

**The Nesting Span in the Southern Willamette Valley, Oregon.**—Gullion in his *Birds of the Southern Willamette Valley, Oregon* (Condor, 53, 1951:129-149) bases the dates given for the breeding season on the earliest observed nest building at one end of the season and, at the other, observations of fledglings incompletely feathered or being cared for by their parents. This method ought to result in a considerably greater spread of dates for the season than the method of taking into account only eggs or young found in the nest. Actually he reports a season that is for many birds either shorter or later than egg dates reported for them in neighboring Pacific Coast areas both to the north and south.

For example, his dates for the Western Tanager are June 6 to 19 (so short a period as not to cover a single nesting), whereas Gabrielson and Jewett in the *Birds of Oregon* (1940) mention eggs taken in the southern Cascades from May 13 to June 27. They say the species begins to build its nest soon after its arrival in Oregon in late April. I saw fully fledged young of this tanager being fed on July 27, 1951, in the valley, close to Eugene.

Gullion gives nesting spans for eight warblers known to nest regularly in the area, beginning of course with nesting activity before egg-laying. A check shows that for seven of these eight, earlier dates than his are reported for eggs both by Gabrielson and Jewett (1940) and (at various localities in Washington and California) by Chapman in *The Warblers of North America* (1907). For most of the warblers Gullion's first-of-season dates are later by a month or more than a month; for one warbler they are later by more than two months. This discrepancy is doubtless due to a relative lack of observational data for the southern Willamette Valley as compared with regions more thickly populated with bird observers.

For the other end of the warbler breeding season, Gullion's dates also run consistently later (as they might be expected to do) than those given by Gabrielson and Jewett and by Chapman.

I can offer some additional records, all from observations made in the year 1951, which will somewhat extend for a few birds the recorded season in the southern Willamette Valley.

**Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*).** A completed clutch of three eggs was found on June 10. These were discovered on a second attempt to find the nest days after I had become certain that the nest was in a certain blackberry thicket. The three young birds flew from the nest together when I approached it on July 1 and, I believe, did not return to it at all. I am inclined to believe that nesting activity by chats often begins early in June here.

**Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*).** A nest of this year's building first noticed on June 5 contained a full clutch of three eggs when visited a second time on June 10.

**Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*).** Adults were still bringing food to a nest box on the morning of July 24.—C. R. B. COMBELLACK, *Eugene, Oregon, September 13, 1951.*

**The Robin Nesting at Santa Barbara, California.**—In the latter part of May and early June, 1951, a pair of Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) were seen in Alameda Park in the center of the city of Santa Barbara, California. On June 27, 1951, Mr. E. C. Jacot, who lives near the park, reported seeing the adults feeding young birds on the park lawn. Mr. W. G. Abbott and I investigated this report on June 28, and found a pair of adult Robins feeding grown young.

Both adults were caring for the young which were scattered through the trees so that it was difficult to determine just how many individuals were present. We saw three speckled-breasted Robins and there seemed to be another, but we could not find it.

According to Grinnell and Miller (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:353*), the Robin has never been recorded nesting in the Santa Barbara region.—EGMONT Z. RETT, *Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, July 16, 1951.*

**Robin Breeding in San Diego, California.**—Looking out of my dining room window at 7 a.m. on July 16, 1951, at San Diego, California, I was astonished to identify an adult Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) and one spotted-breasted young feeding on the well watered lawn. The following weekend on July 22 my husband and I watched four Robins on the lawn of the Rancho Santa Fe Inn twenty miles north of San Diego. Two of them were immature.

Mr. Laurence Huey of the San Diego Natural History Museum and Dr. James Crouch of San Diego State College assure me that these are the first records of nesting Robins at low altitudes in San Diego County.—GERTRUDE H. MEAD, *San Diego, California, September 9, 1951.*