

Some Corrections and Additions to the New A. O. U. Check-List.—

The following are some corrections and additions to the recent (1931) fourth edition of the A. O. U. Check-List:

Page 25. Man-o'-war-bird. (*Fregata magnificens*). Breeds on different keys in Monroe County in different years, and has for over ten years to my knowledge, on Bird Key, outside of the railway trestle, in 1931.

Page 31. American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). Breeds in Dade County, southern Florida.

Page 67. Insular Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus extimus*). The range as given, Florida Keys, is very inaccurate, for it breeds only sparingly on the keys, and commonly on the mainland, as far northward as a line across the state from Palm Beach to Fort Myers. Above that line, breeding birds are nearer *B. l. alleni* than *extimus*.

Page 68. Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). Florida range, given as "casual", should be changed to "a regular migrant".

Page 72. Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonius*). This bird breeds sparingly in Dade County, southern Florida.

Page 77. Little Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius paulus*). True typical *paulus* breeds in Florida only north to a line across the state north of Lake Okeechobee; above that it intergrades with *F. s. sparverius*.

Page 101. Mexican Jacana (*Jacana spinosa gymnostoma*). The Check-List questions the subspecific identity of C. B. Cory's record of this bird. My father, the late H. B. Bailey, recorded a Jacana seen on his trip, by skiff, from Kissimee to Fort Myers, in March, 1911. (See "Birds of Florida", page 59). Any field identification given by him, especially of such a bird as this, can be relied upon, for few men had his faculty for identifying birds correctly in the field, and his notes were never questioned.

Page 114. Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*). This species should have been given as breeding in Florida, where I have taken the downy young. ("Birds of Florida", page 54).

Page 134. Franklin's Gull (*Larus pipixcan*). Winters from Florida Bay and the Gulf Coast of Florida southward.

Page 151. White-crowned Pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*). This pigeon has been a regular breeder on several of the smaller keys in Florida Bay for many years, and also on main Key Largo (1930-31), it is a regular winter resident on the mainland in Monroe County, where it comes for the hardwood native berries and food similar to that which is to be found on the keys.

Page 152. Scaled Pigeon (*Columba squamosa*). The two records as given from Key West, were undoubtedly escaped caged birds brought over from Cuba by the tobacco workers, as were several other varieties of Cuban doves.

Page 154. Ringed Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia risoria*). This dove is a common breeder also at Miami Beach and some of the islands in Biscayne Bay, and a few breed at Miami proper, since I recorded it in the *Oologist*, page 91, volume 29, 1922.

Page 157. The Key West, Ruddy, and Blue-headed Quail Doves, as recorded from Florida, were undoubtedly all escaped caged birds brought over from Cuba by the tobacco workers living and working at Key West. I have had many of each variety in captivity the past few years, and have secured many more for friends, hoping to breed them before they become exterminated. The wing

structure of these varieties, and their habits as well, dispel all chance of their having migrated or been blown into Florida by a tropical storm.

Page 160. Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*). Breeds south of the Georgia-Florida line, north of Gainesville and Lake City, where I have seen young and old the first week in July.

Page 206. Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*). Breeds south in Florida to below Lake City, where I have found young in the nest in July, in the usual manner, under bridges.

Page 223. Florida Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*). The range of this bird, as given, is misleading, for it is not found on the peninsula of Florida below scrub oak territory, which is Lemon City (northern part of Miami City) on the East Coast, and the peninsula extends over a hundred miles farther south and is commonly known as Tropical Florida.

Page 229. Black-capped Chickadee (*Penthestes atricapillus atricapillus*). The range as given (Alleghanias south to North Carolina) is erroneous. Breeding birds taken at Mountain Lake, Giles County, Virginia (altitude 4000 feet) on May 28, 1913, and submitted to Dr. Witmer Stone for identification, were identified as, and are, *P. carolinensis carolinensis*. (See "Birds of Virginia", page 344). Evidently this has been overlooked by Dr. Stone, or slipped his memory.

Page 251. Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*). Northern Florida, as given, is not correct, for they breed southward to Fort Lauderdale, and since my "Birds of Florida" (1925) book came out, I have found a single pair breeding as far south as Cape Sable, Monroe County, in 1926.

Page 252. Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*). This bird breeds sparingly to Cutler, Dade County, and in one case at Cape Sable, Monroe County, in 1926.

Page 274. Key West Vireo (*Vireo griseus maynardi*). This vireo breeds in Dade County northward at least as far as the Tamiami Trail, resorting to the hardwood hammocks, similar to the foliage of the keys farther south.

Page 292. Collins's Warbler (*Dendroica discolor collinsi*). The vernacular name given this bird was "Collins's Warbler" not "Florida Prairie Warbler", as given in the Check-List.

Page 294. Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*). Breeds in northern and northwestern Florida, sparingly.

Page 303. Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius* subsp.). There is still a great deal of work to be done with the several subspecies found in the state of Florida. I do not agree with the ranges or races of several Florida birds, as given in the Check-List.

Page 307. Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*). This bird breeds sparingly in northern Florida, between Lake City and the Georgia line, where nests with young have been noted.

Page 309. Eastern Cowbird (*Molothrus ater ater*). Breeds as far south as Cape Sable, Monroe County, where I have taken one record.

Page 326. Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus pinus*). This range as given is misleading, for while I resided at San Francisco, California, 1902-05, many sets of eggs were taken with birds by several collectors, from an area bordering San Francisco Bay, adjacent to, and little above tidewater.

Page 339. Shannon's Seaside Sparrow (*Ammospiza maritima shannoni*). This new race from the seacoast of northeast Florida changes the range as given

for *A. m. macgillivraii*. (Bulletin No. 7, Bailey Museum of Natural History, August, 1931).

Page 363. Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*). The C. B. Cory record of this bird in Florida is of doubtful value, and should not have been used, unless in the Florida hypothetical list. This record was gone into thoroughly by the writer when working on the "Birds of Florida", and after all facts were known, it was thought best to eliminate it.—HAROLD H. BAILEY, *Miami, Florida*.

The Nesting Behavior of a Pair of Mockingbirds.—The Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos polyglottos*) is locally an abundant migrant and fairly common summer resident, while a few males winter here. An increase in recent years in the number of migrants would indicate a northward extension of the species. One male individual that winters here is recognizable by his song, for he is a master artist in his imitations of other birds. Throughout the year at no time does he wander more than within a radius of a half mile. In the winter he skulks shyly through the bare trees in a weird manner, and at sight of another bird gives his warning note, which is the only one used throughout the winter.

On February 22, 1929, he commenced crooning, and this was kept up until the first week in March when his ecstatic joy was shown by his impassioned outbursts of song. About this time he began to investigate nesting sites. He devoted most of his time inspecting a neighbor's climbing rosebush. After the arrival of his mate, on April 3, they both continued the search, but did not come to a decision until the latter part of April, when they chose to place their home very near the street, in a rosebush in my own yard.

The nest was placed three feet from the ground. They did not notice the traffic while building, but while nesting the sitting bird flew off every time a vehicle passed. On April 28, a dark, cloudy day, I noticed the pair picking up twig ends of a last year's locust in the yard. These twig ends were about four inches long and were carried far back in the bill at about the middle of the twig. They flew first to the fence about a foot from the nest, and then to the nest, putting the twigs in place. Both seemed to be taking the same interest in building.

When first observed the nest was fairly well started. The nest was completed by April 30 and apparently was then deserted. The outer layer was composed entirely of the locust twigs, the inner layer was of small rootlets, and between these was a thin layer of moss. This mossy layer is in every Mockingbird's nest that I have ever examined in this vicinity.

But they returned on May 4. On May 5, 6, and 7 an egg was deposited each day. The squirrels kept bothering them, and finally destroyed two of the eggs. On May 15 the nest was deserted and on the same day another one was commenced in the neighbor's climbing rose. This nest was placed seven feet from the ground. The usual height in this vicinity is three feet.

When the female commenced incubation the male chose a walnut tree 350 feet away for a perching and singing tree. He stayed most of the time in the tree, skulking through its branches and frequently roaming through the neighborhood. When the eggs were hatched he commenced his irrepressible singing, keeping it up most of the day and for several hours at night. The song of day was mellowed by the heat and other noises into a fascinating silvery melody, while in the quiet hours of the night the bold, clear notes were strikingly intensified.