The birds do not bother our goldfish—of which we have three large ponds—or two ponds stocked with sun perch (the common blue-gill of our local lakes). The plumes shed are entirely new, unmatured feathers, though I have gathered quite a bunch ranging from eight to ten inches in length.—J. W. SEFTON, JR., *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, March 16, 1936.*

Hummingbirds' Roosts and Perches.—Supplementing Mr. Ernest I. Dyer's "Observations upon the Night-roosting of an Anna Hummingbird" (Condor, 38, 1936, p. 44) at Piedmont, California, it may be well to mention that hummingbirds do not always choose so exposed a roost. I have only once been fortunate enough to discover the sleeping place of a hummingbird, and this fact in itself leads me to believe that they must usually seek more sheltered locations. In the one instance referred to, a male Costa (*Calypte costae*) was found before dark perched amid the few terminal leaves of a long, slender, pendent branch of a *Eucalyptus citriodora,* at a height of five or six feet from the ground. This was immediately recognized as a night roost because it was a situation which a male hummingbird would never choose for a daytime perch. The bird was comparatively inconspicuous there, and entirely safe from climbing predators. The usual absence of night winds obviated any disturbing swaying. It was in the same place the following evening, but soon thereafter left on its southward migration.

It would be interesting to know whether all of the Anna Hummingbirds in the Bay region retire punctually at sunset, as did this one at Piedmont; here in southern California their maximum feeding activity has seemed to be in the five or ten minutes after sunset, as judged by the frequency of their visits to the sugar syrup supply.

This hummingbird's changing whims as to its daytime resting places are characteristic, but not peculiar to hummingbirds as may be learned by noting for a time the spots chosen by a house cat for its daily naps. Sometimes the changes are less frequent than those described by Dyer. During one entire summer's residence a male Costa Hummingbird could be found at practically any hour of the day perched on the topmost twig of a certain buckthorn bush. The next spring it again occupied the same twig; but later it changed to another bush not far away, where it remained for the rest of the season. I have often wondered that the non-migratory Anna Hummingbirds, after weeks or months of addiction to a sugar syrup diet, invariably leave, presumably to find their own living in other surroundings.

It is apparent that a hummingbird must be actuated (1) by habit and (2) by a cumulative urge for change which ultimately becomes strong enough to overcome the force of habit or even more material considerations. The periodical shifting from perch to perch is doubtless simply a manifestation of the same nomadic instinct which impels more extensive wanderings.—ROBERT S. WOODS, *Azusa, California, February 12, 1936.*

Clark Nutcracker again Visits Colorado Desert.—Another Colorado Desert record for Clark Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) was secured when a specimen was taken on Coral Reef Ranch, September 24, 1935, at 44 feet below sea level. This bird was first noticed flying back and forth from the ground to a pasture fence. Later it was seen in a large cottonwood tree where it was collected.

C. O. Esterly recorded the occurrence of Clark Nutcrackers on the Colorado Desert when a flock of a dozen or more was sighted by him on the Marshall Ranch west of Indio on October 17 and 18, 1919 (Condor, 22, 1929, p. 40). The Marshall Ranch is approximately four miles northwest of the place where our specimen was taken.—BEN CLARY and MARJORIE CLARY, *Coachella, California, November 20, 1935.*

Molting of Hawks, with Special Regard to the Duck Hawk. — Trained hawks cannot be used while they are molting because they must be so well fed to insure a good and rapid feather growth that they lose their keenness for their quarry and will not come to the food that the falconer uses to lure them back to him. Moreover, the natural molting process is long drawn out—sometimes, in the case of the Duck Hawk, requiring six months. Any way of speeding up the molt, therefore, would be welcome to the falconer.

Accordingly, dried thyroid was fed to an immature female Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), in the hope that she would react as pigeons and other birds have so frequently been reported to do. Dosages of various sizes were tried, up to .8 gm. daily for a week, and up to 1.3 gm. daily for three days, without any result except a slight nervousness on the part of the bird and a slight increase in the size of her thyroid gland. Since the weight of the hawk varied during this period from about 1200 to about 1300 gm., the dose was relatively large.