

1939, 1940, 1941), Thurston, Cowlitz (May 31, 1938), and Walla Walla counties (*ibid.*; and Slipp, MS).

Jewett (Condor, 41, 1939:33) and Gabrielson and Jewett (Birds of Oregon, 1940:110) have observed the increasing regularity of the species in western Oregon in recent years, and it seems not unlikely that this heron may in the future extend its breeding range to Puget Sound. So far as I am aware, however, recent records in the latter area are all based on vagrant fall juveniles.—JOHN W. SLIPP, *Washington State Museum, Seattle, October 20, 1941.*

**Pigmy Nuthatch in Oklahoma.**—Several montane species of birds occur in Oklahoma solely because the Black Mesa, a spur of the Rocky Mountains, extends into the extreme northwestern corner of the Panhandle (see Sutton, Ann. Carnegie Mus., 24, 1934:1-50). The writer is now able, through the courtesy of Mr. George H. Lowery, Jr., of the Museum of Zoology of Louisiana State University, to add another such species to the list—the Pigmy Nuthatch of the race *Sitta pygmaea melanotis*. Mr. Lowery himself took the specimen, a breeding female, with well-defined brood-patch. It was collected near Kenton, Cimarron County, in the very shadow of the Black Mesa, on May 22, 1937. The whole region was swept by a black dust storm on the preceding day—a cataclysm which the writer, who was present at the time, will never forget!—but, granted that the nuthatch could have been blown in, or become lost in the sudden darkness, it is unlikely that it was far from its nest at the time it was collected. It is now at Cornell University, where most of the writer's collections from Oklahoma are housed.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, November 3, 1941.*

**Woodpecker Efficiency.**—Recently while working through solid second-growth and slashed forest in central Ontario, I was struck by the universality of woodpecker workings in contrast to the apparent scarcity of woodpeckers themselves. The best part of a day of more than casual observation brought but a single Downy Woodpecker to attention. The next day produced a Pileated vanishing in the distance, but that is a much rarer species, the sight of it being somewhat of a red letter event. Yet every dead stub was more or less riddled with woodpecker excavation, some trunks being worked almost to destruction, and scarcely a dead branch or streak of diseased bark upon living timber had escaped woodpecker scoring. The season of the year, late September, might have something to do with the apparent dearth of the birds, but remembered experience of other days in the same neighborhood indicates that at no other time or season is the woodpecker population very greatly increased. On estimate, and without close censusing, I would say that the average population of woodpeckers in the area would rarely exceed a pair to the square mile, yet it is evident that little timber of prospective productivity escapes their scrutiny and exploration. Undoubtedly the comparatively few woodpeckers present must destroy an important proportion of wood borers and be a very considerable control upon their indefinite increase.—P. A. TAVERNER, *National Museum of Canada, Ottawa, October 2, 1941.*

**Some New Bird Records from Oregon.**—It is now a little over six years since the manuscript for the "Birds of Oregon" was prepared by Gabrielson and Jewett. With the exception of a few notes and one addition to the list of birds, little was added to the original manuscript before it went to press in March of 1940. Several new races of birds have been taken or reported by different workers in addition to those known in 1935. The following notes add a little more to our knowledge of Oregon birds.

*Lophortyx californica brunnescens*. Coastal California Quail. On page 603 of the "Birds of Oregon," in the hypothetical list, mention was made of a specimen of this quail (under the name *L. c. californica*) in the U. S. National Museum collected by Newberry in the "Willamette Valley, Oregon." The locality is doubtful in view of the fact that many of Newberry's labels are indefinite and we know he collected many birds in California at about the same time. Furthermore, the race of quail now in the Willamette Valley is not *L. c. brunnescens*. During the early morning of March 14, 1940, while driving east from Coos Bay through the heavy rain forests of the humid coast belt near Bridge, Coos County, Oregon, I picked up a dead adult male *L. c. brunnescens* (for the use of this name see Grinnell, Condor, 33, 1931:37) from the middle of the road where it evidently had been killed by a passing automobile just prior to my arrival on the scene. The body was still warm and limp. The plumage is almost identical with a February male from San Mateo County and with an April male from Alameda County, California. It is the only true example of this race that I have seen from Oregon.

*Pluvialis dominica fulva*. Pacific Golden Plover. While driving along the west shore of Tillamook Bay a short distance south of Bayocean, Tillamook County, Oregon, on September 28, 1940, I kept a casual lookout for birds. Noting a small flock of Black-bellied Plovers, I stopped the car for a better study of the group through binoculars. No sooner was the glass raised than a Golden Plover

was seen standing close to one of the larger Black-bellied Plovers. Even with this excellent chance for comparison between the two species the Golden looked exceptionally small. The bird was collected at once and proved to be a typical female *Pluvialis dominica fulva* in fresh fall plumage. It compares almost exactly in size and color with two females in the writer's collection from South Rinkin Island and Roqugo River near Tokyo, Japan, and with others in the U. S. National Museum. So far as I can ascertain, this race of the golden plover has not been recorded from Oregon before.

*Limnodromus griseus hendersoni*. Interior Dowitcher. On receipt of a paper by Dr. Robert Orr on the subspecific status of dowitchers in California (Condor, 42, 1940:61-63), I lost no time in studying the dowitchers in my collection. Of the 14 skins available from Oregon, 8 are in full spring plumage, 4 are fall birds of the first year, and 2 are August adults changing into winter plumage. Seven of these birds are unquestionably of the interior race, *L. g. hendersoni*. Five are spring adults from Astoria, Clatsop County, and two are immature males taken in August on the coast of Lincoln County, Oregon. Five of these birds, four adults, and one immature, were recently compared with skins in the U. S. National Museum and were found to match this newly described interior race.

*Stercorarius longicaudus*. Long-tailed Jaeger. On page 604 of the "Birds of Oregon" we stated in regard to this bird that there are no "existing specimens so far as we have been able to learn." This was our reason for placing this species in the hypothetical list. On September 8, 1940, Mrs. W. B. Holden of Portland, while walking along the ocean beach near Delake, Lincoln County, Oregon, found a juvenal female in first fall plumage in a dying condition. The bird was brought to Portland and presented to me. On September 21, 1940, while Mrs. Jewett and I were patrolling the ocean beach about three miles south of Seal Rocks, Lincoln County, Oregon, we saw a lone Long-tailed Jaeger in juvenal plumage standing on the beach just at the edge of the surf at low tide. It allowed a close approach and was studied with binoculars at a distance of about 50 feet, which allowed me to identify the bird to my own satisfaction. Having no gun, the bird was not taken. Returning along the same beach on September 23 we found a perfectly fresh juvenal female jaeger dead on the beach within 100 yards of where the specimen was studied on the 21st. Size and plumage were the same, and we have every reason to believe it was the same bird seen two days before. Both these birds were prepared as study skins and are now in my collection.

*Tyrannus vociferans*. Cassin Kingbird. On page 605 we mentioned the sight records of this species by A. W. Anthony at Beaverton and by Dr. A. G. Prill in the Warner Valley and decided that these records were unsatisfactory because no specimens were taken. Recently an unrecorded specimen of *Tyrannus vociferans* was sent to me by the collector, Overton Dowell of Florence, Oregon, in whose collection the specimen now reposes. The label reads "male?," but as the primaries are not at all attenuated and as there is no trace of the orange-red crown, I am inclined to believe that the bird is a young female. It was collected by Overton Dowell at Mercer, Lane County, Oregon, on August 4, 1935, and is the first authentic specimen of the species taken in Oregon.

*Sayornis nigricans nigricans*. Black Phoebe. This is another species in the hypothetical list, page 605; it was placed there because we believed the records of Newberry and O. B. Johnson to be unsatisfactory. Again credit is due to Mr. Overton Dowell for placing before us an Oregon-collected specimen of *Sayornis nigricans nigricans*, a new bird for the State. Mr. Dowell collected the bird on his ranch at Mercer, Lane County, Oregon, on June 1, 1936. It is now in his collection at Florence, Oregon.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, September 25, 1941.*

**The Black Pigeon Hawk in Colorado.**—A beautiful adult Black Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*) (Colo. Mus. Nat. Hist. no. 22391) was collected December 14, 1940, by Lloyd Triplet at Weldona, Morgan County, Colorado. As the bird was so far from its normal range and was the first of its race to be taken in Colorado, the skin was submitted to Messrs. George Willett, Stanley Jewett, and Herbert Friedmann, and all concurred in the identification.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *The Colorado Museum of Natural History, October 1, 1941.*

**A Raptor Tally in the Northwest.**—A peculiar localization of raptors was observed last summer in the course of a 350-mile motor trip through Utah, Nevada, and Oregon. The trip covered the period from July 20 to August 8, 1941. All raptors sighted from the car were tallied. The daily totals appear in figure 11. Leo K. Couch and J. Paul Miller helped make the tally.

The tally varied from none to 98 raptors per day, and averaged one raptor for each 10 miles of daylight travel. The tally does not include vultures, and it omits owls seen by headlights at night.

The daily totals show five concentration areas, all of which were on state or federal refuges, and all of which showed good stands of grass. These were the only areas of well grassed open country we saw. Most of the intervening terrain was overgrazed and devoid of perennial grasses, and it was devoid of visible raptors.