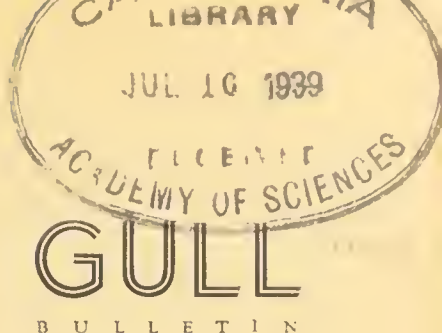
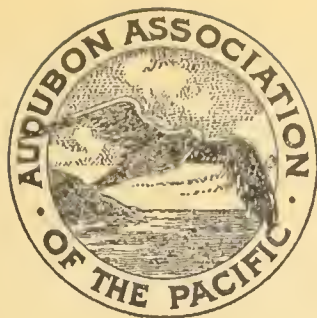


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## A Second Record for California

Twenty-six years ago there appeared at Potholes on the Colorado River, an Anhinga, *Anhinga anhinga*, a bird that had never before been recorded in California. To Major Allan Brooks went the honor of adding this strange species to our state's list. Though the belief was expressed at the time that the birds were most likely regular winter visitors at that spot there apparently has been no confirmation of this. In view of these facts one could only hope, certainly not expect, to see another in the state and that only in the winter season on the Colorado. It came as a great surprise, therefore, when on June 2, 1939, at Lake Merced, San Francisco, some four hundred miles northwesterly, I discovered one of these birds, and this in the summer season. This bird is certainly an unpredictable one.

The bird in question is a male in fine plumage, lacking only the brilliance of color in his throat patch of a perfect specimen. My observation was immediately confirmed by Dr. Robert T. Orr of the California Academy of Sciences, and since then, I am happy to say, by many of our local birding enthusiasts. Apparently the bird has settled down for quite a visit as he has been observed almost daily for a period of over two weeks. He spends most of his time sunning in a drowned willow at the head of the smaller lake, where a very close approach may be made and excellent views had. It is indeed a pleasure to have the opportunity to observe at leisure such a rarity of our state's fauna.

The question of whether or not the bird is an escaped captive has been raised. I hardly think it is. It is not a species that one would expect to find in captivity and it certainly has all the vigor and wariness of a wild bird. It flies readily and the similarity of its flight to that of an accipitrine hawk is very noticeable. When wet the bird is very dull and might easily be passed over as a cormorant, but as it dries the white feathers on the back become more and more pronounced, finally culminating in a beautiful pattern of black and white. From my reading about the bird I should have expected a very weird and exotic creature, so I was very agreeably surprised to find it such a good looking individual.

Gordon Bolander, San Francisco, California. June 20, 1939.



Miss Georgiana Fenwick and Miss Marion Stuart saw a strange bird being chased by Red-winged Blackbirds at Searsville Lake on May 28th, but they were unable to identify it. On the 30th Miss Stuart returned to the lake and found the bird in a dead tree. When Miss Fenwick heard about the Anhinga being seen at Lake Merced she stated that it was undoubtedly the same bird she and Miss Stuart had seen at Searsville Lake.

The Anhinga was still present at Lake Merced June 29th. L. A. S.



## Protective Laws Don't Always Protect

My hunting is limited almost entirely to jackrabbits. These animals are common in Solano County, California, and ranchers ordinarily are glad to have their numbers reduced.

On February 13, 1939, while thus engaged with a companion, a field near Vanden, an S. P. flag station in Solano County, showed that illegal shooting had been practiced there. A dead Whistling Swan lay in the field as it had fallen after having been shot on the wing. A dead California Heron lay on the bank of a little creek. I noted several one-legged Robins among the large flocks of these birds.

It is more pleasant to report on live birds for THE GULL, but we cannot ignore the fact that many people have no respect for law. I am sorry there was no way of apprehending the criminal. I have a standing fear that some of our Kites near here will meet up with such vandals.

Emerson A. Stoner, Benicia, California.



### Female Robin Attends an Injured Mate

On March 24, 1938, about 3 p. m., I noticed a pair of Robins in my back yard. The female was preening her feathers, having just taken a bath in the lily pool. Back of the pool on the garden rocks stood the male seemingly also engaged in preening. As I stepped out of the house the female and some sparrows took flight, but the male robin moved only a few feet into the adjoining yard, where he continued preening or pecking on one side. It was then that I noticed he had an injured wing and the feathers on his side were bloody. His mate soon returned and they started feeding together along the border of hollyhocks. I got my field glasses to estimate his injury better. By this time he had managed to get on the fence, and though I could see that his bill was bloody, his side wet, and the first joint of the wing slightly drooping, I still thought he probably was better able to care for himself in the open than if I attempted to care for him. In his injured condition his mate attended him and my wife observed her feeding him a worm and conducting him to the only area of comparatively safe shelter in the neighborhood.

I was obliged to leave for awhile and on my return I found him in a nearby vacant lot. His mate was by his side and they were doubtless foraging for their last supper together, as I did not see him again. Neither was seen in our yard nor elsewhere the next day, but on the following day the female was again at the feeding tray and was occasionally seen during the next few days, but within a week other robins began coming to the feeding tray and so her identity was lost.

C. W. Lockerbie, Salt Lake City, Utah. March 5, 1939.



### Surgery on a Song Sparrow

At my banding station near Carmel, California, I banded a number of juvenile Song Sparrows, *Melospiza melodia*, during the summer of 1938. On August 3, after placing a band on the right tarsus of such a bird of the year I happened to glance at the other leg. It was broken about one-fourth inch above the toes; the skin was torn and the toes were dangling by a mere shred of tissue. There was a good deal of bleeding. The question was what to do with the creature. We did not desire, nor think it practical, to try to keep it in captivity until healed, and yet it seemed as though the bird would surely lose its leg, if not its life also, if turned loose in such a state. So we tried an experiment.

From a piece of match-stick we whittled a flat splint about three-fourths of an inch long. After setting the two broken ends of the tarsus together as accurately as possible, we bound the splint to both sections of the leg with a spiraled bandage of one-eighth inch adhesive tape, thus covering the entire length of the splint. We then carried the bird to a point near where trapped, a place convenient to both water and cover. When released it fluttered weakly along the ground. This was the last we expected to see of it.

However, on September 4, one month and a day later, I trapped a Song Sparrow repeater which seemed to be a juvenile passing into its first winter plumage. There was much of the heavy dark adult stripes, many flecks of broken feather sheathes on its plumage, and its tail consisted of only one or two worn feathers. I glanced at my records. To my astonishment I found it was our broken-legged bird of August 3! And there was the left tarsus healed, and without bandage or splint. Where the break had been was a somewhat thickened area, but the skin over it seemed in perfect condition. The toes were turned a little to the left, but I could see that the bird could flex and relax them. I watched closely when it was released to ascertain to what extent it could use the repaired member, but the bird flew unusually far off and ducked into dense shrubbery where it couldn't be found again.

Just how much good our surgery did, I don't know. Evidently, after sufficient healing had taken place for the leg to remain intact, the splint and tape had worn off or had been picked off by the bird. At any rate this experience proved to us that it is worth while, even at times in seemingly hopeless cases, to attempt to render first aid, and that healing may take place without holding the bird in captivity.

Laidlaw Williams, Box 453, Carmel, California. (Taken from *News from the Bird-banders*, issued by the Western Bird-Banding Association.)



### June Field Trip

The June field trip was taken on Sunday, June 11, 1939, to Ross, Marin County, under the leadership of Mr. Dunshee. Part of the group left the train at Kentfield to walk over the hills with Mrs. Courtright, joining the Ross group at Phoenix Lake for luncheon.

The outstanding observation of the day was that of a Kingfisher's nest with five young in a burrow along a road where many hikers were continually passing.

Twelve members and eight guests, six of them members of the Nature Group of the Sierra Club, enjoyed the day together and remained for the supper in the evening.

The list of fifty-two for the day is as follows:

California Heron	Violet-green Swallow	Cassin Vireo
Anthony Green Heron	Rough-winged Swallow	Warbling Vireo
Turkey Vulture	Barn Swallow	Lutescent Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk	Cliff Swallow	Yellow Warbler
Quail	Coast Jay	Black-throated Gray
Coot	Nicasio Jay	Meadowlark
Mourning Dove	Crow	Black-headed Grosbeak
Anna Hummingbird	Nicasio Chickadee	Lazuli Bunting
Allen Hummingbird	Plain Titmouse	Purple Finch
Kingfisher	Coast Bush-tit	House Finch
Red-shafted Flicker	Ruddy Wren-tit	Pine Siskin
California Woodpecker	House Wren	Green-backed Goldfinch
Cabanis Woodpecker	Nicasio Wren	S. F. Towhee
Willow Woodpecker	Western Robin	S. F. Brown Towhee
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Monterey Hermit Thrush	Junco
Western Flycatcher	Russet-backed Thrush	Chipping Sparrow
Wood Pewee	Hutton Vireo	Song Sparrow
Olive-sided Flycatcher		

Members attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Stephens; Mesdames Courtright, Kelly; Misses Berg, Blake, Cohen, Maciver, McConnell, Papina; Messrs. Dunshee, Johnson and six members of the Nature Study Group of the Sierra Club; Mrs. A. H. Knox of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Anabel.

### Audubon Notes

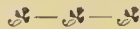
**July Meeting:** The regular meeting will be held on Thursday, the 13th, at 8 p. m., in room 19, Ferry Building.

The speaker will be Dr. W. E. Ritter, whose subject will be "Bird Lovers and Bird Knowers."

Members may bring guests.



**July Field Trip** will be taken on Sunday, the 16th, in San Francisco. Meet at the end of the Municipal car "C" line, where party will form at 10 o'clock, and walk along the water's edge, taking in Land's End, Cliff House and continuing on to Golden Gate Park.



**June Meeting:** The 262nd regular meeting was held on the 8th, in Pacific House, Treasure Island, with seventy-five members and guests present. President Junea W. Kelly presided.

Mr. Philip N. Youtz, Consultant and Director of the Pacific Area, was the speaker, taking for his subject "Exploring the Pacific." He explained that the purpose of the building is to present a pageant of the Pacific to stimulate interest in the Pacific area and to promote culture and economic reciprocity between the countries bordering on the Pacific.

He exhibited books, particularly those dealing with birds, chosen from their extensive library.

Mrs. Albert B. Stephens read a resolution expressing the deep sorrow of the Association at the loss of its honorary member, Joseph Grinnell, on May 29, 1939. (A copy of the resolution was sent to his family and also one filed with the minutes of this meeting.)

The following observations have been reported:

Mr. Dunshee: White-throated Sparrow remained in Ross until April 14th, feeding on bread crumbs from feeding tray.

Harold Kirker: Golden Gate Park, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Rough-winged Swallow, May 23rd; Turkey Vulture, June 7th.

Mrs. Millard: San Francisco garden, Lazuli Bunting, April 27th and 28th; Allen Hummingbird's nest with two young in a cypress tree, May 1st; on the 2nd young left the nest; on the 30th another nest was found with adult on it but could not see if it contained eggs; nine Cedar Waxwings, 10th; Warbling Vireo, 13th.

Commander Parmenter: From Montara, San Mateo County, to the Golden Gate, 20,000± Shearwaters, May 31st; ten Black Brant flying north near San Francisco beach, June 3rd; El Granada, twenty Forster Terns, May 12th; Hudsonian Curlew, Sanderlings, last time seen 16th; 160 California Murres, 16th; Pigeon Guillemots nesting on rocks off Land's End, June 7th; Black Swift between Point San Pedro and Montara, May 12th; two White-throated Swifts off Devil Slide cliff June 5th, may be nesting.

Miss Werner: Golden Gate Park, Warbling Vireo, Olive-sided Flycatcher, May 14th; Pied-billed Grebe with two young, Willow Goldfinch, 28th.

Mr. Webb: San Francisco garden, male and female Bullock Oriole, June 18th.

### Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

#### For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....Mrs. G. Earle Kelly..... 1311 Grand St., Alameda, Calif.  
 Corresponding Secretary..... C. B. Lastreto.....260 California St., San Francisco  
 Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.00 per year.

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00.

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.