

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

below on the canyon floor was a large well preserved room. Several other ruins were within a mile of this place.—JOHN W. SUGDEN, *Salt Lake City, Utah, July 3, 1928.*

**Additions to the Faunal List of Anacapa Island.**—May 19 and 20 of this year I spent on Anacapa Island accompanied by a party from our Biology Department. Several birds not in Howell's list or in Pemberton's supplement were observed. Only the Rhinoceros Auklet and Red-backed Sandpiper were collected. The following were seen: *Cerorhinca monocerata* (two), *Pelidna alpina sakhalina* (one), *Sayornis nigricans* (one), *Piranga ludoviciana* (six), *Vireo gilvus swainsonii* (one), *Thryomanes bewickii charienturus* (several).—LOYE MILLER, *University of California at Los Angeles, May 29, 1928.*

**Sage Thrasher Nesting near Victorville, California.**—Toward evening of April 22, 1928, while collecting natural history specimens in the immediate vicinity of Victorville, San Bernardino County, I saw a likely looking place among some Joshua trees for Scott Orioles. After considerable walking, and while taking a short rest, I heard the song of a Sage Thrasher (*Oroscoptes montanus*). My interest was immediately aroused, and a diligent search began in the hope of locating a nest.



Fig. 85. NEST OF SAGE THRASHER; PHOTOGRAPHED NEAR VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA, APRIL 22, 1928.

Much to my surprise, not one, but several of these birds were noted. Presently, about fifteen feet ahead, I saw a thrasher running at top speed, tail erect, directly from me. Upon a closer examination of nearby bushes, a nest containing four slightly incubated eggs was disclosed. While photographing the nest (see fig. 85), I noticed that the male thrasher joined the female at more than gun-shot distance for a short while, never so much as uttering a sound. The female approached to within twenty feet of me while the nest was being photographed, and was later collected, but the male was not seen again.

Apparently this is the most southerly breeding record of this species in California, Lockwood Valley in Ventura County being the most southerly previously recorded nesting locality.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, May 1, 1928.*

**Western Tanager in Winter at San Diego.**—In 1922 (see CONDOR, xxiv, p. 135), I gave a short description and two photographs of an unidentified bird that I had seen in our garden. The bird was here from February 12 to about April 1, 1922. It looked more like a female Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) than like any other bird I knew. As there seemed to be no record of the tanager appearing