

In early June, 1943, a minor flight of *Gryllus* was noted, unaccompanied by gulls; California Gulls normally are absent from the region in spring.

On September 3, 1943, five gulls were noted hawking over the shipyard in the dusk. As in the previous year, no insects could be seen from the ground. The number of gulls steadily increased, until September 16, when an estimated 400 were present. The weather on the 16th, 17th and 18th was unusually warm. About the same number of gulls was present on these three days. Crickets were seen in abundance, and other insects as well. Moths, crane flies and water beetles were most common. Two large water bugs (Belostombidae) were also noted. The black crickets, however, outnumbered all other insects and the gulls seemed to be feeding on them exclusively. A marked decrease in the number of gulls was apparent on September 19. Only about twenty were seen on the 21st. Two or three were seen every evening for a week thereafter, but no crickets were seen. The hawking of the gulls consisted of a steady flight at moderate speed, seemingly accomplished by movements principally of the terminal part of the wings. They occasionally swerved to left or right or dipped down to catch an insect, but most captures were made with an upward swoop followed by a return to the original flight level. Their flight continued long after complete darkness had fallen. The insects were doubtless made visible to them by the many brilliant lights of the shipyard. The gulls hunted in absolute silence.—WALTER W. DALQUEST, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, January 9, 1944.*

Notes on Some Birds Taken in Utah.—While conducting field work at St. George in southern Utah from October 5 to 25, 1937, fifty-three species and subspecies were collected. The following species appear to merit especial attention. One has seldom been reported whereas two are new additions to the State list.

Sialia mexicana occidentalis. Western Bluebird. There are few records of this bluebird from western and central Utah. A single male was taken from a flock of seven *Sialia mexicana bairdi*, the breeding form in Utah, on October 21, 1937, at Kanab, Utah. One male *S. m. occidentalis* was obtained 19 miles south of Moab, Utah (Behle, *Wilson Bull.*, 3, 1941:183).

Vermivora celata lutescens. Lutescent Orange-crowned Warbler. A Lutescent Warbler taken at St. George, Utah, on October 12, 1937, constitutes the first record for the State. The author reported *Vermivora celata celata* as a fall migrant in northeastern Utah and *Vermivora celata orestera* as the breeding form in the mountains of the Uinta Basin (Twomey, *Ann. Carnegie Mus.*, 28, 1942:341-490).

Anthus rubescens pacificus. Western Pipit. A male of this species was collected from a flock of twenty *Anthus rubescens alticola*, fifteen miles southeast of St. George, Utah, on October 19, 1937. This straggler is the first record of the Western Pipit for Utah.

Zonotrichia leucophrys oriantha. Oregon White-crowned Sparrow. Seventeen specimens from the Uinta Basin, Utah (Jensen; Paradise Park, Uinta Mountains; Bald Mountains; Heber), were identified as *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* (Twomey, *loc. cit.*). Since collecting a series of topotypical specimens of *Zonotrichia l. oriantha* from Barley Camp in the Warner Mountains, fourteen miles southwest of Adel, Oregon, the birds from the Uinta Basin have been found to be *Z. l. oriantha*. A comparison of measurements with breeding specimens of the eastern race failed to show any significant differences.

The Uinta specimens are identical with topotypical specimens of *oriantha* in being much paler (more grayish tan) over the dorsal surface, particularly the rump, back and nape, than the eastern race, *leucophrys*. This paleness is also pronounced over the breast and flanks. The rump of the Uinta birds has an olive shade that distinguishes them slightly from *oriantha* and *leucophrys*. The Uinta specimens must, therefore, be regarded as belonging to the western race, *Z. l. oriantha*. Miller (Condor, 43, 1941:262) in a recent study of this group makes the following statements about this race: "There seem to be good grounds for recognizing the race [*Z. l. oriantha*] if all eastern materials is as dark-colored as the specimens we have at hand. Close comparison of groups of breeding birds from the Cascades, Sierra Nevada, and Wallowa Mountains, Oregon, and Rocky Mountains of Wyoming and Utah, shows no differences between western populations."—ARTHUR C. TWOMEY, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, December 14, 1943.*

California Cuckoo Collected in Eastern Oregon.—In the "Birds of Oregon" (Gabrielson and Jewett, 1940:329-330), the California Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) is reported as uncommon in eastern Oregon, only three records being available at the time this book was published. Bendire first recorded cuckoos in 1876 as nesting along the Snake River, on the Oregon side. Since then cuckoos were recorded in 1896 and 1910 in southeastern Oregon.

On November 28, 1943, an adult California Cuckoo obligingly died in the writer's yard in La Grande, Oregon. The cuckoo was prepared as a museum specimen for the Eastern Oregon College collection.

The writer's record of an American Redstart family at La Grande (Condor, 44, 1942:282) was again verified this past summer, as redstarts were back at the Riverside Park again. Such records as these and the recent one of Catbirds nesting at the Malheur Refuge (Sooter, Condor, 45, 1943:234) indicate further possibilities for discovery of birds supposedly rare in this little known section of Oregon.—CHARLES W. QUAINANCE, *Eastern Oregon College, La Grande, Oregon, December 1, 1943.*

A Coastal Record of the Emperor Goose in California.—My attention was recently drawn to the presence of a specimen of an Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*) in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences (no. 43715, sex unknown), taken December 13, 1928, on Limantour Bay, Marin County, California, by Mr. Francis Coit. Although members of this species winter principally in the Aleutian Island area, a few individuals come as far south as central California where they usually occur in fresh-water situations. Heretofore the most southern known locality of occurrence for the Emperor Goose on salt water along the Pacific coast of North America has been Humboldt Bay, California, where it was recorded by Charles H. Townsend (Auk, 3, 1886:491) in the winter of 1884.—ROBERT T. ORR, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, December 21, 1943.*

Observations of California Pine Grosbeak at Southern Limit of Range.—On July 25, 1942, Dixon (Condor, 44, 1942:280) observed the California Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator californica*) "at a point $\frac{1}{4}$ mile above the junction of Evolution Creek with the South Fork of the San Joaquin River at an elevation of about 8900 feet, in Fresno County, California." In a later publication (Condor, 45, 1943:217) he states that this locality is the southernmost known record station for this grosbeak. Since records of the California Pine Grosbeak in the southern Sierra Nevada are rare, it may be of interest to give two additional locality records for it in Fresno County.

On September 3, 1939, I observed three individuals, two males and a female, at "Little Doris Lake," at an altitude of about 10,000 feet. This lakelet is shown, although not named, on the U.S.G.S. Kaiser Quadrangle (reprint of 1939) in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 19, Twp. 9 S., R. 27 E., M.D.M. The birds were seen for only a few minutes, but at such close range that identification was positive. Almost two years later, on July 7, 1941, a male and a female were seen at Dinkey Lake (sec. 7, Twp. 9 S., R. 27 E., M.D.M.) at an elevation of about 9200 feet. These birds were quite tame, and remained close to our camp for several hours. The male was in full red plumage, as were those seen in 1939.

Both "Little Doris" and Dinkey Lake are about 15 miles (air line) west and a little south of Dixon's locality.—WILLIAM A. DILL, *California Division of Fish and Game, Fresno, California, January 25, 1944.*

Shower-bathing in the Rain.—On December 20, 1943, while looking out the window enjoying one of our first showers after the long drought of summer and autumn, my attention was drawn to the odd movements of a Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*). The hour was noon and the air temperature 48° F. The bird was excited by the influence of the shower. Presently it flew up into a small denuded soft maple tree. Here it grasped the larger twigs firmly and crouching down, spread its wing and tail feathers horizontally in apparent enjoyment of the falling rain drops. The feathers of the head, neck and body did not seem to be involved in the process; but the wing and tail feathers were in almost constant motion. First the wing and then the tail would fan out, alternating, in rapid horizontal flutterings; the motions continuing for a full five minutes. Although previously we had had a few showers in the night, this was our first daytime shower of any consequence for some months; it appeared to stimulate the bird, and the raindrops of medium-to-large size, falling vertically, and gently, without driving influence of wind, seemed unusually suited to the bird's needs and probably called up experiences of other first winter rains in the desert. Suddenly, with but slight indication of its intent, the mocker darted away into the evergreen foliage of a near-by camphor tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and was lost to view.—WILLIAM T. SHAW, *Fresno, California, December 30, 1943.*

A Correction of Identification of Sandpipers.—Three specimens collected and identified by A. C. Lloyd as *Ereunetes pusillus* and deposited in the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada, were reported by me from the Uinta Basin, Utah (Ann. Carnegie Mus., 28, 1942:394). Recently these birds were identified by Mr. L. L. Snyder as *Ereunetes mauri*.—ARTHUR C. TWOMEY, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1943.*