

It is interesting to note that practically all the birds found in the first nest had their heads eaten off when I found them. Another item of interest was the fact that all the birds or other animals found were of an injurious bearing from the economic standpoint, showing that the Screech Owl, in this locality, does its part in maintaining the balance of nature favorable to the interests of man.—ERNEST D. CLABAUGH, *Berkeley, California, August 10, 1925.*

Two Species New to the Avifauna of California.—The writer owns a ranch two miles north of Bard, Imperial County, California, and considerable collections have from time to time been made in that neighborhood, either during vacations or on special trips in the interest of the Natural History Museum, San Diego. The two species listed below appear to be new to the recorded avifauna of California.

Junco mearnsi. Pink-sided Junco. On October 24, 1924, while collecting in the woods on the California side of the Colorado River, one mile north of Potholes, Mrs. May Canfield shot a male of this species from a flock of twenty or twenty-five juncos feeding among fallen willow leaves. The taking of a *Junco caniceps* and many *Junco oregonus shufeldti* in the past had prompted close scrutiny of all juncos in the region. The specimen is now no. 2858, collection of L. M. Huey. Another *Junco mearnsi* was taken by the writer at his ranch (within four miles air-line of Potholes) on January 15, 1925. This specimen was taken from a mixed flock of forty or more juncos that had been feeding at the doorstep since October, 1924. These individuals had been scrutinized many times and this peculiar, dark, pinkish bird noted; but not until the above date in January did an opportunity to collect it occur. It proved to be a female and is now no. 9708, collection of the Natural History Museum. Study of the summer and winter ranges of this species leaves little doubt but that this bird occurs often within the boundary of California, along the lower Colorado River. The astonishing fact is that it has not been taken before. Storms occurring along its migration routes in the mountains of Utah and eastern Arizona would have a tendency to drive this species, and perhaps many others, down the Colorado River—in spite of the fact that certain portions of the river are most inhospitable.

Dendroica tigrina. Cape May Warbler. It was with no little surprise that, when crossing the head gates of Laguna Dam at Potholes on September 23, 1924, I saw this strange warbler fly from a bunch of dates in a palm growing within thirty feet of the waters of the Colorado River. The bird was feeding with several Lutescent Warblers (*Vermivora celata lutescens*) on the luscious fruit and flushed with them at my approach. It returned after a short flight and was reluctant to leave, allowing me to get within a few feet and thus secure a very close view. In conversation later with other collectors who have had experience with this species, I was informed that this habit of gentleness is characteristic. The bird proved to be an immature male and is no. 2814, collection of L. M. Huey. The normal breeding and winter ranges of this species place it on the "accidental" list in California; for it was hundreds, if not a thousand, miles off of its regular migration course.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, San Diego, California, September 16, 1925.*

The Franklin Gull in Colorado.—The Franklin Gull (*Larus franklinii*) has always been considered a rare bird in Colorado. The first record (by Cooke in the "Birds of Colorado", 1897, p. 51) states that W. G. Smith took one at Loveland. No trace of this specimen has been found, so far as the writers are aware. Mr. W. L. Sclater, in "A History of the Birds of Colorado", p. 19, states: "Though quite a common bird on migration, both in Kansas and Utah, Franklin's Gull is hardly known from Colorado. In fact the only record is that of W. G. Smith who took it at Loveland, on May 6th, while Anthony examined one in Denver, stated to have been killed near by. Felger reports that Miss Patten noticed this gull, May 8th, 1905, near Yuma, and Hersey (09) saw one at Barr, October 17th, 1907." The above data is all that we have been able to find on the occurrence of the Franklin Gull in Colorado.

On August 28, 1925, the present writers were collecting at Barr Lake, and in the middle of the afternoon we saw a few small gulls drifting in from the seepage ponds to the eastward. At least two hundred birds worked by from two to four o'clock. Two specimens collected proved to be adult Franklin Gulls in post breeding plumage.