

young ones hid between some willow roots on the bank of the stream. I went some distance away and watched. As soon as they thought I had gone they swam out onto the lake and joined the mother bird.

I took one of the young birds as a specimen and later identified it at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, as a Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*). I believe this constitutes a new southern breeding record for this species of duck.—WILLARD F. GRINNELL, Berkeley, California, January 8, 1925.

Goldfinches' Manner of Drinking.—A curious psychological difference between the Green-backed and Lawrence goldfinches, which are nearly identical in habits and often flock together while feeding, is seen when a choice of different sources of water supply is offered. The Green-backed Goldfinch (*Astragalinus psaltria*) always prefers to drink from a dripping faucet or from running water, with the bird-bath as a last resort. I do not recall ever having seen a Lawrence Goldfinch (*Astragalinus lawrencei*)

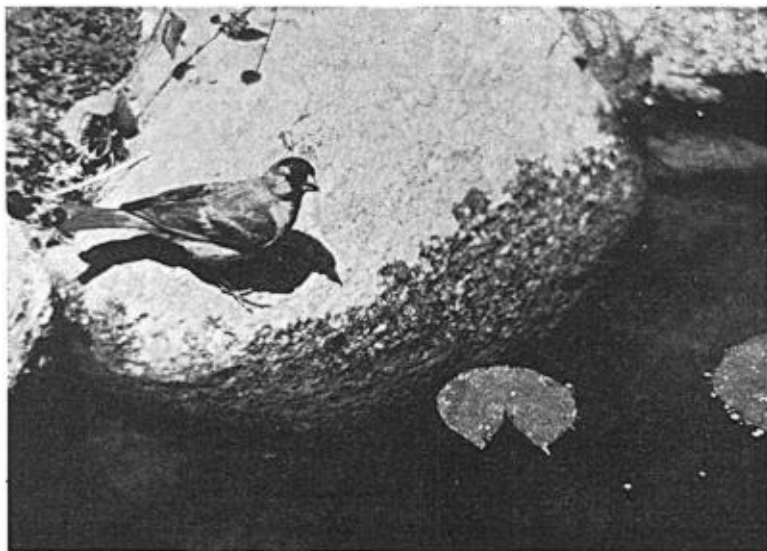


Fig. 20. LAWRENCE GOLDFINCH BESIDE POOL. AZUSA, CALIFORNIA; JUNE 19, 1924.

drinking from a faucet, but it makes its visits to a quiet pool or basin. This difference may not be true of all localities, but I have noticed it for a number of years at Azusa, where both species are abundant during the spring and early summer months. The Willow Goldfinch, which is less common, shares the Green-back's preference.—ROBERT S. WOODS, Los Angeles, California, September 27, 1924.

Food of the Harris Hawk.—My own impression of the Harris Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*), confessedly from other than observational sources, has for some time been rather uncomplimentary to the species, so far as food habit is concerned. Coues, in his "Key", gives the impression of a sluggish hawk of questionable food habits. The bird was supposed to have a rather long and rather slender tarsus, which would give the impression of reduced raptorial habit. This reputed tarsal character has made the species one of the urgent desiderata in my own studies of the Rancho La Brea fossils, but it has successfully eluded me for a decade or more.

A field trip taken to the Pot-holes region of California during the closing week of 1924 brought an opportunity to study this hawk and resulted in two stomach examinations. At least five individuals were observed in life and they proved quite alert and very wary. One that was seen by A. J. van Rossem and Alden Miller at Yuma, dashed actively at a Ferruginous Rough-leg in an attempt to drive it from the neigh-