

which was used by from nine to sixteen Bald Eagles. These were sent to the Division of Wildlife Research of the Biological Survey where they were examined by Mr. C. S. Williams. Invariably each pellet contained the remains of a single animal plus some incidental débris such as sticks, stones, grasses, and dirt. One hundred and five pellets contained the following items: 104 Leporidae [8 *Lepus californicus*, 2 *Lepus (townsendii?)*, 45 *Lepus* sp., 2 *Sylvilagus (floridanus?)*, 1 *Sylvilagus?*, 47 unidentified rabbits]. There was one occurrence of a prairie dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*).—RALPH H. IMLER, *Stockton, Kansas, October 5, 1936.*

Concerning the Name of the Sonora House Finch.—Ornithologists in general, and those who are interested in variations of the House Finch in particular, will welcome Robert T. Moore's paper entitled "Description of a new race of *Carpodacus mexicanus*" which appeared in a recent number of the Condor (vol. 38, 1936, pp. 203-208). This paper outlines the transition from a relatively large, streaked, pale-colored race in the southwestern United States to a small, nearly unstreaked, red race which reaches its culmination in characters in Sinaloa.

The author decides that Ridgway's old name *Carpodacus mexicanus sonoriensis* is not applicable to the Sinaloa birds, and he therefore makes a new one, *Carpodacus mexicanus rhodopnus*, with a range for the race restricted to that State. However, there is one element of nomenclature which Moore has completely overlooked. To be specific, his page-long analysis of the "type" of *sonoriensis* (a specimen of rather anomalous characters) is somewhat redundant in view of the fact that there is no holotype of that race. It is true that in the United States National Museum there is a specimen (no. 164324 Biol. Survey Coll.) marked as the type. But Ridgway named no type at the time the name was published and his series, therefore, constitute cotypes.

So far as can be determined by an analysis of Ridgway's description (Birds of North and Middle America, vol. 1, 1901, p. 135) there were eighteen cotypes from "southern Sonora (north to Guaymas on the coast) and southwestern Chihuahua (Batopilas, etc.)." Specific localities mentioned are Batamotal, Guaymas, and Alamos in Sonora, and Batopilas in Chihuahua. The smaller size of the Chihuahua specimens is particularly mentioned. Under these circumstances the whole question of what name to apply to the Sinaloa population must be reopened on the basis of adequate series of specimens from localities represented by the original series of cotypes. If birds from any one of these localities are found to average closer in characters to "*rhodopnus*" than to *frontalis*, there is ample precedent for the establishing of a restricted type locality which will allow the preservation of an old name as a preferable alternative to the creation of a new one.

It is my emphatic opinion that the name *sonoriensis* will easily include *rhodopnus*. If a reviewer decides that *sonoriensis* is really a composite which includes two races, he has, of course, the privilege of burying it under *frontalis* or he may preserve it and bury *rhodopnus*. In any event the matter is still open for the action of a reviewer.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Dickey Collections, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, September 23, 1936.*

Summer Records of Birds for Marin County, California.—In the course of summer observations on birds in the vicinity of Mt. Tamalpais during the months of June and July, 1936, three avian species were noted which, in so far as known, have heretofore been considered only as winter visitants or migrants in this region.

From June 9, when first discovered, until July 21, when field observations were stopped, Audubon Warblers (*Dendroica auduboni*) were noted almost daily in the vicinity of Rock Springs on the western slope of the Mountain. This species was one of the most common forms observed in the Douglas fir forests which are dominant hereabouts. In certain instances as many as four singing individuals could be heard from one point. Pairs were regularly noted.

Black-throated Gray Warblers (*Dendroica nigrescens*) were observed close to Potrero Meadow, north of Rock Springs, between June 9 and July 21, although they were not so common as members of the previously mentioned species. The margins of Douglas fir tracts where live oaks were numerous seemed to be the preferred type of cover chosen by this warbler.

Red-breasted Nuthatches (*Sitta canadensis*) were noted occasionally between June 11 and July 21, both in forests composed almost entirely of Douglas firs and in areas where these trees were growing in combination with redwoods on the northwestern slope of the Mountain.

Unfortunately no nests of the three above-mentioned species were located. Considering, however, the period during which these birds were observed, it appears highly probable that all three species were breeding in this southwestern portion of Marin County.—ROBERT T. ORR, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, September 25, 1936.*