

*Cappella delicata*—just one right where I said I'd find him.

*Euphagus cyanocephalus*

*Perdix perdix perdix*---very numerous

This, by the way is the bird we observed that evening at Goldendale. The harsh, raspy call is very characteristic. In good light, the tail shows very bright chestnut on the entire surface and that, with the call, is also diagnostic.

*rica pica hudsonia*

*Sturnella neglecta*

*Anthus spinoletta rubescens*

A very common species as far as I could see today. They were especially common on the stubbled hills where the plowing was not completed giving them the two areas in which to feed.

*Circus hudsonius*

One lone bird, coasting lazily out of sight.

*Accipiter velox*

Seen hunting along the creek. He just barely was skimming the surface of the water.

*Zenaidura macroura marginella*

Just two all day long

*Sialia currucoides*

Blue-breasted so I felt safe in recording it as the mountain.

Later saw two more--again on the telephone lines near a pole. Each time they were very confiding. They can come around any time they want to.

*Otocoris alpestris merrilli*

Saw two groups of about 30 birds each. No where near the numbers of pipits that were seen everywhere.

*Asio wilsonianus*

If not a first for me, at least it's only a second and still deserves some recognition as such. I chanced upon an old abandoned homestead which was, fortunately, surrounded with spacious groves of apple trees. (Also, just about three had any good apples) In leaving the place I chanced upon these two owls and was lucky enough to see them once or twice even though they were always flying and would only be visible for an instant or two. First I thought of the Short-eared Owl, but this fellow was not buffy enough for that besides being definitely out of habitat for such. Upon consulting Peterson I figured that he or they were Long-ears. And thus I was again happy to wend my way. That is, I had my belly full of apples.

*Passerculus sandwichensis* ~~na~~ *alaudinus*

Kitchin says the Western (*alaudinus*) migrates on both sides of the Cascades. Also, the Nevada Savannah only inhabits the level sage-brush sections so I don't know. Subspecies look bad over here.

By the way--I left about 7:30 (early sunrise here) and got back about 3:30 in the afternoon--allowing myself time to write a couple of letters of which this is one. The morning was rather cool with high noon coming on very warm. I was pleased, very pleased, to acquire a little burn. The route I chose was nothing special. Because I was working generally upstream, I went up to the ridge and there chose my path--not much of a path either as these hills go, but better than the bottoms this day. Walked about 14 or 15 miles I think; at any rate I've been somewhere.

I guess the farmers are either too lazy or ~~or~~ dislike the idea of contour plowing for many of the hills (they burn most of their stubble up here) being bare had grown rather deep "drainage" canals, and that ain't good. This soil is the kind of stuff that cuts fast and deep too, and it doesn't look pretty a bit. Far as I've seen, there's only about two feet of topsoil (and generally, I think that's about right too) and if erosion is allowed to make such inroads into their land for very long they will be going to Matanuska Valley too.

I'm afraid that this country around here is not going to be so hot for bird hikes, that is, within decent walking distance at this time of year, and the hitch-hiking isn't any good (all college kids-boy and his girl) either. However, we'll see cause the old Palouse has at least two more seasons ahead for us.

By the way, am taking Zo.3--4hrs., Chem.1--4hrs., French 1--4hrs., English 1 and 8 each for two hours (Phil and I both made advanced English too)

Well Jim, I'll write again as soon as I can so meanwhile take care of yourself and don't do anything I'd do.

Good luck and love and kisses,

*Pellie* (13)