

of the egg. Both embryos were perfectly formed and one was only slightly smaller than the other."

I have no doubt that twins hatch more frequently than these four records indicate. In cases where twins do hatch, individual marking, and later banding, of the nestlings would enable one to gather data on the viability of the twins. Observers working on life histories where daily visits are made to nests obviously have the best opportunity to add to our knowledge of this subject.—ANDREW J. BERGER, *Department of Anatomy, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, September 29, 1952.*

Wilson Phalaropes as Commensals.—Though a few species of birds such as Frigate Birds and Bald Eagles are well known for their parasitism on other birds, Wilson Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) has not been previously reported, so far as I know, as a species whose food on occasion was provided through efforts of another species. On September 5, 1951, near Olmita, in southernmost Texas, I noticed about 50 Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) and 400 Wilson Phalaropes feeding in a large, shallow pond. The water was of such a depth that the Avocets could wade, but the phalaropes, with their shorter legs, had to swim. Evidently the feet of the Avocets were stirring up food from the bottom. Each Avocet was accompanied by, or sometimes completely surrounded by, a small cluster of swimming phalaropes, all excitedly pushing and crowding the Avocets and one another as they snatched at the food floating up from the bottom. Each of the Avocets was providing food for at least a few phalaropes, and one Avocet was providing for no less than 46. The Avocets did not seem to object to the robbery, if that is what it was, or to the crowding. No bird struck another except accidentally in the scramble, and there were no quarrels or fights.—GEORGE G. WILLIAMS, *The Rice Institute, Houston, Texas, November 25, 1952.*

Dipper Eaten by Brook Trout.—Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 195, 1948:111) lists the water snake and several stream-frequenting mammals as predators of the Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*). I identified the partly digested remains of a fledgling bird of this species from the stomach of a male brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) caught by W. V. Woodbury at Hunter Creek, Washoe County, Nevada, in July, 1945. The Dipper was tightly compressed into the stomach, and the approximate size of the bird at the time of the capture by the fish could not be judged. The trout was merely ten inches long, but it was capable of the predation by use of its relatively cavernous mouth. Mortality of this type could be high among Dippers on streams where the bird is closely associated with large fishes.—NED K. JOHNSON, *University of Nevada Museum of Biology, Reno, Nevada, November 3, 1952.*

Notes on the Red Crossbills of the Uinta and Wasatch Mountains, Utah.—Indications are that Utah is an area where several races of the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) meet (Woodbury, Condor, 41, 1939:162, and Behle, Condor, 46, 1944:84). An understanding of the geographic distribution of the races is complicated by the irregular breeding habits and erratic wanderings of this species. The situation in the Uinta Mountains in northeastern Utah illustrates these features.

Twomey (Ann. Carnegie Mus., 28, 1942:464) found breeding crossbills at Green Lake, Daggett County, during June-July, 1937, and obtained 23 specimens, which were referred to *benti*. Of these, he listed nine showing certain characteristics of *grinnelli*. Also, a series (Zoology Museum of Brigham Young University) from Lost Lake, Uinta Mountains, August, 1940, was identified by Ludlow Griscom as *benti*.

In 1950, I collected a new series as follows: 26 specimens at Lake Fork Mountain, 10,000 feet, 32 miles north of Duchesne, Duchesne County, June 17-20, and three at Timothy Creek, 7,500 feet, 10 miles north of Altonah, Duchesne County, June 23-25. These specimens were deposited in the Museum of Zoology of the University of Utah (U.U.M.Z.). At Lake Fork Mountain the birds occurred in the Engelmann spruce-alpine fir forest, while those at Timothy Creek frequented stands of yellow pine.

Despite the time of year, these birds were not breeding. Rather, they occurred in large flocks composed of adults and juveniles, were moderately to very fat, and had gonads which were in a reduced condition. The left testis of 19 fully adult and first-year adult males averaged 1.5 mm. in length, and the average diameter of the ovary of seven adult females was 3 mm. One male and one female of the series are in striped juvenal plumage. Both had a large transparent area in the roof of the braincase.

The adult females and several fully adult and first-year males were molting, having one to four fully grown new or ensheathed primaries and patches of new feathers on the head. Other parts of the plumage showed considerable wear and fading. Each adult female had a brood-patch, but the skin in that area was only slightly edematous. These data suggest that the birds had nested earlier in the year.

According to Tordoff (Condor, 54, 1952:200-203), fully adult males in red plumage differ from red first-year males in having the edgings of the remiges and rectrices pinkish instead of greenish. Using this distinction, it was possible to identify eight fully adult and four first-year adult males among the 17 red males in my series. The remaining six have these edgings so worn and faded that it is impossible to determine their original hue. Two other males are in xanthochroistic plumage.

As a series these crossbills were assigned to *bendirei* with which race they agree in average length of wing and depth of bill. This opinion was shared by Ludlow Griscom, to whom they were later submitted. As regards length of culmen, however, they average a bit too long for "good" *bendirei* and approach the size of either *benti* or *grinnelli* (table 1). Their connection with *benti* seems to be ruled out by the fact that none of the males has the rosier coloration characteristic of that race (Griscom, Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., 41, 1937:129). One first-year adult male (U.U.M.Z. 10800) is exceedingly small and approaches the size of *sitkensis* (table 1). It is, nevertheless, probably best considered an extreme variant of the population represented by the other birds of the series. One other example of *bendirei* from the Uinta Mountain area is a male (U.U.M.Z. 10069) taken from a cottonwood tree 3 miles south of Vernal, Uintah County, June 18, 1949.

Table 1
Measurements of *Loxia curvirostra* in Millimeters

Males—	Number	Age	Wing	Tail	Bill depth	Culmen
<i>Loxia c. bendirei</i> ¹			86.5–94		9.0–10.5	15.0–18.5
Wasatch Mts. (July, 1949)	1	?	92.2	56.8	10.2	18.0
Uinta Mts. (June, 1950)	8	ad.	92.7	55.0	10.0	18.0
“ “ “ “	3	f.y.	(89.4–95.7)	(52.8–57.6)	(9.1–10.5)	(16.7–18.8)
“ “ “ “	1	f.y. ²	92.0	53.7	9.4	18.3
“ “ “ “	5	?	(90.2–93.2)	(51.4–56.9)	(9.2–9.6)	(17.9–18.7)
“ “ “ “	1	f.y.	83.8	50.2	8.2	15.0
“ “ “ “	5	?	93.9	55.0	9.8	18.3
“ “ (Sept, 1950)	1	f.y.	(91.5–97.3)	(53.1–57.5)	(9.5–10.0)	(17.9–18.9)
<i>Loxia c. grinnelli</i> ¹			92.0–97.5		10.3–11.5	17.5–19.0
Females—						
Uinta Mts. (June, 1950)	8	ad.	90.0	53.2	9.8	18.2
“ “ (Sept., 1950)	1	ad.	(87.2–93.1)	(49.0–56.7)	(9.3–11.0)	(16.8–19.1)
“ “ (Sept., 1950)	1	ad.	98.5	60.1	11.1	18.7

¹ Griscom (*op. cit.*:139)

² Variant resembling *sitkensis*.

In view of the foregoing, it is noteworthy that a pair of Red Crossbills, probably breeding, taken in the Uinta Mountains in a yellow pine forest at Hideout Canyon, 9,000 feet, Daggett County, September 13, 1950 (three months after I had collected the first series), are typical *grinnelli* both as regards size and coloration (table 1). The left testis of the male, which is a first-year adult, measured 5 mm. in length, and the oviduct of the female contained a 10 mm. egg. Several other crossbills were seen near Hideout Canyon on the same date.

Incidentally, while Red Crossbills are frequently of common occurrence in the Uinta Mountains, they are rare in the neighboring Wasatch Mountains in the north-central part of the state. As far as I am aware, only one specimen has been reported from that area, namely an example of *bendirei* from Logan Canyon, Cache County, March 25, 1933 (Stanford, Proc. Utah Acad. Sci., Arts and Letters, 51, 1948:144). I obtained an adult male in the Engelmann spruce-alpine fir forest at Silver Lake Post Office (Brighton), 10,018 feet, Salt Lake County, on July 19, 1949. The left testis was 4 mm. long.

The specimen is an xanthochroistic example of the race *bendirei*.—ROBERT K. SELANDER, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, November 20, 1952.*

American Golden-eye in Sonora, Mexico.—While on a collecting trip during the month of February, 1951, I observed a pair of American Golden-eyes (*Bucephala clangula*) on a small lagoon three miles north of Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico. These birds swam about on this lagoon for the 10 days that we camped at Guaymas, and we had abundant opportunity to observe them. This species is not listed by van Rossem in his distributional survey of Sonoran birds (Occ. Papers Mus. Zool., Louisiana State Univ., no. 21, 1945).—ERNEST S. BOOTH, *Walla Walla College, College Place, Washington, April 30, 1952.*

Additional Bird Records from Southern Nevada.—The following records are noteworthy in as much as they either add to the list of native birds known to occur in Nevada or add distributional information on species rarely recorded from Nevada.

Mountain Plover (*Eupoda montana*).—Supplementing an earlier record (Gullion, Condor, 54, 1952:204) is an observation of a single bird of this species flushed from the shoulder of U. S. Highway 95 about nine miles southeast of Beatty, Nye County, on October 1, 1952. It was accompanied by a smaller, unidentified shore-bird.

Inca Dove (*Scardafella inca*).—On October 17, 1952, I saw a dove of this species in the center of Logandale, Clark County. It was not possible to attempt to collect this bird, but prolonged observation at very close range left no doubt as to the species identification. This dove has not been reported from Nevada previously.

Ground Dove (*Columbigallina passerina*).—On November 21, 1952, a dove of this species was collected in an *Atriplex lentiformis-Prosopis juliflora* (quailbrush-honey mesquite) thicket, at 1800 feet elevation, about four miles east of Las Vegas, Clark County. This specimen, a male, is now number 126599 in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California. This species has not been reported from Nevada previously.

This dove was foraging on the ground and its crop contained approximately 2640 (1.3 cc.) seeds of a small-seeded *Amaranthus* (pigweed); 150 (0.3 cc.) seeds of *Sphaeralcea* sp. (globe-mallow); and nine seeds of *Amaranthus albus*.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*).—A second record for the state of Nevada is based upon an immature plumaged (but with double-layered skull) male taken in a quail trap with a dozen or so White-crowned Sparrows east of Las Vegas on November 25, 1952. This specimen is now number 126608 in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. It was an exceedingly fat bird.—GORDON W. GULLION, *Nevada Fish and Game Commission, Boulder City, Nevada, November 30, 1952.*

The Breeding Distribution of *Chordeiles minor* in Mexico.—At the time of Oberholser's revision of the subspecies of *Chordeiles minor* in 1914 (Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., 86), the southernmost known limits of the continental breeding range of this species were based on a specimen of *henryi* from Babicora, central-western Chihuahua, collected on June 21, 1902, and examples of *aserriensis* from Matamoros, extreme northeastern Tamaulipas, taken August 15 and 23, 1908. In the "Distributional Check-list of the Birds of Mexico. Part I" (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 29, 1950:153), Friedmann, Griscom, and Moore extended the known breeding range of *henryi* south to Nombre de Dios, southern Durango. More recently two breeding birds were reported by Webster and Orr (Condor, 54, 1952: 310) from southern Durango (5 miles east of Cerro Prieto, and 29 miles west-northwest of Ciudad Durango; specimens examined at the California Academy of Sciences through the courtesy of Dr. Robert T. Orr).

Evidence is now at hand which indicates that the species breeds much farther south on the mainland of México than was formerly supposed. Dr. Alden H. Miller (MS) noted this species on July 1, 1952, in a tropical forest region 6 miles east of Nuevo Morelos, 1,600 feet, southwestern Tamaulipas. Warner and Mengel (Wilson Bull., 63, 1951:292) reported seeing and hearing *C. minor* every evening from July 15 to 28, 1942, over Boca del Río, Veracruz. An immature female collected there on July 23 was tentatively referred to *aserriensis* by Dr. Wetmore. Warner and Mengel also cited a reference in Loetscher's unpublished thesis "Ornithology of the Mexican State of Veracruz"