

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Toxostoma ocellatum and Diglossa baritula in Hidalgo.—At the invitation of Sr. and Sra. Carlos Sánchez Mejorada, Jr., Mrs. Newman and I had the pleasure of spending the night of June 4 and the morning of June 5, 1949, at the Hacienda Velasco, in the village of Omitlán, in southern Hidalgo, México. Since Omitlán is only four miles in an airline northeast of Real del Monte, a famous type locality and the scene of much intensive bird collecting over the years, it seemed unlikely that we should encounter much of novelty in so short a time. To our surprise, however, we succeeded in taking, in the near vicinity and within the space of four hours, two species for which there is no previous published record in the state.

Omitlán is a dusty little village situated at an elevation of 7400 feet in an arid gap between high mountains. But behind the high walls of the Hacienda, the growth is green and luxuriant. Beneath towering eucalyptus trees, swarming with hummingbirds, flower-bordered walks thread their way through well-tended gardens, past walls overgrown with climbing vines. On such a wall, within twenty feet of the house, I discovered a small slate-gray and russet bird fitting in the English ivy like a warbler. Upon collection, it proved to be an adult male Mexican Diglossa (*Diglossa baritula baritula*). Later on the same morning, I shot a second specimen from a small tree on the grounds, also a male but not in fully adult plumage.

Although the state of Hidalgo is not included in the range of the species as stated in current works, the Diglossa is of more than casual occurrence in the small area of immured greenery furnished by the Hacienda. Sr. Sánchez, who is a keen observer of birds and a longtime student of the fauna of the region, informed me that he has seen it in the garden on at least five previous occasions. Comparison of our two specimens with material in the United States National Museum has shown that the Omitlán birds are assignable to the nominate race.

On a trip with Sr. Sánchez that same day to the top of El Zumate, a 10,000-foot peak on the outskirts of the village, we secured a male Ocellated Thrasher (*Toxostoma ocellatum*). In contrast to the valley below, the slopes of the mountain are heavily wooded; and at the 9000-foot level there are small bushy clearings bordered by forests of conifers. The thrasher was shot at the edge of one of these open places, about forty feet above the ground in the branches of a fir. A second individual, possibly its mate, escaped. The large, heavily-spotted Ocellated Thrasher is a rather uncommon bird in collections, previously taken only in the states of México, Puebla, and Oaxaca.

All three specimens mentioned are now in the Museum of Zoology at Louisiana State University. I am indebted to Sr. and Sra. Sánchez for the hospitality shown us and to Dr. Alexander Wetmore and Dr. Herbert Friedmann of the United States National Museum for access to the comparative material in collections under their care.—ROBERT J. NEWMAN, *Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, April 27, 1954.*

Willet Nesting in the Central Sierra Nevada, California.—There are no records, as far as I know, of the Willet, *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*, nesting in California south of Plumas County. Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:145) say: "Strangely, there appear to be few records of this wader, even as a transient, for points in California east of Sierran divides and south of Plumas County." Consequently it is worth reporting that on May 31, 1954, Celeste Kirsher discovered a brooding bird at the south end of Lake Tahoe, Eldorado County. The nest was in the open on a sand spit south of Pope Beach. So reluctant was the bird to leave the nest that it permitted itself to be gently rolled to one side while the two eggs were examined, and it allowed its wing to be slightly extended to reveal the distinguishing black and white pattern. Both adults were seen in the area on June 27. On July 3, however, the nest was found deserted. Only one egg contained an embryo. The eggs were brought to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and compared with Willet eggs in its collection.

It should be added that during the past two years, 1952 and 1953, Willets have been observed in this area during the breeding season.—WILLIAM K. KIRSHER, *Sacramento, California, July 6, 1954.*

Another Record of the Painted Redstart in Southern California.—The Painted Redstart (*Setophaga picta*) has been recorded previously from southern California four times (see Thornburgh, Condor, 55, 1953:318). Moreover, all have been winter records. The earliest fall record was Septem-

ber 26, 1943, and the latest spring record was March 21, 1944. On December 28, 1953, a Painted Redstart was observed in Mill Creek Canyon, San Bernardino Mountains, by a group taking the Audubon Christmas Bird Count. This bird had been seen about a week before at the same spot by some of the same observers. A Painted Redstart was also present at the same spot in the winter of 1952, as it was seen by two observers on December 14, 1952, and reported to me the same day.

The 1953 record comes from an elevation of about 3600 feet, at the junction of Mill Creek with Mountain Home Creek. The dominant vegetation is alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) and western sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*) with a thick understory of various vines and shrubs, principally blackberry (*Rubus vitifolius*) and California bay (*Umbellularia californica*). The redstart foraged in the shrubbery and on alder trunks where it drank sap from a series of excavations made by Sapsuckers (*Sphyrapicus varius*). The bird appeared at about the same time that wintering Audubon Warblers and other summer residents of the surrounding higher mountains appeared at the lower elevations. —JOHN D. GOODMAN, *Biology Department, University of Redlands, Redlands, California, March 24, 1954.*

Additional and New Bird Records for Utah.—During the past few years, specimens of birds not mentioned in the two check-lists of the birds of Utah (Behle, Condor, 46, 1944:67-87; and Woodbury, Cottam and Sugden, Bull. Univ. Utah, 39, 1949:1-40) and also additional specimens of birds relatively uncommon in Utah have been collected in the northern part of the state. Data extending the ranges of two species are also given here. Acknowledgments are made to William H. Behle, University of Utah, and Howard Knight, Weber College, for the use of data from specimens in their respective institutions. I am grateful to Herbert Friedmann and Gorman M. Bond of the United States National Museum for the identification of some of the specimens listed here. Thanks are given to Angus M. Woodbury for the use of Woodbury, Cottam and Sugden's unpublished manuscript on the birds of Utah and to William G. Denzer, Harold J. Egoscue and M. Raymond Lee for the collection of specimens listed below. Specimens for which no collector is mentioned were taken by the writer. Specimens not otherwise designated are located in the University of Utah Museum of Zoology. Other specimens mentioned are at Weber College (WC) and Utah State Agricultural College (USAC).

Lophortyx gambelii gambelii. Gambel Quail. On May 13, 1952, an adult female Gambel Quail was collected from a small covey along the Green River at about 4100 feet, near the town of Green River, Emery County. The presence of a full sized egg in the oviduct of this specimen suggests that it was probably nesting. Woodbury *et al.* (*op. cit.*:11) list Wayne County as the northern extremity of the range of the Gambel Quail in eastern Utah. The present data indicate that this species is a resident at least as far north as Green River, Emery County (40 to 60 miles north of Wayne County). It is possible that this species has followed northward along Green River where the most suitable habitat appears to be adjacent to rivers and streams.

Otus flammeolus flammeolus. Flammulated Owl. One more specimen added to the several known from the state is a male found freshly killed on the highway near the mouth of Ogden Canyon, 4425 feet, Weber County, on May 26, 1950, by M. Raymond Lee (WC).

Colaptes auratus luteus. Yellow-shafted Flicker. In his check-list for Utah, Behle (*op. cit.*:76) added this woodpecker to the state-list on the basis of a sight record (Grater, Condor, 45, 1943:76) and stated that it may have been a hybrid with *Colaptes cafer*. Woodbury *et al.* (*op. cit.*:19) do not list this flicker, but do list a "Hybrid Flicker *Colaptes cafer* x *auratus*." Behle and Selander (Wilson Bull., 64, 1952:28) recorded an adult male specimen from Salt Lake County, which they stated was closer to *C. a. luteus* on the basis of a scarlet nuchal band and a predominantly yellow lining of the wings and tail, the color of which was actually intermediate between the two species. Other characteristics, such as the gray color of the throat and neck and the red malar stripes were typical of *C. c. collaris*. An adult female flicker captured October 14, 1953, in a wooden building at the south end of the Cedar Mountains, Tooele County, shows even greater affinities to *C. auratus*. This specimen has a brown throat and neck which shows a slight grayish cast, probably an influence of *C. c. collaris*, and a gray crown with a fully developed nuchal band. The feathers on the breast are more tan in color showing less influence of red. The lining of the wings and tail are predominantly yellow, yet the shafts of the feathers are orange, indicating intergradation with *C. c. collaris*. A male specimen of *C. a. luteus* mounted in a life-like pose by Wayne L. Burton, an amateur taxidermist, was collected at Syracuse, Davis County, early in December, 1946 (WC). This specimen shows no indica-