

1905. Edgar Park and I had the pernicious craze of collecting eggs, albeit we collected "scientifically." We were hunting gnatcatchers' eggs among the stunted sycamores in a dry wash behind the school. We stumbled upon a Poor-will's "nest" consisting of the two squabs cuddled among the pebbles. I ran back to school and asked Donald whether he would take the picture. He would try, but had never taken any bird pictures before. (See fig. 7.)



Fig. 7. First picture taken by Donald R. Dickey; in 1904-1905, of Poor-wills in Ojai Valley, California.

The next time I saw Donald, after leaving school, was on the "Tanager" expedition where old acquaintances were renewed and delightful new ones with Alexander Wetmore, D. Thaanum and others were made.—CHAPMAN GRANT, *Maj., U. S. A. Ret., San Diego, California, November 8, 1935.*

**Flammulated Screech Owl in the Sacramento Valley.**—A Flammulated Screech Owl (*Otus flammeolus*) was taken from the roof of a hen house on the University farm at Davis, Yolo County, California, on October 31, 1935. The specimen, an adult female, is now in the collection of the Division of Zoology of the University of California College of Agriculture at Davis. Measurements are as follows: wing, 135.8 mm.; tail, 63.5; culmen (from cere) 9.65. The ovary was double; the right lobe was only slightly smaller than the left.

The present specimen, coming from a central point in the Sacramento Valley only 45 feet above sea level, furnishes apparently the first lowland record of this species in California.—JOHN T. EMLEN, JR., *Davis, California, November 22, 1935.*

**Red-shafted Flicker Foraging on a Cement Pillar.**—The fact that the Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer collaris*) may depart from its typical habit of foraging in and beneath trees and shrubs and on open meadows was demonstrated to me on November 1, 1935. I was astonished to see a flicker fly up to and perch on the face of one of the fluted, cement columns or pilasters on the southwest side of the Life Sciences Building, University of California Campus. Here, approximately 60 feet above the ground, the bird clung in typical flicker manner—body parallel to the long axis of the column, feet grasping the substrate, tail braced against the cement—for approximately two minutes. Then it began to shift up the face of the pillar and to probe and peck with its bill into crevices in the cement, evidently gleaning insects. It continued its foraging tactics and movement upward until it attempted to progress across the face of one of the "cement bovine skulls", a molding on this side of the building. Here the footing must have been poor, for the bird slipped backward, flew downward a few feet, then upward to a ledge, coming to rest momentarily before flying away.

Time of day, 12:45 p. m.; lapse of time for observation, 5 minutes; weather cloudy, slow rain falling.

At a later date, under similar weather conditions, examination of the cement at the base of the column revealed the presence of numerous small ants, which were crawling over the face of