

alder tree. This nest, from below, was similar in appearance to a Black-headed Grosbeak's, so upon bending down the limb we were surprised to flush from it a female Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*).

The nest, which held four eggs of slight incubation, was constructed exteriorly of the fruit stems of wild grapes, a few stems of dry grasses, and a piece of common white twine; the body was of rootlets, and the lining was of black horsehairs with a few white hairs mixed with them.

Though the Western Tanager has been reported as having nested in Napa County, which adjoins Solano County on the west, we do not know of any previous record of the nesting of this species in Solano County.

The creek at the place where the nest was located was between three hundred and four hundred feet above sea level and was bordered and well-shaded by tall alders, maples, live oaks and laurels.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, Solano County, California, July 13, 1932.*

The Caspian Tern, a New State Record for Kansas.—On September 27, 1928, an adult specimen of the Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia imperator*) was killed by Mr. Harold Standing of Wellsville, Kansas. It was brought to the University of Kansas for identification and subsequently donated to the Museum there. This specimen was taken just a few minutes after daybreak as it was flying along the Kansas River about five miles east of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas. It had apparently followed the river down from the east and was accompanied by one other bird that appeared to Mr. Standing to be of the same species. The specimen is a female in the typical post-nuptial plumage and bears University of Kansas Museum number 17147.

The closest out-of-state records for this species are those reported by Harris in his *Birds of the Kansas City Region* (Trans. Acad. Sci. St. Louis, XXIII, 1919, p. 227). He mentions several taken in October, 1914, at Courtney, and one taken in the spring of 1886, at Lake City. These two towns are in Missouri, about forty miles directly east of Lawrence, Kansas. Acknowledgment is made to Mr. C. D. Bunker, who is in charge of the University of Kansas Museum of Birds and Mammals, for permission to report this record.—LAWRENCE V. COMPTON, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, August 19, 1932.*

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

"Bird Watching in the West" is the title of a recent charming volume by Frances Staver Twining (Member, Cooper Ornithological Club). Illustrations by Florenz Clark, Metropolitan Press, Publishers, Portland, Oregon, 1931, pp. 1-170. Price, \$2.00. Although we have an abundance of publications on the more technical side of ornithology we have little for the growing army of bird lovers who enjoy the birds for their "intrinsic charm" as the author so aptly states it in her preface. Mrs. Twining has shown exceptional ability to express in print her own as well as others' feeling for birds as a part of nature. This little volume, illustrated by numbers of attractive line drawings, and with lists of birds from several western sections, including those of National Parks, will fill a long felt want for a wide field of readers.—S. G. JEWETT.

Early on the morning of August 3, 1932, Miss Ellen Browning Scripps, in her

ninety-sixth year, passed from this life as she slept in her home at La Jolla, California. But the spirit of this remarkable woman, who had been acclaimed San Diego's "most useful citizen," will carry on indefinitely. Always of slight figure and somewhat frail in appearance, she nevertheless possessed the kind of force which comes with a character of insight, decision and vigor. The list of her special interests is the roll of vital human activities. She gave lavishly, but always unostentatiously and as far as possible through others, to colleges, schools, hospitals, churches of many denominations, playgrounds, associated charities, zoological gardens, museums, community enterprises and unnumbered obscure causes.

In the fields of science and education, she generously supported aggressive research, as well as those departments which appeal to children and spread popular knowledge. The list of her benefactions relating to natural history and