

(June) male of *jewetti* has retained the winter plumage on the entire abdominal area; the other nine summer males and all four summer females show a complete prenuptial molt.

Grinnell, in connection with his original description of *salicamans* (Auk, 14, 1897:397), has previously emphasized the molt of southern California birds as compared with *tristis* of the East; significantly, also, he noted the browner coloration of an unstated number of Oregon and Washington specimens, although in accord with the recognition standards of a half-century ago he did not name them.

Specimens of *jewetti* have been examined from Vancouver Island, 4 (Comox); Washington, 10 (Seattle, Tacoma, Gray's Harbor, Clallam County); Oregon, 14 (Eagle Point, Ashland, Salem, Tillamook, Eddyville, Gold Beach). A midsummer, full-plumaged male from Humboldt County, California (Bishop coll.), is placed here on a presumptive basis. One hundred forty-seven specimens of *salicamans* have been examined from San Diego north to Fresno and Palo Alto in California. Evidence of an approach to *jewetti* is seen in the Palo Alto series of six specimens in the Los Angeles Museum.

My sincere thanks are due to Dr. Bishop and Mr. George Willett for unrestricted use of the collections at the Los Angeles Museum.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Dickey Collections, University of California, Los Angeles, March 12, 1943.*

White-tailed Kites in Santa Barbara County, California.—On the afternoon of November 15, 1942, I had the pleasure of seeing eighteen White-tailed Kites (*Elanus leucurus*). Most of them were in the lower Lompoc Valley within five miles of the ocean. All birds were counted from the main highway between Lompoc and Surf. Had time allowed, I have no doubt that several more could have been observed. With hardly an exception the birds were in pairs; in one instance four pairs were found in an area of not more than twenty acres which was surrounded by approximately 200 acres which were identical in topography and cover to the area of concentration. At least one other observation indicated a gregarious tendency apparently unassociated with any economic expediency.

The chief concentration was on level land on the floor of the valley one-half mile to two miles south of the Santa Ynez river. Formerly this region was cultivated, but at present it is a part of Camp Cooke, and the fields are covered with dry grass and occasional tall, dry weeds.

I also saw and had reported to me a few individual kites from the area two or three miles east of Lompoc. In eight years residence here I have previously seen only one or two pairs of White-tailed Kites in the lower valley, where they apparently nested.—DALE T. WOOD, *Lompoc, California, March 29, 1943.*

The Starling in Eastern Washington.—On March 20, 1943, four students in my ornithology class (Stanton Jamison, George Klemz, Warren Bischoff, and Stanley Smith) and I saw a group of five Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) along the road in Spring Flat, eight miles north of Pullman, Washington. The birds were feeding on the ground and were observed from a distance of forty feet. The identification, therefore, is accurate.—LEONARD WING, *Department of Zoology, State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington, April 16, 1943.*

A Partly White Red-winged Blackbird From the Willamette Valley of Oregon.—On January 17, 1943, I observed a mixed flock of Brewer and Red-winged blackbirds perched on a watering trough a few miles south of Corvallis, Oregon. One of the Red-wings (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) had just a tinge of buff at the bend of the wing, the rest of the body being black with the exception of a broad white strip down the center of the tail and white primaries. These snowy white areas showed up in contrast to the black body and buff patch on the wing. This is the first "partial albino" Red-wing known from this area.—FRED G. EVENDEN, JR., *Oregon State College, February 15, 1943.*

Some Birds Not Commonly Observed in Utah.—Because of the scarcity of authentic published records of the following species of birds in Utah, it seems appropriate to record their recent occurrence at or near the Bear River marshes in northern Salt Lake Valley, Box Elder County.

Anas rubripes. Black Duck. A male bird was collected on December 8, 1942, by Mr. W. M. Bransford of Salt Lake City who gave the bird to Mr. Vanez T. Wilson, Superintendent of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. A study skin was prepared by Dr. E. R. Quortrup. Close examination of this bird shows a trace of mallard ancestry, as evidenced by the slight amount of greenish coloration on the head. Dr. J. W. Aldrich, who also examined the bird, states that the speckled head and distinctly reddish feet suggest the northern race, *A. r. rubripes*.

Clangula hyemalis. Old-squaw. A male was observed at close range and later was seen flying over Unit 5 of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge near Perry, Utah, in December, 1942. One or

two birds had been observed at the refuge in previous winters, and 13 individuals were taken in the open hunting season of 1934.

Larus argentatus. Herring Gull. The Herring Gull is becoming a fairly common visitor to the Bear River marshes, although it was considered merely an accidental visitor to the State until about 1938. Since that time a dozen or more have been seen each year and a number of specimens have been taken. In June, 1915, at the mouth of the Bear River, Dr. Alexander Wetmore found the remains of a specimen that had died during the previous winter or spring. Despite three seasons of intensive work on the Bear River, Wetmore did not find a live bird. Most of our records refer to the spring or fall, but a few individuals have been noted throughout the winter, and at least one immature bird spent most of the summer of 1941 in the northern part of Salt Lake Valley. Since February 26, 1943, one or more birds have been observed almost daily on the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge.

Sturnus vulgaris. Starling. We regret to report that this unwelcome foreigner seems to be increasing rapidly in Utah. Between 75 and 100 birds were observed feeding on the glasswort (*Salicornia*) mud flats near the headquarters of the refuge on March 12, 1943. They have been observed by a number of the refuge personnel. If the birds become abundant and firmly established, this fruit-producing section of northern Utah will probably suffer as a result of their depredations.

Leucosticte tephrocotis littoralis. Hepburn Rosy Finch. On February 2, 1943, Williams and Jensen observed a flock of some 300 rosy finches—many of which were Hepburn—feeding on the foothills near Willard, Utah. Observation was made under favorable light conditions, at close range, and with the aid of good field glasses; there seems little chance for misidentification, but it is unfortunate that no specimens were taken.—CECIL S. WILLIAMS, G. HORTIN JENSEN, and CLARENCE COTTAM, *United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois, May 10, 1943.*

A Record of the Western Tree Sparrow in Southern California.—In the early days of ornithology in southern California, Riverside was a center of much activity. One of the vanguard of young collectors of that community was W. W. Price. His specimens became widely scattered through exchanges and a number of his "takes" have proved to have distinct significance. Notable was his record of a Yellow-green Vireo obtained in 1887 at Riverside (Price, *Auk*, 5, 1888:210).

Just recently come to light through the alertness of Brighton C. Cain of Oakland is a Western Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea ochracea*) taken by Price on February 7, 1888, at Riverside, California. The specimen presumably was brought to Oakland by Price, for he attended high school there. It was found in the collection of E. G. Mervin of that city who in 1936 gave his collection to the Oakland Boy Scouts; most of the birds were taken locally by Mr. Mervin and his brother in 1891 and 1892. Mervin told Cain that he had been greatly helped in starting his collection by Price.

The record specimen, now no. 87811 in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, bears a pink-stringed jeweller's label, on which is written in ink: "Riverside, Cala.," and on the opposite side, "Bells Sparrow ♀ W.W.P. 2-7-88"; the words "Bells Sparrow" are crossed out in pencil. The writing agrees well with samples of Price's handwriting of that period, especially with that on a label of a Yellow Warbler taken by him in April, 1888, at Riverside. Loye Miller, who was a schoolmate of Price's at the time, can adduce no evidence that would throw doubt on the authenticity of this specimen and its data. Identical jeweller's labels were used in that period by Price, and he would not have been expected to switch labels, although there is no absolute proof that such did not occur. Several common local species were misnamed by these young ornithologists and it is not surprising that the Tree Sparrow should have been called a Bell Sparrow.

This record is the first for the Tree Sparrow in southern California. The species has been reported six times from five localities in northern California, once as far south as Pacific Grove, Monterey County (Kimball, *Condor*, 24, 1922:97).—ALDEN H. MILLER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, April 23, 1943.*

Fungus Disease in a Glaucous-winged Gull.—On February 15, 1943, an immature (2 year old) male Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*) was obtained by Bolander on the shore of a pond near the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, California. Autopsy of this bird seemed to indicate it had been dead but a few hours. The lungs exhibited extensive lesions and were hardly more than a mass of greenish, powdery fungus surrounded by an irregular thin covering of recognizable lung tissue that was only paper-thick in some places. There were also tubercular-like lesions on the liver and heart. The clavicular, cervical, axillary and thoracic air sacs did not show definite lesions but contained an abundance of the green fungus. The fungus was grown on a corn meal-agar medium and determined to be *Aspergillus fumigatus*, a common cause of mycotic pneumonia in both wild and domestic birds. Davis and McClung (*Jour. Bact.*, 40, 1940:321-323) recently reported an outbreak of this disease in Herring Gulls about the harbor of Boston, Massachusetts, in which they estimated