

Bull. 191, 1946:73; Bailey, Birds of New Mexico, 1928:474). The action of the ~~hunted bird seems~~ entirely in accord with such movements, since the banding station is at 5500 feet; ~~and the recovery~~ area was reported as about 8500 feet, pine-juniper-oak association, on the eastern slope of the Manzano Mountains. But other circumstances mark this flight as peculiar. Mountainair is almost exactly 400 air-line miles south-southwest of Boulder. But a flight in this direction would have to lead across the Sangre de Cristo range at an elevation of 12,500 feet; more probably the bird would follow an arc along the mountain front and cover a total minimum distance of 450 miles.—JOHN N. HOUGH, *Boulder, Colorado, February 1, 1949.*

Brood Size in the Barn Owl.—The accompanying tabulation summarizes the numbers of young of the Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) that I have observed in 87 nests of this species at Escondido, San Diego County, California, from 1928 to 1946, inclusive. This record includes 12 fledglings that escaped before I could band them.

Young in nest	Frequency
1	3
2	9
3	11
4	28
5	18
6	14
7	4

The 366 young noted represent an average of 4.2 young per nest. In some years the annual mean was as high as 4.6 (10 nests in 1933) and as low as 3.3 (11 nests in 1934). If equally striking fluctuations were present in this region in other years, they were masked by the small size of the sample annually studied. I am indebted to Dr. J. J. Hickey for assistance in the analysis of data.—FRED N. GALLUP, *Escondido, California, February 5, 1949.*

Mating of Wild and Pinioned Canada Geese.—Mr. Roy Nichols, a rancher near Davenport, Lincoln County, Washington, has been raising Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) from stock obtained originally from game dealers, and to this stock he has recently added individuals from the eastern United States, probably of the race *B. c. canadensis*. Locally a few Canada Geese nest, and thousands of them migrate through this section of the state.

In the spring of 1948, Mr. Nichols had one male and four females, all pinioned, when, on March 24, 1948, eight wild Canada Geese, presumably *B. c. moffitti*, landed among his pinioned stock and remained with them throughout the night. The following day seven of the wild birds left; a large gander remained and mated with a two-year old goose. For a time the gander was quite "wild" but gradually he became more accustomed to Mr. Nichols. This pair nested near a small marsh near his barn, placing the nest in the open along a woven-wire fence. They brought forth four young on May 20 and these were raised successfully. According to Mr. Nichols, this is the first time that he has ever had wild Canada Geese mate with his pinioned stock although wild birds have occasionally been "decoyed in" by his birds during migration.

He reports further that the pinioned geese called in what seemed to be a very distressed manner when the eight wild birds flew from his barnyard on the evening of March 24 and were able to cause the wild birds to return and stay for the evening. He had never heard geese call in such a manner throughout the years that he has had Canada Geese. The gander that stayed with his flock mated immediately with the two-year old goose and has never left the vicinity of the ranch buildings since the first evening that the wild birds remained with his pinioned geese. He has been able to get the gander into his chicken house by herding in the entire flock.—CHARLES F. YOCOM, *Department of Zoology, State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington, October 28, 1948.*

The Franklin Gull in Oregon.—During the past few years rumors of the occurrence of Franklin Gulls in east-central Oregon have reached me. In discussing this matter last spring with John C. Scharff he assured me that a number of these birds had been nesting on the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in the past few years. Recently I received a frozen specimen of *Larus pipixcan* and a photograph of a nest and three eggs of this species from Dr. Ray C. Erickson. This specimen, an



Fig. 31. Nest of Franklin Gull at Malheur Refuge, Oregon, June 7, 1948.

adult female with the characteristic bare incubation patch of a nesting bird, was taken on the south part of the Malheur Refuge on May 26, 1947. The nest was built of hardstem bulrush and was floating in about four feet of water. The three eggs were incubated from four to seven days when collected by Dr. Erickson on June 7, 1948. According to Erickson, in 1947 there were 75 to 100 Franklin Gulls living on Malheur Lake, presumably nesting residents. The principal concentration was found in a large, fairly dense stand of hardstem bulrush about one and one-half miles west and north of the trapper's cabin on Cole Island Dike. Very few of these gulls were seen on any other part of the Refuge.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, February 1, 1949*,

Townsend Solitaire in the Coast Range of Oregon.—Gabrielson and Jewett (*Birds of Oregon, 1940:480-481*) record the Townsend Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) as a permanent resident that breeds in the Cascade and Blue mountains and note that it straggles more or less regularly to western Oregon after the breeding season. Several fall, winter and early spring records for western Oregon then follow, and mention is also made of manuscript notes in the files of the Biological Survey, which include a record for Wilson River, Tillamook County, on June 27, 28, 1897 (A. K. Fisher). In the light of more recent observations the lateness of this date is significant.

On July 7, 1942, a solitaire was seen by Kenneth M. Walker on Mary's Peak, in Benton County. On July 15, 1944, I collected a female solitaire at 3100 feet elevation on Mount Hebo, Tillamook County, and on June 18, 1945, a male with enlarged gonads was taken at the same place. On a trip to the top of Saddle Mountain, in Clatsop County, on May 3, 1947, a solitaire was seen by Wesley Batterson and myself. On July 8, 1947, Mr. Batterson saw an adult solitaire feeding a spotted young, 7 miles northwest of Jewel, in Clatsop County, and on July 16 he collected a young bird in the spotted plumage on the divide between Wilson River and the north fork of the Trask River, 12 miles east of Tillamook. This bird is now a study skin in my collection. On June 5, 1948, Peter P. Walker, Jr., took me to the nest of a solitaire he had discovered well up on the side of the hill above Wilson River, near the mouth of Cedar Creek, 16 miles northeast of Tillamook, in the desolate Tillamook burn. No green timber of any sort is found in this area, only dead trees, both standing and fallen, nor is there any brush or other low growth. The nest was situated in a slight cavity in the earth left clinging to the upturned roots of a large fallen tree. The loosely made structure of rootlets and grass stems was partly supported by the roots of the tree and contained four eggs, incubation of which was well started. Since the nest was in the direct path of logging operations under way to salvage some of the dead timber and would have been destroyed in a few days, it was photographed and collected. From the foregoing observations we may conclude that the Townsend Solitaire is probably a regular, though uncommon, breeding bird in the Coast Range of western Oregon.—ALEX. WALKER, *Tillamook, Oregon, March 15, 1949*.