

in this condition they are sometimes to be caught with a rope, I sent one of the men in our car to Grapevine, about five miles away, for a rope, while the rest of the party stayed to watch the Condor.

When he returned, I took the rope, stood on the running board while the car was driven near the Condor, and tried to lasso it, but I found that I could not throw a rope from the running board of the car as I had been able to from the back of a horse.

But we were determined to have that Condor, so two of us stood on the running board, and as the car passed rapidly by the Condor, we jumped off and grabbed it with our hands. It disgorged some of its food and then tried viciously to get to us with its beak, but by each holding one wing, as shown in the accompanying photograph, we were able to avoid any injuries.



Fig. 62. CALIFORNIA CONDOR IN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY; SEPTEMBER, 1926.

After photographing the bird and taking a good look at it, its bright yellow head being one of its most conspicuous features at close range, we released it. Even though it had disgorged some of its food, it still could not fly, so we left it there. The next morning, as we went back to work, it was gone.

This location is in the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley in the comparatively level ground three or four miles out from the foot of the mountains and about two miles east of the Los Angeles highway running south from Bakersfield.—A. V. WILSON, 4176 Garden Avenue, Los Angeles, California, November 30, 1927. [This communication was transmitted by Harold Michener.—Ed.]

White Pelicans Wintering in Northern Utah.—In the late afternoon of December 10, 1927, while at Utah Lake securing data for the national waterfowl census report, I was somewhat surprised to find two White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) and one Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias treganzai*) at the mouth of Provo River. The lake was all frozen over except at the mouth of the river and was covered with about two inches of snow. The thermometer registered near zero. Both species of birds seemed cold and inactive and stood in the shallow water slightly humped over as if in an effort to keep out the cold. During the hour I watched them they made no effort to secure food. Finally the pelicans flew northward to a spring of somewhat higher temperature. The heron, however, remained at the mouth of the river.

Local fishermen report seeing one lone White Pelican at a warm spring on the south shore of Utah Lake in January of 1927.—CLARENCE COTTAM, Dept. Zoology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, January 10, 1928.

Western Winter Wren Found Breeding in Tulare County, California.—On July 6, 1926, while collecting mammals and birds near Doyle's Camp in the Sierra Nevada

above Porterville, Tulare County, California, at about 5000 feet elevation, I heard the song of the Western Winter Wren (*Nannus hiemalis pacificus*) and stopped to investigate. A slight movement on the ground near a fallen pine log attracted my attention, and what I at first took to be a mouse proved to be a female Winter Wren. She was soon joined by the male which began fluttering his wings and strutting about her, all the while keeping up a continual song. These antics suggested the possibility of a nest in the vicinity, but a diligent search failed to reveal its whereabouts, and the pair of birds was taken. They are numbers 435 and 436 in my collection. Upon sexing the birds after skinning, the female was found to contain a fully-developed egg.

Two pairs of Western Winter Wrens were afterwards seen on the same creek, the nearly completed nest of one pair being found. So far as I am able to ascertain, this is the most southerly breeding record in California, of this species, the Yosemite Valley being the most southerly previously recorded breeding limit.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, November 16, 1927.*

Notes on the Dwarf Cowbird in Southern California.—The continual increase of the Dwarf Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*) in the San Bernardino Valley of southern California since I first reported them here (CONDOR, XX, 1918, p. 211) has caused me considerable alarm. At that time I reported about four species that had been parasitized, but now I must report a total of twelve.

The results of a recent survey of an even hundred nests of victims of the Cowbird have been tabulated as follows:

The species	The percentage of the parasitized nests examined	The number of Dwarf Cowbird eggs per nest	The percentage of nests of a given species having but a single Dwarf Cowbird egg	Average weight of Dwarf Cowbird eggs in grams	Maximum weight of Dwarf Cowbird egg in grams	Minimum weight of Dwarf Cowbird egg in grams
<i>Empidonax trailli trailli</i>	32	1 to 3	74	2.35	2.91	1.84
Traill Flycatcher						
<i>Astragalinus tristis salicamans</i>	8	1 or 2	75	2.08	2.34	1.65
Willow Goldfinch						
<i>Melospiza melodia cooperi</i>	4	1 or 2	75	2.21	2.49	1.89
San Diego Song Sparrow						
<i>Pipilo maculatus megalonyx</i>	1	1	100	2.09	.....	.....
San Diego Towhee						
<i>Guiraca caerulea salicarius</i>	1	1	100	2.14	.....	.....
California Blue Grosbeak						
<i>Passerina amoena</i>	3	1 or 2	75	2.42	.....	.....
Lazuli Bunting						
<i>Vireo huttoni huttoni</i>	1	2	.....	2.27	.....	.....
Hutton Vireo						
<i>Vireo bellii pusillus</i>	25	1 to 4	52	2.32	2.59	1.89
California Least Vireo						
<i>Dendroica aestiva brewsteri</i>	16	1 to 3	56	2.26	2.64	1.53
California Yellow Warbler						
<i>Icteria virens longicauda</i>	5	1 or 2	80	2.40	2.75	2.20
Long-tailed Chat						
<i>Wilsonia pusilla chryseola</i>	1	2	.....	2.40	.....	.....
Golden Pileolated Warbler						
<i>Poliophtila caerulea obscura</i>	2	1	100	2.01	.....	.....
Western Gnatcatcher						
<i>Poliophtila plumbea</i>	1	1	100	1.97	.....	.....
Plumbeous Gnatcatcher						

The weights of the eggs were determined to see if the Cowbird eggs in the nests of larger species were larger than in the nests of the smaller species. The number of tests made were not sufficient to prove any rule of this kind, but the following interesting points can be mentioned.

All eggs from nests of Long-tailed Chat, about the largest of the parasitized species, were larger than the average. The eggs from nests of the smaller species such as Willow Goldfinch, Western Gnatcatcher, and Plumbeous Gnatcatcher were unquestionably much smaller than the average. There is, however, a considerable number of exceptions to the suggested rule.