

cottonwood stub was found in the Santa Anita Canyon containing two old woodpecker holes some ten feet from the ground. The Linnets had originally intended to occupy the upper "flat", but for some reason had abandoned it and had moved below. The cavity was nearly filled with the nesting materials, the five eggs being but about one inch below the level of the entrance; the latter was one and one-half inches in diameter. The excavation was eight inches deep and four in diameter.—D. I. SHEPARDSON, *Los Angeles, California*.

Late Nesting of the Townsend Solitaire.—On July 16, 1915, I discovered a nest of the Townsend Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) on Bear Creek, in Plumas County about two miles west of the north end of Gold Lake. The nest was built of weed stems and was placed in a crevice of a rock along side of a small waterfall. It was so situated that overhanging and projecting rock sheltered it on all sides except one. Three eggs were in the nest and on July 22 they were still unhatched. The sitting bird was flushed several times. She remained in the near vicinity and each time was soon joined by her mate. Neither bird made the slightest noise; nor was the male bird heard singing although our camp was only twenty yards from the nest. This appears to be the latest recorded nesting date for this species.—H. C. BRYANT, *Berkeley, California*.

A Notable Occurrence of Pacific Divers.—On the 13th of April, 1915, during the prevalence of a strong west wind at Santa Cruz Island, I came upon a company of at least 200 Pacific Loons (*Gavia pacifica*) breasting the storm and fishing in the outer surf just off a bold cliff near the West ranch. Fully half of the birds were in spring plumage, and they afforded a magnificent spectacle, something in the nature of a naval review, as they rode bow on to the weather or else submarined in relays after smelt. The fleet of divers turned watchful periscopes toward the skyline, and I was obliged to retire behind a parapet of grass before they would relax their vigilance.—W. LEON DAWSON, *Santa Barbara, California*.

Late Migration of the Cedar Waxwing.—On June 20, 1914, my brother, W. G. Silliman of Salinas, had occasion to stay for the night at Bradley, a small town near the southern boundary of Monterey County. While taking a short walk after dinner his attention was attracted by fourteen strange birds perched upon a small cottonwood tree and the fences nearby. While not an ornithologist my brother is fairly familiar with our local birds, yet could not name these. Upon being shown specimens of about twenty birds, he immediately picked out a Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) as being the same as the birds seen at Bradley. He says that there can be no doubt as to their identity. Judging from their actions they were migrants instead of resident birds. I have no winter records for this bird at this particular locality.—O. P. SILLIMAN, *Castroville, California*.

Western Gull and Arctic Tern: Corrections of Records.—Through a fortunate accident I was recently able to prevent the published repetition of certain erroneous printed statements concerning the Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*) and the Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) in southern California, and the incident suggested the desirability of publishing corrections of the mistaken records.

Western Gull. In a list of birds from the vicinity of Los Angeles published some years ago by myself (CONDOR, II, 1900, p. 14) I included this species as occasionally common during the winter, a statement which I am now satisfied was absolutely a mistake. The point at which these observations were made is some fifteen miles from the ocean. Along the nearby ocean beaches *Larus occidentalis* is probably the most abundant species of gull; so, seeing gulls flying overhead frequently, and occasionally alighting, I included this species as a matter of course. No specimen of *occidentalis* was secured, the few gulls shot proving to be *argentatus*, and I have never, at that time or since, had any evidence of the occurrence of *occidentalis* so far from the sea. *Larus delawarensis* is quite common inland in southern California, as in all probability *L. californicus* is also, and I have frequently seen the Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*) on the uplands of Los Angeles County at sufficiently close range to render identification certain, but I have never observed *occidentalis* under such conditions.

It may seem a trivial matter to make a correction of range involving a matter of only fifteen miles, in a species as wide ranging as the Western Gull, but the point is that the bird is evidently strictly a maritime and littoral species, seldom or never wandering far from the sea. As my own published statement seems to be the only definite one ascribing the bird to an inland point in southern California, and as I have for years been satisfied of its inaccuracy, it seems advisable that a correction be made.

Common Tern. Willett (Pacific Coast Avifauna, no. 7, 1912, p. 16) has recorded the Artic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) from Los Angeles County on the basis of three specimens collected by Mr. F. S. Daggett (see CONDOR, v, 1903, p. 17) and one by myself. Having recent occasion to refer to my specimen I found that it was the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*), and labelled as such. Just how the mistake arose, I do not know. Discovery of this mistake induced me to examine Mr. Daggett's three specimens, and these, too, are unmistakably *Sterna hirundo*.

This removes a species from our southern California list, for there is no other record of *S. paradisaea* for this region. With little doubt, however, it does occur, at least occasionally, along our seacoast.—H. S. SWARTH, *Museum of History, Science and Art, Los Angeles, California*.

Bluebird Nesting in Low Country.—Dr. L. H. Miller's note in the last CONDOR anent the breeding of the Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana occidentalis*) reminds me of two similar instances that I noted this spring. On April 25 I found an uncompleted nest in a white oak near Arcadia, containing two fresh eggs. On May 13 a pair had a nest with three eggs in a willow tree at the entrance to Griffith Park near the Los Angeles River. I have often noted the birds in this vicinity during the breeding season. This species seems much more common lately near the city of Los Angeles than in former years.—D. I. SHEPARDSON, *Los Angeles, California*.

California Pine Grosbeak in Mono County, and Other Notes.—While descending a small branch valley of Mammoth Pass, southern Mono County, California, July 31, 1914, I flushed a pair of California Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator californica*) that was feeding on the ground beside a stream at an altitude of about 9500 feet. The brightly colored male flew into a pine tree, where I shot him, but the female disappeared far up the mountain side. On August 5, while armed only with a light fly-rod, I spent five minutes watching another male that was feeding on the tender tips of a small spruce near me, at, I should say, an elevation of 9000 feet. As far as I am aware, this subspecies has never before been taken so far south.

While passing the dairy corral of a neighbor near Covina, Los Angeles County, April 29, 1915, a male Dwarf Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*) flew up on the fence within fifteen feet of me and remained several minutes before returning to the ground farther away. By the time I had fetched my gun, he had disappeared. My chance for observing him was too good for there to have been a mistake in identity.

I placed two bales of hay in the shade of a large orange tree six weeks ago. Upon removing these June 18 I found that a pair of Valley Quail (*Lophortyx californica vallicola*) had taken possession of them. The bales were one on top of the other and merely in the shade of the tree without any dense protection of surrounding growth such as these birds usually demand, but there was a deep hollow formed in the straw of the top bale some four feet above the ground, and in this were three fresh eggs.

The White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) is now so rare in our southland that it seems advisable to record one which I saw June 2, 1914, some two miles from El Monte, Los Angeles County. I was hunting in a grassy marsh all day and came quite close to the bird several times, once as near as a hundred yards. I hunted diligently for a nest or young, but I believe it likely that this was merely a lone individual. About a week later A. van Rossem visited this spot and noted what was undoubtedly the same bird.—A. BRAZIER HOWELL, *Covina, California*.

A New Bird for the Pacific Slope of Southern California.—Recently there came into my possession a Great Horned Owl that seemed much lighter in coloration than the horned owls I had seen from this locality. The bird was found dead at the mouth of San Antonio Canyon, Los Angeles County, elevation about 2000 feet, on January 10, 1915, by a Mr. Forbes of this place. The bird was sent to Mr. Grinnell for his opinion as to its