

the Northern Varied Thrush is not reported from Missoula. I have seen it a number of times here in March or April, in the years 1921, 1922, 1924, 1926, and 1928. In each case with but one exception one individual only was seen, usually a male. Nearly all were in our city park, a natural wood through which a mountain stream flows. Only once have I heard the full song, on April 7, 1926. The earliest record is for March 9, 1924, and the latest, April 16, 1922.

Townsend Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*). Seen here occasionally in March and April in our city park. I have seen as many as five individuals on one trip. The earliest records I have are for January 15, and 22, 1922. One was seen on February 24, 1927. I have heard the full song only once, April 9, 1927. My latest spring record is for May 7, 1922. For Missoula I have one fall record, September 17, 1921, but in the mountains a few miles from Missoula I saw one on November 18, 1923.—CAROLINE WELLS, *Missoula, Montana, June 10, 1928.*

Behavior of Saw-whet Owls in Yosemite Park.—On the morning of April 18, 1926, we had been out for our daily bird walk and were returning along the south road between Camp Curry and Yosemite Village. As we neared the village we came to the old cottonwood shaft where two years ago a pair of Red-shafted Flickers had drilled out a nest-hole. It was noted that the hole had recently been enlarged, there being fresh fractures where bits of wood had been chipped from the rim. We rapped on the stump and suddenly there appeared the face of a Saw-whet Owl (*Cryptoglaux acadica*) at the entrance. His round head and shoulders completely filled the aperture as he gazed down at us. For fifteen minutes we watched the owl and although only fifteen feet above us, he did not appear the least bit afraid, nor did he change his position. His yellow eyes blinked, occasionally he winked, but he did not move or utter a sound. As we watched, the owl apparently became very sleepy, and so we moved away silently that he might not be further disturbed. When last we looked his head still occupied the hole.

Twice during the next four days we visited the old stump and on both occasions the "yellow-eyed one" responded to our knock. And then on the morning of April 25 we were again in the neighborhood and when within one hundred yards of the owl's home we were attracted by the scolding chatter of many small birds. We soon located the center of concern in the upper branches of a young pine that grew in a thicket of young pines. The mob of small birds was pestering a Saw-whet Owl. The owl was about forty feet above the ground and perched like a knot on the branch close to the main axis of the tree. We shook the tree and the owl flew twenty feet to perch in relatively the same position in another tree. The little birds followed him, but in spite of the noise he closed his eyes and apparently went to sleep. Under the tree where the owl was first perched were numerous disgorged pellets. All pellets contained what we identified as the fur of meadow mice. There were also the jaw bones of some small mammal, and many other small bones which we could not identify. Leaving the sleepy owl in the pine wood we visited the owl tree and found a Saw-whet at home.

At eight o'clock of the same evening we were back at the owl tree in the bright moonlight. After waiting ten minutes an owl poked its head out from the hole, where it remained motionless for a full ten minutes. Finally it left the nest and flew up the light lane within four feet of us. Like a gray ghost shadow it moved without sound. In ten minutes the bird was back. It appeared to alight in the branches of a cedar near the nest-tree. Nothing more happened that we could see. However, it would have been possible for the owl to come to the nest and get away without our seeing it.

As the days went by we had many visits with the Saw-whet; but nothing new or exciting happened until the morning of May 12. On this day we were amazed to find a young owl in full plumage looking out from the nest-hole. The white markings on this bird's face were much more conspicuous than in the older bird, and its blue-gray crown and roach were not so streaked. Its feathers looked softer and fresher. The owl could apparently see very well in the bright light and was interested in all that was going on about him.

After discovering the young owl we went again to the tree that night, arriving at 6:45 P. M. One young owl could be indistinctly seen at the back of the hole, but

when we tapped on the tree it drew down out of sight. At 7:30 one of the parent owls came down the electric lighted flight lane, swooped low to the ground and rose in a curve to the nest-hole. The young one squeaked a greeting, the parent bird hesitated at the nest-hole for a second or two and went off again. At 8:30 an owl again appeared, but this time it alighted in a cedar tree ten feet from the nest-hole. Again the young one squeaked. Then from up the road there came four notes which reminded us of the notes of a Pigmy Owl, but these notes were slightly quicker and there was no pause to be followed by the two added notes so characteristic of the Pigmy Owl. The parent bird left the perch and flew past the nest and once more the young one hissed. Then the parent turned, came to the nest-hole, barely paused, possibly handed something in, and then departed. Nothing further happened while we remained.

The following morning (May 13) there was no response to our knock, but in the afternoon we found a young Saw-whet looking out of the hole. Once we thought that we had a fleeting glimpse of a second bird. The theory of the second bird was enhanced by the movements of the bird at the doorway, for this fellow was bobbing about as though he was being crowded from below.

Our next visit was May 18, and we found a young bird at home. He looked more beautiful than ever, very much awake and interested in what was going on. When we moved about he followed us with his eyes. When we raised a stick within four feet of him he slowly sank down into the nest-hole. We waited and in ten minutes he was back at the entrance. He was quite content to watch us a few feet below him in the road, but always when we raised the stick he drew down. We stayed with him for two hours and at no time during this long stay did he utter a sound.

On the night of May 18, at 8:30, we were again at the owl tree. When we arrived there was a bird looking out at the doorway. Nothing happened. For thirty minutes the owl silently held his position. There was no sound or anything else to indicate that there was more than one bird. The electric lights along the road cast enough light so that we could have seen the parent bird come or go, and when automobiles moved up or down the road we could plainly see the young bird in the glare of their lights. After waiting thirty minutes a match was struck. The sound apparently alarmed the bird. He uttered a sound very much like the sizzling of water on a hot stove and dropped down into his hole. We waited long, nothing happened and this was the last we ever saw of the Saw-whet Owls.—CHAS. W. MICHAEL and ENID MICHAEL, *Yosemite, California, July 2, 1928.*

An Early Spring Record for the Costa Hummingbird.—Previous to this year, my earliest record for the Costa Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*), and the earliest published date of arrival on the Pacific slope, as far as I know, was March 16 (1923). This year the first male was seen on March 7, and one or more appeared to be present continuously from that time on, although they did not become common until about the first of April. The Lawrence Goldfinch (*Astragalinus lawrencei*) also arrived at Azusa unusually early, the first flock being noted on February 16.—ROBERT S. WOODS, *Azusa, California, May 18, 1928.*

A Nest Site of the Western Horned Owl in Utah.—A set of two partly incubated eggs of the Western Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus pallescens*) was taken from a deserted nest, June 9, 1928. The nest was in a cliff dwelling about a mile above the Augusta Natural Bridge in White Canyon, San Juan County, Utah. This Moki cliff dwelling, the habitation of a prehistoric Indian, was in a ledge in the sandstone wall of the canyon about 20 feet above the dry stream bed. It consisted of two rooms, the larger about 8 feet square, the smaller about 6 by 8 feet. The nest was in the far corner of the smaller room, on the side next to the cliff wall. The roof had fallen in on the outer side but was supported on the inner side, forming a shelter over the nest. On the floor of the dwelling was a thick layer of pack-rat droppings and debris including the cactus spines remaining after the rats had eaten the fleshy parts. The nest itself was a depression in the debris lined with a few sticks, bones, feathers and excrement. There was nothing to indicate the reason for the nest being deserted. On the same level was another dwelling and