrow nest containing two eggs of the Song Sparrow and one of the Cowbird.

The measurements of the Cowbird eggs taken (with the exception of the one collected on May 23 from the Santa Cruz Song Sparrow nest, which was so far advanced in incubation that I could not save it), nine in number, are as follows: 17.6×14.8 , 17.9×15.0 , 18.0×15.1 , 19.3×14.4 , 18.8×15.1 , 18.9×15.3 , 18.5×15.4 , 18.7×15.6 , 19.4×15.2 . It will be observed that the smallest of these eggs is decidedly smaller than the smallest egg of the Dwarf Cowbird measured by Bendire (Life Histories, II, 1895, p. 443) out of his series of 37 specimens. Three of my sets, Willow Goldfinch, Golden Pileolated Warbler, and Santa Cruz Song Sparrow, have been presented to the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (now nos. 1862, 1868 and 1869 there).—H. V. LA JEUNESSE, *Alameda, California, October 26, 1922.*

Cactus Wrens' Nests.—In regard to the unanswered question raised in Mrs. Bailey's article in the last CONDOR, as to the summer and winter uses of the nests of the Cactus Wren, I might say that as far as my observations have extended in the San Gabriel Wash, new nests are always built for the rearing of the young, this work starting in March. These nests are used through the winter, while those previously built in September and October are taken possession of by the young birds for the balance of the summer. Conditions are evidently quite different from those described as prevailing in southern Arizona, for I have seldom seen any attempt to repair a nest which has gone through the winter rains, the rainfall here amounting to perhaps 18 or 20 inches. I noticed one case, however, where the entrance had fallen in and a new opening had been made on another side of the nest. Ordinarily new nests in new locations are built shortly before the beginning of the rainy season.—ROBERT S. WOODS, *Los Angeles, California, October 11, 1922.*

An Early Fall Record of the Hepburn Rosy Finch.—On October 30, 1922, between twenty-five and thirty Hepburn Rosy Finches (*Leucosticte tephrocotis littoralis*) were seen in a flock about the buildings and corrals at Midway Stage Station, between Imnaha and Enterprise, Oregon. The actions of this flock reminded one of English Sparrows, feeding about the yard and flying to the roofs and ridgepoles of the outbuildings as they did. While this finch is locally common in this part of the state during mid-winter, I have no previous knowledge of its occurrence on the plains so early in the fall.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, November 7, 1922.*

Feeding Habits of the Rocky Mountain Hairy Woodpecker.—On July 22, 1922, I found a female Rocky Mountain Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus monticola*) working on the trunk of a lodgepole pine in the Canadian life-zone at an altitude of 7000 feet above sea level. She worked down, tapping here and there as she went. Whenever a tap revealed a borer, she rapidly scaled off the bark and always secured from one to six larvae of the bark beetle. Evidently the tap told her whether it was worth while to search farther, for she made no mistakes and performed no useless labor while I watched her. Then she worked up the trunk again and flew off. After her departure the bark on the tree showed her tap marks every quarter to half inch of its surface. As the borer galleries were of large size, it is likely that the sound or resistance over an occupied gallery would be different.—M. P. SKINNER, *Yellowstone Park, Wyoming, October 19, 1922.*

The Hepburn Rosy Finch in the Olympic Mountains, Washington.—The Hepburn Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis littoralis*) is a common bird of the rocky Alpine Arctic ridges of the Cascade Mountains in summer, and, while no authentic nests with eggs or young have, as far as I know, been found within the state, the Rosy Finch undoubtedly breeds there, immature birds having been taken at a number of points. In the Olympic Mountains, however, the Rosy Finch is far less common, and, as E. B. Webster, naturalist and mountaineer, of Port Angeles, writes (*The Friendly Mountain*, ed. 2, 1921, p. 107), one may consider the day well spent when he has had the opportunity of closely observing even a single bird. Webster reports seeing the Hepburn Finch occasionally on Mount Angeles, always on the crest of the ridge.