

Mr. Edward W. Gifford of Oakland, an experienced aviculturist specializing in the Columbiformes, states that *risoria* is such a common dove in captivity that he doubts if any are now regularly imported. Birds sell locally sometimes as low as 25 or 50 cents apiece, and many farmers have them about their premises.

Mr. W. Leland Smith of Fair Oaks, Sacramento County, writes me that he has liberated Ringed Turtle Doves on various occasions on his place and that there are a few "wild" ones around now, nesting in the oaks. But these birds are so tame, "always under foot", that Mr. Smith thinks they would promptly be exterminated if they should venture onto unprotected land.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, March 31, 1929.*

**Mountain Bluebirds Winter in Montana.**—Having read a newspaper item, under date of January 15, 1929, which stated that a pair of bluebirds was wintering in the yard of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Spaid, of Missoula, Montana, I wrote to Mr. Spaid for confirmation of the report, and for certain additional information about the birds' stay. In his kind reply he verified the record, and gave all the desired facts.

The hardy visitors, a male and a female, are Mountain Bluebirds (*Sialia currucoides*). They are believed to be a pair that nested in Mr. Spaid's garage last summer; they have spent the nights in that building during the winter. They are both strong, healthy birds, capable of normal flight, and "well able to care for themselves". Answering a question about the birds' ability to secure sufficient food, Mr. Spaid writes: "It was eighteen below zero yesterday and the birds were both busy eating berries from the vines around the front porch. We feed them only once in a while."

The wintering of this species so far north, in the interior, is very unusual. I do not know of any previous record of its occurrence in Montana at this season. Mr. Spaid writes that he has observed this bluebird in different localities from Washington eastward, but has never known one to remain so far north during the winter. In describing the seasonal residence of the Mountain Bluebird in Montana, A. A. Saunders states: "This species is so early in its arrival in spring, that it seems as if it would some day be found to winter in the state, at least on the west side of the continental divide. There are no winter records, however, at present. I was told of a bluebird wintering near Choteau, in the winter of 1911-12, but the information reached me second-hand and I was unable to find out from whom it came or to verify it" (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 14, 1921, p. 171).—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortune, Montana, January 28, 1929.*

**The Cassin Purple Finch in San Diego.**—In his Distributional List of the Birds of California (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 11, 1915, p. 107), Dr. J. Grinnell gives no record for the Cassin Purple Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*) south of Riverside County. Its occurrence in Balboa Park, San Diego, is therefore of interest and an extension of the known range. I first saw this species in San Diego on March 23, 1927, when several of both sexes were seen, together with large numbers of California Purple Finches (*Carpodacus purpureus californicus*) and House Finches (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*), feeding on the sunflower seed supplied to the parrots in the San Diego Zoo. These birds were also seen by Leroy W. Arnold of this city who agreed with my identification.

Although I watched carefully for the re-appearance of this species it was not again observed until February 25, 1929, when an immature male was taken from my bird banding trap at the O'Rourke Zoological Institute in Balboa Park. This specimen was preserved and is now in the collection of the San Diego Natural History Museum where my identification has been verified by Mr. Laurence M. Huey.—FRANK F. GANDER, *O'Rourke Zoological Institute, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, March 22, 1929.*

**A Male Linnet in Female Plumage.**—While collecting at Nashmead, Mendocino County, California, on May 7, 1926, I took what I thought to be a purple finch in immature plumage. The bird was singing when taken but I paid no attention to the song, so intent was I on getting the specimen. After skinning the bird I examined the testes and noted that they were greatly enlarged and wrote on the label at the time "testes developed, breeding". I had no other evidence that the bird was actually