

lake from Cedar Crest Camp to the cañon of Big Creek and down the abrupt gorge to the town of Big Creek, 2000 feet below.

The air line distances between these three stations is but eight miles in all, yet the jay dropped in altitude from 7000 feet to 3000 and accomplished this in the short interval between September first and November first. This means the traversing of three life-zones: Huntington Lake at 7000 feet being Canadian, the town of Big Creek at 5000 feet being Transition, and Power House Number 2 at 3000 feet being Upper Sonoran. In autumn and winter this species becomes more numerous in the lower mountain habitats. That individuals or flocks may wander from one extreme of the vertical range to the other seems interesting in a species considered to be a permanent resident and which is never completely absent from any part of its range.

I do not hesitate to connect Mrs. Bower's record with mine because of the perfect tally in description, the wandering status of the race at that season, the natural drainage channels leading to Big Creek and Power House Number 2, and the sequence of dates.

It may be added to Mrs. Bower's description that the present writer was impressed with the bluish tinge to the white plumage; this was most readily observed in the quills of wing and tail. I believe this is the graying effect noted by Mrs. Bower. The bird was almost fearless, flitting and hopping close to groups of campers.—**ROLAND CASE ROSS, Los Angeles, California, March 22, 1933.**

**Bird Notes from Southwestern Oregon.**—It was the authors' privilege to spend a few days in December, 1932, in the vicinity of Medford, Jackson County, Oregon. Frequent field trips were made in the Rogue River Valley and in the lower levels of the Siskiyou and Cascade mountains. A study of a recent paper by Gabrielson (*CONDOR*, 33, 1931, pp. 110-121) has led to the conclusion that some of the records obtained deal with species not often recorded from the Rogue River region. The number of duck records may be explained by the fact that large lakes to the east, such as Klamath Lake, had frozen over during a period of unusually cold weather in December and had driven birds to open streams. A list of the birds, all from Jackson County, follows.

*Anas platyrhynchos*. Mallard. Six of these birds were seen on Butte Creek, December 18.

*Mareca americana*. Baldpate. We examined a female of this species collected by Chester Fitch on Butte Creek, December 12.

*Nettion carolinense*. Green-winged Teal. A female was shot on Butte Creek, December 13, and is now in Stevenson's collection.

*Nyroca affinis*. Lesser Scaup. A female scaup was seen December 18 on Butte Creek.

*Falco mexicanus*. Prairie Falcon. A falcon was seen perched on a telephone pole at the Fitch Ranch, six miles south of Medford, on December 17.

*Fulica americana*. Coot. A coot was found swimming in Butte Creek December 18, and another, freshly killed bird, was discovered.

*Capella delicata*. Wilson Snipe. One was found in a tule swamp along Butte Creek, December 18.

*Glaucidium gnoma californicum*. Pygmy Owl. A female (no. 62760, coll. Mus. Vert. Zool.) was shot from a Garry oak at the Fitch Ranch on December 15. Another female, collected in a willow thicket along Butte Creek, December 18, is now in the Stevenson collection.

*Scotiaptex nebulosa nebulosa*. Great Gray Owl. Fitch saw one of these owls on the Lake of the Woods highway, seven miles east of Ashland, December 16, altitude 2800 feet. Fitch collected a specimen of this species (sex unknown), during the last week of December, 1929, at the Fitch Ranch. The skin is now in his collection.

*Dryobates albolarvatus albolarvatus*. White-headed Woodpecker. A male was seen in yellow pine timber at 3100 feet elevation on the Lake of the Woods road, December 16.

*Chamaea fasciata* subsp. Wren-tit. A colony of these birds is established in the Garry oak and chaparral area on the Fitch Ranch. Birds were seen and heard several times during the latter part of December.

*Salpinctes obsoletus obsoletus*. Rock Wren. A female Rock Wren (no. 62771, coll. Mus. Vert. Zool.) was collected at a rocky hillside five miles east of Ashland on December 16.

*Sialia currucoides*. Mountain Bluebird. A flock of ten bluebirds was discovered in Douglas fir timber near Coleman Creek on December 18.

*Bombycilla cedrorum*. Cedar Waxwing. A flock of ten was found in an apple orchard south of Medford, December 18, and others were recorded a few days previously, from the vicinity.

*Lanius borealis*. Northern Shrike. A shrike was found chasing a flock of Pine Siskins near Butte Creek on December 18. The bird, an immature female, was killed, and is now in the Stevenson collection.

*Zonotrichia leucophrys* subsp. White-crowned Sparrow. Five White-crowned Sparrows were noted along Butte Creek, December 18, but none was collected.—JAMES STEVENSON and HENRY FITCH, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, April 8, 1933*.

## EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The necessarily brief minutes (page 171 of this issue of the CONDOR) afford but a meager idea of the general worth of the eighth annual C. O. C. meeting. Persons in attendance derived both profit and pleasure from its varied program, and the opportunities given between sessions for informal conversations between individuals not usually associated brought further benefits. By invitation from the San Diego Society of Natural History, next year's meeting will be held in San Diego, probably in April.

In the June, 1933, issue of the *Wilson Bulletin*, Editor T. C. Stephens offers some cogent comments on the designation of localities in bird records and on specimen-labels. He tells of troubles he has experienced in locating place-names of early origin—just the same difficulties experienced by present bird students here on the Pacific Coast. Dr. Stephens says: "The authors of seventy-five years ago little realized how soon their locality terms would become obsolete; nor do we probably realize the changes which will take place in the next similar period of time. . . . Perhaps the only suggestion to be made is concerning the importance of including with every locality record, or list, a very full geographical description."

A notable feature of the May, 1933, issue of the *Murrelet* is Mr. F. S. Hall's account of the ornithological history of Washington State. After a general review of the early explorations of the northwest coast of North America, Archibald Menzies is dealt with at considerable length, he having been the "first naturalist to observe Washington birds", in May and June, 1792. Mr. Hall gives, with illuminating comment of his own, all the perti-



Fig. 34. JOHN G. TYLER: AUTHORITY ON THE BIRDS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA, AUTHOR OF "THE BIRDS OF THE FRESNO DISTRICT" (PACIFIC COAST AVIFAUNA NUMBER 9), MEMBER OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB SINCE 1905, AND NOW MEMBER OF ITS BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

nent excerpts from Menzies' journal. These are of special interest to anyone seeking to learn something about the primitive status of bird-life in areas now closely populated by mankind.—J. G.