Ferruginous Rough-legged Hawk. *Archibuteo ferrugineus.* An adult in the normal plumage near Brawley, Imperial County, January 2, 1923.

Western Vesper Sparrow. *Pooecetes gramineus confinis.* Common near El Centro and Calexico, January 2, 1923. Subspecies not determined.

Lark Bunting. *Calamospiza melanocorys.* A flock of about twenty near Westmoreland, Imperial County, January 3, 1923. This occurrence in connection with those noted at Thermal, January 1, 1922, seems to indicate that some Lark Buntings winter in this locality. There has been no rain in Imperial County this year, and there was no evidence of any migration.—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Carpinteria, California, January 6, 1923.*

Lewis Woodpecker in Eastern Oklahoma.—On December 24, 1922, while on the golf course of the Oakhurst Country Club, eight miles southwest of Tulsa, Oklahoma, I noticed a large black woodpecker flying out over one of the fairways and returning to a large oak after each flight. I at once determined that it was a Lewis Woodpecker (*Asyndesmus lewisi*) and mentally put it down as a new migrant for my local list. By the time I had made a complete circuit of the course and was near the same spot again, the occurrence of the bird had been given more thought and a decision reached that it was of more than local importance. So I delayed the game a little and got under the favorite observation tree, about 25 feet from the bird itself. The peculiar reddish underparts, the gray collar, the black wings and upper parts, and the comparatively larger size than that of the Red-headed Woodpeckers with which it was loosely associating rendered identification absolutely certain—the species being one with which I am familiar through both observing and collecting them in California. It was quite out of the question to obtain a gun and collect this bird on the crowded golf course that day.

This record is not the easternmost for the species, because A. Wetmore has recorded the bird from near Lawrence, Kansas (Condor, XI, p. 208), which station is some forty minutes of longitude more easterly than my station, but the occurrence is a new one for eastern Oklahoma.—J. R. PEMBERTON, *Tulsa, Oklahoma, January 1, 1923.*

The White-winged Dove in Santa Barbara, California.—On November 8, 1922, while my wife and I were studying birds at Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara, a White-winged Dove (*Melopelia asiatica trudeaui*) flew across the road in front of us at a distance of not over twenty feet and alighted in a live oak a short distance from the road. We observed the bird for about fifteen minutes as it moved about the tree. He was not particularly shy, so we had an excellent view of him. We made a search for him the following day but did not find him again.

The weather for some days previous had been somewhat stormy, with strong winds from the southeast.

As far as we have been able to ascertain this is the first recorded occurrence for this locality.—HENRY E. PARMENTER, *Santa Barbara, California, January 19, 1923.*

Fishing Activities of the California Brown Pelican.—For the past few years I have been much interested in the fishing habits of the California Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus californicus*). So far as I have noticed, these birds always fish by diving. My impression is that they ordinarily dive when gliding at a height of thirty to fifty feet above the water; but I have seen them dive from greater heights, as well as from a position barely clear of the water. At either of these extremes, the dive is almost invariably hasty and awkward as though occasioned by an unexpected opportunity to catch fish.

After striking the water these pelicans always execute a half-turn so that they appear above the surface facing in the opposite direction from that in which they entered. I have never been able to see clearly, but it seems that this half-turn is due to a sidewise sweep of the head upon entering the water.

A few months ago I was much astonished one morning to see something like a yellowish toy balloon under the throat of a bird which dived near me. I had never seen any indication of much distention of the throat pouch before, and it was an instant before I realized that the balloon effect was due to extraordinary distention of that organ by water. Although I carefully watched many birds, I did not again see such an exhibit

until the morning of September 10, 1922, when a single bird dived three times at distances of about seventy-five to one hundred and fifty feet from me.

Twice out of the three times the pouch was very noticeably distended, though not so greatly as in the former case. While I could not see everything clearly in the instant of time available, I thought I could see a more direct sweep of the head forward and upward when the pouch was distended and a more direct sweep sidewise when it was not. No fish were caught at any of the three attempts. Failure to catch was very evident, because the bird did not assume the swallowing position.—W. E. ALLEN, *Scripps Institution for Biological Research, La Jolla, California, October 9, 1922.*

An Explanation of a Seeming Discrepancy[1].—My attention has been called to a seeming discrepancy between the descriptions given respectively by Dr. Joseph Grinnell and myself of the nesting of the Forked-tailed Petrel (*Oceanodroma furcata*) on St. Lazaria Island, Alaska, as quoted by Mr. Arthur C. Bent in his Life Histories of North American Petrels and Pelicans and their Allies (Bulletin 121, U. S. National Museum): Dr. Grinnell speaks of only one egg in a burrow of this species, while I mention the presence of more than one and note also the joint occupation of many burrows by two species of petrels, the Forked-tailed and the Leach Petrel (*O. leucorhoa*).

This apparent contradiction lies in the fact that we worked in different parts of St. Lazaria Island, in different associations. Dr. Grinnell speaks of being in the woods, where conditions apparently did not suit the Leach Petrel, while my work was done in open land only sparsely covered with bushes, where, in the loose soil, the two species frequently occupied the same burrow.

In 1897, the year after my visit to this island, M. A. Brace, a marine who had accompanied me at the time, sent me a box filled with petrel eggs of the two species, taken from St. Lazaria Island, with a letter in which he stated that he had not been particular about identifying the eggs by means of the parent birds, but that I could pick them out myself. The contents showed that the two species were breeding in the same burrow, and in the same spot as during my own visit.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, December 12, 1922.*

A Winter Record of the White-crowned Sparrow in Los Angeles.—On December 15, 1922, in an interval between showers, I observed in a partly leafless poplar tree, above the birds' bath in my garden, two birds which appeared to be *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys*. The white stripe at the side of the head terminated at the eye, the black stripe above extended to the bill and filled in the loral space, in complete accord with the description and with the illustration furnished by the United States Biological Survey.—MRS. G. H. SCHNEIDER, *Los Angeles, California, January 7, 1923.*

The Proportions of the Sexes in Collections of Bird Skins.—The question has often been asked, What is the average number of female birds in relation to the number of males in North American collections? To answer this I have examined the records of four collections, two made in Ontario and two in California. And I have taken two types of collector, one, the student learning his birds as he collected them; the other type, the sportsman who, after reaching the age of maturity, had begun the collecting of specimens seriously, for study. The result is given below.

Sportsman California			*Student* California		
Males	Females	Per cent	Males	Females	Per cent
314	211	67	217	117	54
Sportsman Ontario			*Student* Ontario		
Males	Females	Per cent	Males	Females	Per cent
352	174	50	320	153	50

The average of females collected in the case of the California sportsman is very high, and the four collectors have between them averaged about 54½ per cent of females to males. It would be interesting to know how this proportion compares with the proportionate number of the sexes in life.—J. H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Ontario, December 12, 1922.*

[1]Contribution No. 204 from California Academy of Sciences.