

southwest Texas. All of which goes to show that the Cedar Waxwing in winter shows little choice among different climates and surroundings.—R. H. PALMER, *Instituto Geologico, Mexico, D. F., June 17, 1922.*

Some Birds Recently Observed in Southern California.—The past year, during both the fall and spring migrations, the writer has hunted assiduously in many favorable spots in southern California for the different waders. During these hunts a careful lookout was kept for two of our rarest shore bird visitants, the Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres morinella*) and the Surf Bird. No Surf Birds were seen, but seven Ruddy Turnstones were observed. Near Point Mugu, Ventura County, on August 27, 1921, two were seen, and one of them, a male, was secured. Five were seen on the tide flats near Wilmington, Los Angeles County, on May 7, 1922, and two of these were collected. Both were females, one a young bird and the other in nearly full breeding plumage. There are quite a few instances of occurrences of this turnstone during the fall migration, but no spring records from the southern California mainland, though it was met with on San Nicolas Island from March 30 to May 11, 1910 (Willett, *Pac. Coast Avifauna*, 7, 1912, p. 41).

On August 21, 1921, on the mud flats near Wilmington, there were many large flocks of Northern Phalaropes (*Lobipes lobatus*) (later in the fall many *Phalaropus fulicarius* also), but I was indeed surprised to see a large flock of Wilson Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) busily feeding in the mud near the water's edge. Unlike the Northern Phalaropes, which were swimming constantly, they fed on the banks, though occasionally running into the shallow water. I estimated the flock of Wilson Phalaropes to be somewhat over two hundred birds. They kept in a compact mass and it was difficult to count them, though they were very tame and unsuspecting. All appeared to be in winter plumage, as were the specimens collected. The place was visited several times afterwards at intervals of a few days each, but the birds were not seen again.

On July 4, 1922, three Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola squatarola*), all in winter plumage, or perhaps young birds, were observed near Venice, feeding among a mixed flock of Long-billed Dowitchers, Least Sandpipers, Greater Yellow-legs, Black-necked Stilts, Hudsonian Curlews, and Marbled Godwits. Were these birds very early fall migrants, very late spring migrants, or had they been there since the past winter?

On February 19, 1922, I took a female Eastern Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca iliaca*) at the mouth of Verdugo Canyon, near Glendale, Los Angeles County. It is quite reddish but not to such an extent as the typical bird from the east.

A short trip to Buena Vista Lake, Kern County, was made on June 11, 1922, in company with Mr. Luther Little. What impressed us most was the irregular occurrence of some of the breeding birds, comparing different years. For several years the water of the lake has been very low, but now, the copious rains of last winter have made it higher than for many previous years. Last season, large numbers of White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) were present all summer, but did not nest; the water was not high enough to form their nesting island and it seems that these birds must have an island or they will not nest. This year, although their island was formed, there were but few Pelicans around and those were not nesting. The reason may have been that this year there are only a few fish left of the myriads that were there formerly.

Western Grebes (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) were nesting abundantly. Last year none nested (in fact only one was seen), while the year before, Mr. Adriaan van Rossem tells me they were breeding commonly.

White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*) were present in a large breeding colony. This is the first time, after several visits to the lake, that I have found this species nesting there. In the same way, Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) breed irregularly; but Black-necked Stilts (*Himantopus mexicanus*) are more constant.—CHESTER C. LAMB, *Los Angeles, California, July 8, 1922.*

Vaux Swift in Migration.—On April 29, 1922, about 7 p. m., the largest flock of Vaux Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*) I have ever seen or, in fact, heard of, circled over my house several times. By careful estimate I judged the number to be very nearly six