

We studied the bird individually, earnestly and conscientiously with our binoculars for fully twenty minutes before we compared notes, each one being timid to be the first to state his conclusion. All finally agreed in pronouncing it the American Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus dominicus*).—MRS. F. T. BICKNELL, Los Angeles, November 8, 1923.

**Additional Records of Alpine Birds in Oregon.**—Gray-crowned Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis tephrocotis*).—Although considerable ornithological investigation has been carried on in that part of the Blue Mountains of northeastern Oregon known as the Wallawas, it was not until July of the present year that Rosy Finches were known to occur in that region during the breeding season. While investigating coyote depredations on the Jay Dobbin's sheep range at the head of Big Sheep Creek in the Wallowa National Forest, at an altitude of approximately 8000 feet, my attention was drawn to a number of Rosy Finches feeding on the ground near the base of a high cliff. Several of these were seen to fly back and forth from the feeding ground to clefts in the cliffs where they were evidently feeding their young. The next day, July 23, 1923, specimens were secured and forwarded to the U. S. Biological Survey. These proved the subspecific determination, as above. The females showed every evidence of being incubating birds, and both sexes were in much worn plumage. On July 24, 1923, a small bird just out of the nest was seen. These notes constitute what is thought to be the first breeding record of this species in Oregon.

Black Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte atrata*). Among the many birds noted on the feeding ground at the base of the cliff on July 23, 1923, was a nearly black individual that proved to be a Black Rosy Finch. Upon dissection it was found that the testes were not enlarged as in the *tephrocotis* specimens.

Until further investigating is carried on in that section, it will remain a mystery whether this individual was merely a straggler from the nearest known breeding range in the Salmon River Mountains of Idaho, or an actual breeding bird. However, its presence in these mountains constitutes the first record of the occurrence of *Leucosticte atrata* in the State of Oregon.

Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*). On July 24, 1923, while crossing an open alpine meadow at 7500 feet elevation near Aneroid Lake, Wallowa National Forest, Oregon, I heard the song of a Pipit. The meadow was overgrazed by bands of sheep and the smallest object could be seen on the ground for a considerable distance. In a short time I saw a pair of these birds, and judging from their actions I was evidently close to either the nest or their young, as they showed much alarm at my presence. This constitutes the first record of the occurrence of this species during the breeding season in the State.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, Portland, Oregon, December 15, 1923.

## EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

Both Divisions of the Cooper Ornithological Club have unanimously elected to Honorary membership in the Club, Doctor Albert Kenrick Fisher. This distinction has been conferred upon Dr. Fisher in recognition of his contributions to western ornithology, the chief of which is his "Report on the Ornithology of the Death Valley Expedition of 1891," and also in recognition of his long service on the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture. Under the latter auspices Dr. Fisher has been largely responsible for the development of economic ornithology in the United States to its present high status. The Honorary membership list of the Cooper Club now contains eight names—Florence M. Bailey, Albert K.

Fisher, Henry W. Henshaw, C. Hart Merriam, G. Frean Morcom, Edward W. Nelson, Robert Ridgway and Frank Stephens.

The January, 1924, issue of *The Auk* presents as its "leader" what we consider by all odds the most valuable single article that has appeared in that journal for at least a year. This is Arthur A. Allen's "A Contribution to the Life History and Economic Status of the Screech Owl (*Otus asio*)". A precise standard of field observation is applied to a common species of bird with largely new results; and the data is handled inferentially in various interesting directions without resort to unsound logic or fatuous speculation. We would point to Dr. Allen's paper as an