

Record of Semipalmated Sandpiper on Mount Rainier, Washington.—On September 9, 1919, following a day of heavy rain, a small sandpiper was noticed on the mud shores of a lakelet in St. Andrews Park, elevation 5000 feet, Mount Rainier, Washington. This bird was collected by Stanton Warburton, Jr., and prepared for the State College of Washington collection by William T. Shaw, of that institution. The skin was later sent to the Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., for determination, and pronounced *Ereunetes pusillus*, by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. It is now in the collection of the State College of Washington.

Only one bird of this species was seen, though two larger sandpipers, probably *Helodromas solitarius cinnamomeus*, were frightened from the same pond a short time before.—WILLIAM T. SHAW, Pullman, Washington, February 10, 1923.

Bird Notes from Arizona and California.—On July 19, 1922, three Wood Ibis (*Mycteria americana*) appeared on the Rillito, ten miles from Tucson, Arizona. Is it not likely that the three supposed Whooping Cranes seen by L. E. Wyman near Calipatria (Condor, xxiv, 1922, p. 182) were really of this species?

On May 7, 1922, while walking along the Santa Cruz River, twelve miles south of Tucson, Arizona, I was surprised by the helterskelter appearance from the bottom of an old ditch of a number of vultures, at least a dozen of which were Black Vultures (*Catharista urubu*). Near the same locality on May 13, 1922, a single Western Willet (*Catotrophorus semipalmatus inornatus*) was observed.

Those who have lately made the acquaintance of that most attractive bird, the California Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator californica*), seem to have overlooked what is evidently one of its most important items of food during the nesting season and until late July, at least in the high Sierras. I refer to the winged seeds of the fir, which are gleaned from snow banks and elsewhere during the period mentioned, and which must constitute a large part, probably the major portion, of the nestlings' food. Later in the year I found them eating the buds of the tamarack pine.—H. H. KIMBALL, Tucson, Arizona, February 28, 1923.

Porphyrio edwardsi on the Pacific Coast.—My attention was recently called to a strange bird of the gallinule family which had been presented to the Natural History Museum of San Diego by a young man, who had captured the wanderer at Ensenada, Lower California, about 60 miles south of San Diego.

The specimen proved to be an adult Edwards Moorhen, *Porphyrio edwardsi*, a species confined to southern China and the Malay Peninsula. The bird was said to have flown against a window and so was in a somewhat dazed but uninjured condition. At the time it was received at the Museum it had been kept as a cage bird for a month or more. It therefore presented a somewhat worn appearance as to primaries. Whether this was its condition at the time it was taken, I am unable to say.

On December 23, 1922, a specimen was shot at Buena Vista Lake, Kern County, California, and is now in the collection of Mr. Donald Dickey, of Pasadena. Buena Vista Lake is some 300 miles north of Ensenada where the first-mentioned specimen was taken and the dates of capture are approximately the same.

As the species of the genus *Porphyrio* are birds of somewhat limited flight, it is hardly to be supposed that they reached our shores except as importations, and the limited data at hand would lead one to expect other records to follow. It is unlikely that the two specimens include all that have been introduced, as might be the conclusion had both been taken in the same swamp.

The Edwards Moorhen or Gallinule is somewhat similar in coloring to our native Purple Gallinule, with 'peacock blue' and purple neck, breast, and sides. It is about the size of our Coot, but with much longer legs, very long toes, without lobations, and a much heavier bill and frontal shield. The iris, bill, shield, and feet are a dull red.—A. W. ANTHONY, Museum Natural History, San Diego, California, March 6, 1923.

A Few Notes on Some Oregon Species of Shore Birds.—*Limosa fedoa*. Marbled Godwit. In recent years this bird has apparently become a rather rare migrant on the

Oregon coast, as few present day ornithologists have reported it. While on my vacation at Netarts Bay I found a flock of seven on September 12, 1922. These birds were sitting quietly along the edge of the water of a mud flat. They were very wild and difficult of approach, but I succeeded in collecting one before they got entirely out of reach.

Heteractitis incanus. Wandering Tattler. From my reading of Oregon literature I had somehow gained the impression that this bird was a somewhat rare species in Oregon. I have, however, found it in suitable locations on almost every visit that I have made to the coast district. I have seen this bird at the following places: Netarts, May 1, August 22, and November 19, 1921; Bar View, November 22, 1921; Cannon Beach, February 3, and April 27, 1922; and Seal Rocks, July 22, 1922. I have never noted more than one or two of the birds at a time, but they seem to be found on every rocky point suitable for their needs throughout a large part of the year.

Squatarola squatarola. Black-bellied Plover. On January 21, 1923, two of these birds were found on the beach at Newport. They were wild and difficult of approach, but one was finally secured. So far as I know this is the first winter record of this species for the Oregon coast.

Aphriza virgata. Surf-bird. I have observed this bird on four different occasions on the Oregon coast. My first record was on November 19, 1921, when a flock of about twenty-five was found on the rocks north of Netarts Bay. These birds were quite tame and flew about on the rocks without paying much attention to me. At Cannon Beach on February 3, 1922, four were noted and two more at the same place on April 27, 1922. On January 21, 1923, two were noted feeding about the rocks of the North Jetty at the entrance to Yaquina Bay. They were in company with two Black Turnstones at the time the observation was made.—IRA N. GABRIELSON, *Portland, Oregon, March 15, 1923.*

Abnormal Eggs of the Coot.—The following note is occasioned by Dr. Alexander Wetmore's article (*Condor*, xix, 1917, pp. 65, 66) in which he figures and describes an abnormal egg of the Coot (*Fulica americana*). Dr. Wetmore's deduction that the peculiar markings and color of the specimen were caused by abnormal conditions surround-

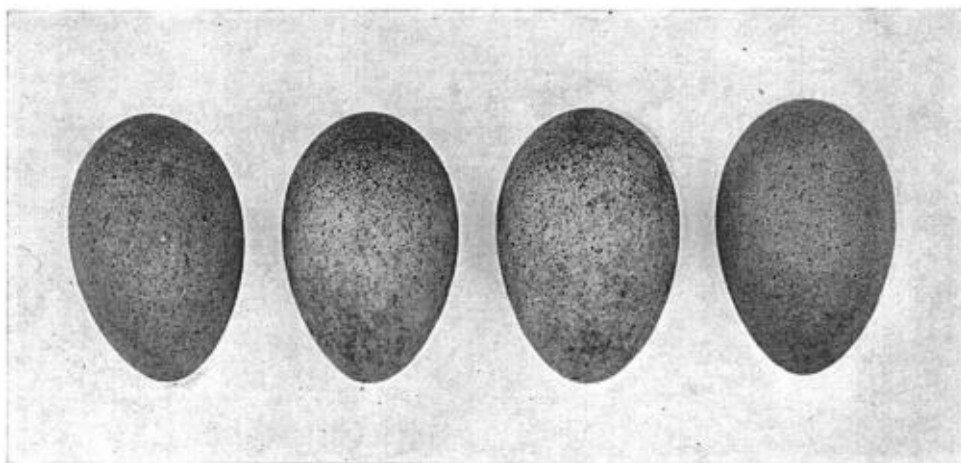


Fig. 34. ABNORMAL EGGS OF THE COOT.

ing the parent while the egg was in the oviduct may be correct in this instance, but in view of the following data it would seem better to consider the egg an example of a rare type sometimes laid by the species.

At Buena Vista Lake, California, on June 21, 1922, Mr. Ralph Hoffmann brought me an abnormal egg of this species, together with the information that there were three more of the same type in the nest. An immediate expedition was organized and the rest collected. Probably more would have been laid but the risk of having the