

This amounted to increases of 61.5 and 52.8 per cent of the volumes of the uninflated specimens. A similar test, although possibly a slight underestimate, of a Brown Pelican, showed a displacement of 25.7 per cent of the total volume or 34.6 per cent of the uninflated volume.

The correlation of the possession of a pneumatic mattress with the habit of plunging for food would seem to be invalidated by the condition in the White Pelican. However, some other explanation is demanded because the correlation can be shown clearly in other birds, such as gannets, as well as in the Brown Pelicans. Possibly the condition in the White Pelican is inherited from plunging ancestors and is retained or even amplified because such pneumaticity is functional, as a pre-adaptation, in other ways. Buoyancy may be the most important of these especially in view of the great quantity of water which the pouch may at times hold. This amount was measured to be 11.5 quarts in one adult specimen. Streamlining, especially of the bent neck region in flight, and cushioning necessarily heavy landing on water may be added factors of importance.—FRANK RICHARDSON, *University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada, July 10, 1942.*

**Observation on the Speed of the Mourning Dove.**—On September 2, 1942, I had the opportunity of noting the speed of a Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) while motoring from Merced to Yosemite Valley, California, on the all-year highway. About 10 miles east of Mariposa a Mourning Dove flew in front of the bus. It kept approximately 50 feet ahead of the vehicle and flew in front for a distance of about 100 yards, when it turned to the right and perched on the top-most wire of a barbed wire fence where two other doves were already perched. The bus was traveling 40 miles an hour at this time and did not seem to gain upon the dove while it was flying in front of the vehicle. The wing beat appeared to be slow for the speed the bird was making and the dove did not seem to be in any way fatigued. It appears that the speed of 40 miles an hour is not difficult for the dove to attain and that a faster wing beat would probably make even higher speeds possible.—WILLIAM V. MAYER, *Del Paso Heights, California, October 6, 1942.*

**Albino Red-wing from Colorado.**—An albino Thick-billed Red-wing (*Agelaius phoeniceus fortis*) was brought to the University of Colorado Museum by Mr. Dudley A. Degge. The specimen, a male, was taken two miles north of Boulder, Colorado, on October 17, 1942 (U.C.M. cat. no. 4208).

The bird is largely white, against which the brilliant shoulder marks, corresponding closely to Ridgway's "flame scarlet," stand out in lively contrast. There is a faint wash of "light salmon-orange" on the cheeks, front and sides of the throat, breast, belly, flanks, a small area on the rump, and the middle areas of the primaries and secondaries. The upper mandible is blackish, the lower mandible and legs are a dark horn color. The eyes, by examination of the dead bird, appear to have been pink.—HUGO G. RODECK, *University of Colorado Museum, Boulder, Colorado, October 29, 1942.*

**Further Notes on the Franklin Gull in the Pacific Northwest.**—New records of the Franklin Gull (*Larus pipixcan*) near Steilacoom, Pierce County, Washington, in the fall of 1942 closely parallel those of the previous year, when the species was first found to occur in this state. In 1941 a single bird of the year in progressive stages of the postjuvinal molt was seen at Waughop Lake on September 14, October 12, and October 25; it was collected (1009 JWS) on the latter date (Slipp, Murrelet, 23, 1942:18). Records for 1942 are: September 17, a single bird in juvenal plumage feeding with Bonaparte Gulls on Waughop Lake; September 20, a single juvenal-plumaged bird resting with California Gulls on a sand spit projecting into Puget Sound at the mouth of Chambers Creek (a large flock of Bonapartes near by on the same spit); October 29, two males completing the postjuvinal molt collected at Waughop Lake, one (1143 JWS) from a mixed flock of gulls resting on a mud-flat, the other (1144 JWS) from a dense flock of Bonapartes surface-feeding on a species of *Corixa* near the opposite shore. Other trips to these localities in the same period failed to reveal the presence of the species.

The plumage of all three specimens is similar and might be considered to represent the first winter plumage but for varying amounts of brown still remaining in the gray of the cervical and dorsal regions; the two 1942 skins retain less of this mottling than does the one collected in 1941, and they exhibit a further difference in the pronounced salmon-pink suffusion of the white ventral plumage from bill to vent. The latter condition is evanescent but is still apparent, after suds and gasoline washings, at the time of writing.

All three specimens were males of the year, fat and in good condition; they had been feeding almost exclusively on insect fare when taken. Authoritative determinations of the stomach contents of no. 1009, in per cent, have been published (*loc. cit.*) as follows: Coreidae 10, Pentatomidae 63, Corixidae 5, Araneida, trace, Ichneumonidae 20, and Chrysomelidae 2, with gravel representing an added 15. Cursory examinations of the stomach contents of the 1942 specimens have yielded the fol-

lowing results: no. 1143 (killed at 12:00 noon, P.S.T.), small quantity of unidentified small insect parts plus fragments of one larger insect (beetle?); no. 1144 (killed at 12:15 p.m., P.S.T.), seed of a muscatel grape, over a dozen chopped bits of live rubber up to 7 mm. in length, 2 entire specimens of *Cortixa* 7 to 8 mm. long plus many fragments, and an unidentified stiff, hyaline membrane, 11x9 mm.

The several recent autumnal occurrences of juvenal Franklin Gulls in the Pacific Northwest, at Okanagan Lake (Brooks, Condor, 44, 1942:33) and in the Puget Sound basin where the species was formerly unrecorded, suggest that a breeding colony may now be established somewhere to the north in interior British Columbia. From there fall migration routes could run southerly through the Okanogan-Columbia and Fraser-Puget Sound watersheds. An alternative hypothesis would interpret these occurrences as based on stragglers from some locality within the known breeding range of the species east of the Rocky Mountains. In these connections Cowan's June records (Occ. Papers British Columbia Prov. Mus., no. 1, 1939:33) at Swan Lake in the Peace River District of British Columbia should be borne in mind.—J. W. SLIPP, *Tacoma, Washington, November 11, 1942.*

**Behavior of Northern Phalarope with Young.**—Saturday, July 12, 1941, on St. Paul Island of the Pribilof group was characteristically dull and misty with a cold northerly wind. Driving along the road leading toward North East Point, we noticed over a couple of small ponds, known locally as the Cup and Saucer, a half dozen or so small birds darting about with almost swallow-like flight. These proved to be Northern Phalaropes (*Lobipes lobatus*), and a little search disclosed a young one in the short sedges along the shore of the larger pond. It was a tiny ball of tawny and black down with absurdly long black toothpicks of legs; it could not have been more than a day or two old. No other young was seen. The brighter parent, and hence presumably the female though it appeared somewhat the smaller of the two, showed great solicitude and hovered two feet above the outstretched hand if the young one was held out in it. When the hand was lowered to the ground, the parent would venture at times within a foot of it and continually hovered within four to six feet, only occasionally making a short flight farther away. It was surprising that the parent could hover almost in the same spot for several moments, almost like a hummingbird at a flower.

When the youngster was released at the edge of the water, the parent piloted it, swimming bravely over the wavelets, to a small sloping rock and at once settled down on the little fellow contentedly, although only about three feet from the whirring camera of my companion, Mr. Ben East of the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press. The adult seemed to realize that the youngster might be chilled by the cold wind, and after warming it up a bit led it off, although not at all hurriedly, through the vegetation along shore. Furthermore, when we returned in the afternoon with Mr. Eugene Stitt, mate of the *Penguin*, who also desired to get some pictures, we had no difficulty in finding the old bird with her young one at the same place and in getting them to repeat their performance, to be preserved on Kodachrome film.

The Northern Phalarope is reported to breed regularly in small numbers on the Pribilof Islands, Alaska. Young birds have been seen on several occasions, although apparently no nests with eggs have been reported.—LEON J. COLE, *University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, November 5, 1942.*

**Scott Oriole and Harris Sparrow in Central Utah.**—On May 17, 1942, I saw a Scott Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*) in my yard at Nephi, Juab County, Utah. It was an adult male in full breeding plumage. When first seen it flew into an apple tree within twenty or thirty feet of my kitchen window where it perched in the full sunlight, so that its lemon-yellow color with solid black head and back were plainly visible. There can be no mistake in the identification.

This bird is fairly common in the extreme southwestern corner of the state, where the Joshua tree "forest" much resembles its typical habitat in the southwestern deserts. On the other hand, the vegetation in the vicinity of Nephi consists largely of sagebrush and juniper.

A Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) also visited my yard in Nephi for a short time on March 15, 1942. It first appeared at a feeding shelf in the backyard, where it fed both on the shelf and on the ground with song sparrows and juncos. I watched it for a half hour at a distance of about forty feet. Later it flew to some chokecherry bushes at the west end of the yard, where I followed and approached within twenty feet and watched it for several minutes before it flew away. An hour later it returned and perched in the top of an apple tree where I had another good view of it in bright sunlight.

This bird was in typical winter plumage, except that the beginning of the spring molt was apparent in a small black patch at the base of the bill. It was typical of many thousands of this species which I have seen in Kansas and Missouri in former years. There are two or three other sight records of this bird in the Salt Lake City region.—W. S. LONG, *Coalville, Utah, November 15, 1942.*