

Then, as regards the Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*): This bird is mentioned by Knight as a summer resident but not common. Grave and Walker state that only two observers reported it since 1902: Metz, of Sheridan, reports it a common summer resident, and Peabody, as occasionally nesting in Crook County. This bird I would list as a common summer resident in the Wheatland district, especially on the river bottoms, where every available old woodpecker hole and natural hole in trees along the Chugwater and certain portions of the Laramie contain their Robin-like nests. The birds nested this summer in the heart of Wheatland in a row of cotton-woods on one of the main streets of town. During the entire summer the birds can be seen in and about the town.

The Bob-white (*Colinus virginianus*) has extended its range to within three miles of Wheatland on Chugwater Creek. It is not uncommon to jump small coveys from the thick growth along this stream, from a point due east of Wheatland to the Laramie River, but they have not extended their range as yet up the Laramie west of the junction with Chugwater Creek.

Dickcissels (*Spiza americana*) are common on the eastern side of the Flats. I tried hard this last summer to find nests, in order to definitely establish a breeding record, but I was unsuccessful. The same is true of the Wilson Snipe, a bird which I believe to be resident here. I have seen it in every month of the year, and commonly from April 1 to late December.

The White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes melanoleucus*) is a bird noted by Knight chiefly from the northern portion of the state, and by Grave and Walker in the northern and northwestern parts. It is a common breeder on the chalk cliffs of the Goshen Hole Rim, twenty miles east of Wheatland, and is a fairly common breeder in the deeper canyons of the Laramie Hills, west of Wheatland.

Another record of interest, which I secured June 22, 1924, is of the Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), noted on the Slater Flats at a point twenty-three miles southeast of Wheatland. The bird was on a fence-post and let me approach to within ten steps of it before flying. I am sure of my identification, though I could not collect the bird, as the Blue Jay was one of my earliest bird acquaintances in Nebraska and I have known it for years in Pennsylvania.

A common nesting bird in the plum thickets of the North Laramie River from 6000 to 7000 feet is the Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) and it is also an occasional nester along Chugwater Creek and the Laramie River east of Wheatland. It is mentioned by Knight as "a probable summer resident but there are no breeding records; not common"; and by Grave and Walker as "while not common, apparently more abundant than formerly." Metz, Richard, and Blackwelder note it as a common summer resident in the northern part of the state, but none of the records seem to be for the southeastern portion of Wyoming.—JAMES A. NEILSON, *Wheatland, Wyoming, December 5, 1924.*

Notes from Spokane.—Barn Owl (*Tyto alba pratincola*). Placed on the hypothetical list of birds of the state by Dawson and Bowles (*The Birds of Washington*, 1908, p. 974), but since determined to be a sporadic visitor along the southern border of the state. I am informed by Withers Brothers, taxidermists of Spokane, that they mounted one last spring. I now have a letter from Fred Reiff, of Chinook, Washington, saying that he shot the bird near there April 30, 1924. Chinook is opposite Astoria, Oregon.

White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*). Also on the hypothetical list in 1908, but reported from Oregon and British Columbia. Withers Brothers state that they mounted two of these birds in 1909. On looking through their old files I find one bird came from Sand Point, Idaho, October 23. The other was brought in October 30 by a Spokane man who stated that he shot it "up the valley". As Spokane is some twenty miles "down the valley" from the Idaho line, it is likely that this bird was taken in Washington. I am now trying to locate these specimens.

Old-squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*). Reported as common on Puget Sound twenty years ago by Dawson, but not mentioned from eastern Washington. Six were seen November 21, 1924, by W. H. Ransom, Federal Game Warden, and one female taken. It was mounted and is now in the Public Museum here.

Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica fulva*). Considered a rare migrant east of the Cascades in Washington. One shot from a flock of four at Lake Chactolet, near

Cœur d'Alene, Idaho, October 1, 1923, and another shot December 19, 1924, at Kahlotus, Franklin County, Washington. At the latter place, a dozen were seen early in October, 1924. These records are all reported by Mr. Ransom.

Great Gray Owl (*Scotiaptex nebulosa*). One shot near Spokane September 23, 1922, and now mounted in the museum here. Withers Brothers said: "We have only seen eight or ten in the last thirty-five years here."

Whistling Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*). A dozen or more swans seen near Pasco and Yakima in November, and several shot before hunters could be warned. Ranchers called them "Arctic Geese".

Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus conspersus*). We saw one May 22, 1920, at a ranch house six miles north of Spokane. I believe this is the farthest north record for Washington.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*). Has never heretofore been authentically reported from this state, although there are records from all around us: Oregon, British Columbia, and the Flathead and Bitterroot valleys, Montana. A few were seen near Newman Lake, Washington, fifteen miles northeast of Spokane, in 1921, by members of the Spokane Bird Club. Mr. T. A. Bonser, curator of the museum, saw a male near the town of Tiger, north of Spokane, on July 6, 1924. Mr. W. L. Breuhlman, who has an orchard ten miles east of Spokane, saw several Bobolinks in June, 1922, and heard them sing. He recalled the song instantly, as similar to those heard in Ohio many years ago.—J. L. SLOANAKER, *Spokane, Washington, January 21, 1925.*

Some Colorado and Wyoming Records of the Varied Thrush and the Rusty Blackbird.
—In THE CONDOR (xxii, 1920, p. 75) is a record of a supposed immature Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius naevius* or *I. n. meruloides*), taken November 9, 1919, near Barnum, Wyoming, by L. R. Condit. Upon reëxamination, this skin, which is in the University of Colorado Museum, proves to be a Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*). Dr. Bergtold, of Denver, Dr. Harry C. Oberholser, of the United States Biological Survey, and Ralph Hubbard, now of Colorado Springs, all familiar with the plumage phases of this species, have examined the skin at the Museum and agree as to its identity.

As a Wyoming record, this is almost as interesting as though it were really a Varied Thrush. The first Wyoming record of the Rusty Blackbird is by Dr. Brewer (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., xv, 1872, p. 193, etc.), submitting data obtained from Holden and Aiken. He quotes one of them (doubtless Holden, as he was the one who collected in Wyoming) thus:

"The character of the region of Sherman, which is 8,000 feet above the sea level, is dreary in the extreme. It consists of several level plateaus, interspersed with canyons and meadows. I found no birds plentiful with the exception of the Rusty Blackbird, and it was difficult to obtain more than four or five specimens in a day."

This was quoted by Knight (Birds of Wyoming, Wyo. Exper. Sta., Bull. 55, 1902, p. 160), who placed the species in his hypothetical list, apparently because of lack of other records to confirm it. A letter from Edward R. Warren, September 20, 1924, informs me that he had just discussed the subject with Mr. Aiken, who believes that Holden's specimens were Brewer Blackbirds. He suggested that the specimens taken were probably placed in the Chicago Academy of Science collection. A letter to the secretary of that institution, inquiring whether specimens from Holden were now there under either name, elicited a reply from Frank M. Woodruff, curator of the Academy, in which he says that the Holden collection, as well as all of the collections of the Academy, were destroyed in the great fire. He adds that he and Holden were great friends years ago, and that he has a faint recollection that the bird in question was doubtful. Not having access to the volume in which the specimen was recorded, letters were sent to Dr. G. M. Allen, secretary of the Boston Society, and to Dr. Oberholser, which brought the following information: The Rusty Blackbird is mentioned only in the Wyoming notes, which are from Holden, where it is stated to be common, breeding in low, marshy places, and that birds and eggs were both taken. The important item is that Holden failed to observe the Brewer Blackbird, which almost certainly must have occurred there during the nesting season. Therefore there is scarcely any doubt that the birds he obtained were the Brewer, rather than the Rusty. Upon inquiry I find that this is the conclusion reached by various ornithologists familiar with the region.

In 1913, Grave and Walker (Birds of Wyoming, Univ. Wyo., pp. 55, 105, 116, 124)