

American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica dominica*); Eureka, California; September 10, 1922; male; "in field near Mad River Slough"; coll. Franklin J. Smith. The breast of this specimen is checkered with white and black feathers in about equal proportion.—CLINTON G. ABBOTT, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, May 28, 1927.*

The Allen Hummingbirds in Golden Gate Park.—In the May, 1925, CONDOR (XXVII, p. 98) Dr. H. C. Bryant has given observations on the nesting of the Allen Hummingbird near the Chain of Lakes in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. As further evidence of these birds selecting this as a nesting territory, I give the observations of March 26, 1927, in this same region.

We discovered fourteen nests of the Allen Hummingbird (*Selasphorus alleni*). Most of these were in a small area of pine and cypress trees just west of the Forty-third Street entrance to the Park. Of the fourteen nests, two were in the crotches of small branches, and twelve were saddled on branches. The lowest nest was four feet from the ground. It was unfinished and contained one egg. Another nest, containing two eggs, was seven feet from the ground. The others ranged in height up to twenty feet. About half of the nests showed only gray lichens on the outside. The others were mixed with green. On four of the nests we found the female sitting. One of these birds had some building material in her bill. The male birds were found some distance from the nesting site and in a more open space.

No bird demonstration is more interesting and fascinating than the pendulum swing of the male Allen Hummingbird. He swings through an arc of ninety degrees or more, several times, then making a loop at one end of the arc, he suddenly drops down as straight and as swift as an arrow. In a moment he repeats the swing, then suddenly flies straight upward and alights on a branch, sixty or seventy feet above the ground.—MRS. H. J. TAYLOR, *Berkeley, California, April 19, 1927.*

Lark Bunting in Orange County, California.—On April 10, 1927, my wife and I saw a male Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) on Magnolia Avenue about one mile east of Stanton, Orange County, California. It flew up ahead of us as we drove along the road and, perching in a wild radish plant in a barley field, allowed us to approach within fifty feet, where we observed it for several minutes before it flew away across the field. This is the only individual of this species I have seen in nearly twenty years of watching birds in this region.—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Buena Park, California, June 3, 1927.*

New Additions to the Yellowstone Park List of Birds.—Black-bellied Plover (*Squat-
arola squatarola*): The morning of September 24, 1926, was very cold, with the thermometer down to zero, the first really cold weather of the autumn. As I drove by, I noted a single bird of this species on a mud shore where Alum Creek discharges into the Yellowstone River, 7800 feet above sea level and just above the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. This bird was comparatively tame. The next day was almost as cold, but in the morning I found two of these plovers at the same location as the day before. On September 26, the cold had moderated considerably, but one of these plovers was seen again at the same location as before. This time it was feeding in company with a Killdeer on small insects picked up from the surface of the exposed muddy shore. I did not see either of these two plovers again. Needless to say both were in dull winter plumage.

This bird has never been recorded before in the Yellowstone National Park. Knight says very rare in Wyoming; only one record and that at Cheyenne in the extreme eastern part of the state on the plains (The Birds of Wyoming, University of Wyoming, Bulletin No. 55, 1902, p. 52). Saunders says his only records for Montana are at Priest Butte Lakes, 1911, and Flathead Lake where it is taken every fall by hunters (A Distributional List of the Birds of Montana, Pacific Coast Avifauna no. 14, 1921, p. 53).

Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*): On the afternoon of August 30, 1926, a single individual was seen catching grasshoppers in the Upper Geyser Basin, Yellowstone National Park. This species is recorded by both Knight and Saunders as being common on the plains although not ordinarily seen in the mountains. The history of this bird in the Park has been peculiar. It was originally reported by Dr. George Bird Grinnell as having been seen by C. Hart Merriam in 1872. After that, no more individuals were seen until this one in 1926 and the species was dropped from the list.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*): A single bird in immature plumage was seen drinking at the water trough near the barns back of Old Faithful Inn on September 5, 1926. Knight does not record this species in his "The Birds of Wyoming"; Saunders speaks of it as a resident in northwestern Montana west of the Continental Divide and has only one record of it east of the Divide on the Little Horn and Big Horn valleys. Friends of mine have informed me that it has been seen occasionally during the last three or four years in Bozeman, Montana. The place where I saw it is ten miles east of the Idaho-Wyoming state line and about four miles east of the Continental Divide; somewhat east of Bozeman but much farther west than the Big Horn Valley. Its recent arrival at Bozeman and now in the Park suggests that this species is working east with the settling up and irrigation of the mountain valleys.

White-tailed Ptarmigan (*Lagopus leucurus*): A single individual was seen on the open top of Quadrant Mountain, above timberline and about half a mile from the nearest tree. Knight speaks of this bird (that is, the southern form "*alpipetens*") as "resident and quite common in alpine districts"; Saunders speaks of the northern form as common in northwestern Montana and south along the Continental Divide. The nearest previous record has been from the Idaho side of the Tetons about fifty miles south of the present location and ten miles south of the southern boundary of the Park.—M. P. SKINNER, *Jamestown, N. Y., April 19, 1927.*

The Status of the Point Barrow Gull.—Described as a full species, *Larus barrovi-anus*, by Ridgway (Auk, III, 1886, p. 330) and accepted as such in the second edition of the A. O. U. Check-List, but dropped in the third as inseparable from *Larus hyperboreus*, which it exactly resembles in plumage (Dwight, Auk, XXIII, 1906, pp. 26-30), the smaller bird, whose range was carefully worked out by Oberholser (Auk, XXXV, 1918, p. 472), stands unrecognised by Dwight (The Gulls of the World, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., LII, 1925, p. 248), who still considers the differences too slight for recognition in nomenclature.

MEASUREMENTS OF GULLS

Museum number	Locality	Date	Collector	Sex	Wing (all fig-ures are mm.)	Exposed culmen	Depth of bill at base	Depth of bill at angle	Middle toe with nail	
<i>Larus hyperboreus hyperboreus</i>										
No. 3551, coll. G. Willett	Etah, Greenland	Aug. 11, 1925	McMillan Expedition	♂ ad.	458	61.9	27.3	23.4	64.4	
No. 3552, the same	Etah, Greenland	Aug. 16, 1925	McMillan Expedition	♀ ad.	455	58	22.8	21.1	69.2	
No. 40563, coll. L. B. Bishop	Craig, Prince of Wales, Alaska	Apr. 10, 1922	G. Willett	♀ 1 yr.	488.5	65	24	22.7	64.4	
					Average	467.2	61.6	24.7	22.4	66.9
					Greater than next by	7%	26%	34%	29%	8%
<i>Larus hyperboreus barrovi-anus</i>										
No. 4397, Los Angeles Mus.	Hyperion, L. A. Co., Calif.	Jan. 23, 1921	L. E. Wyman	♀ 1 yr.	442	42	18.4	17	60	
No. 14142, the same	Hyperion, Calif.	Nov. 24, 1915	L. E. Wyman	♀ juv.	442	50	18.5	16	61.9	
No. 1800, the same	Hyperion, Calif.	Mar. 26, 1917	L. E. Wyman	♀ 1 yr.	425	54.6	20	18.3	66.8	
No. 40564, coll. L. B. Bishop	Wainwright, Alaska	June 19, 1922	R. W. Hendee	♂ ad.	434	49.2	17.3	18.1	59	
					Average	435.7	48.9	18.5	17.3	61.9
<i>Larus leucopterus</i>										
No. 38623, L. B. Bishop	Miscou Is., N. Brunswick	Dec. 1, 1925	Wil. Bodin	— juv.	391	39.8	14.9	14.3	54.3	
No. 38624, the same	The same	Dec. 30, 1925	Wil. Bodin	— juv.	427	46	18.3	16	57.8	
No. 38625, the same	The same	Jan. 2, 1926	Wil. Bodin	— 1 yr.	400	44.7	17.4	15.6	52	
No. 38626, the same	The same	Jan. 4, 1926	Wil. Bodin	— 1 yr.	389	44	16	14.5	55	
No. 39175, the same	Grand Manan, N. Brunswick	Feb. 23, 1926	Allan L. Moses	♀ 1 yr.	392	43.9	15	14.1	52	
					Average	399.8	44.6	16.3	15	54.4