

gray. Both the July and the August birds are assuming the normal second-year primaries, and scattered second-year feathers on the back and greater wing-coverts. The shafts of the primaries are pale cream color. The breast and most of the head and neck of the June bird are pure white; in the others a few normal, second-year feathers are on these parts. Two yearling females taken in southern California in April, 1917 (nos. 29449-50), show an earlier stage of this wear and fading, the pattern of the plumage, though much faded, being still easily discernible; the primaries are dirty yellowish, but greatly worn. March birds show less wear and fading, and the same is retrogressively true, back to October, when this species reaches the coast of Monterey County.

Birds in the second year, of this gull, can usually be distinguished even on the wing from the first-year birds by their much whiter appearance at least as early as December; and it is hard to believe that in September their general plumage was light mouse gray mottled with white, with the wings and tail close to Quaker drab, as is a female (which had just completed the first annual moult) which I collected near Victoria, British Columbia, September 2, 1925 (no. 38100). But there is no reason to think this bird was abnormal, as I saw many in similar dress, and all the plumage of the almost white December birds shows both wear and fading.

Added to the above specimens of both these species is the fact that I have never seen a spring specimen of either still showing the gray or drab dress of the fall; and I have looked for such birds both in the field and in collections.

The dark-winged gulls show this plumage too, but to a less degree and probably less frequently, the wings and tail fading only slightly as a rule. In a yearling male of *Larus argentatus* collected at Anaheim Landing, Orange County, California, May 15, 1922 (no. 33003), the lower parts and most of the head, hind-neck and wing-coverts are a grayish white, scattered normal second-year feathers appearing in all parts. Another yearling collected by Mr. Chester C. Lamb at San José del Cabo, Lower California, April 20, 1923 (no. 36442), closely resembles this bird but is somewhat darker.

This bleaching and wearing have gone so far in a yearling female *Larus californicus* which I collected at Sunset Beach, Orange County, June 1, 1917 (no. 29469), that only by its size, and the distribution of what is left of the dark markings on the abdomen, wings and tail, could I be sure of the species. Most of this bird is pure white, the shafts of the primaries yellowish to drab-white with narrow longitudinal spaces light brownish drab on the inner shafts of the primaries, and the normally dark portions of the tail are benzo brown. Probably albinism was a partial explanation of this plumage, as the new feathers appearing on the mantle are pale cinereous, and the tarsi, toes and palmations were creamy white. The bill, with a black tip and a chrome yellow spot on mandible at angle, was otherwise creamy white; but the irides were broccoli brown.—LOUIS B. BISHOP, *Pasadena, California, May 30, 1927.*

Northward Migration of Pacific Loons.—On April 10, 1927, while sailing south along the coast of Lower California, the writer observed a scattered, northbound flock of Pacific Loons (*Gavia pacifica*) flying across San Roque Bay, at about longitude 114° 24' west, latitude 27° 09' north. A careful watch had been kept throughout the 450-mile trip from San Diego, and this was the first observation of these loons on their annual northern flight, not only during this voyage, but for the season.

Additional records of the movements of this species along the west coast of Lower California may throw light on interesting routes followed by these loons, as the writer observed them during April, 1926, flying overland toward the Pacific Ocean from the headwaters of the Gulf of California, while he was camped at San Felipe.

During years prior to 1927, the first northern flight of Pacific Loons has been noted at a much earlier date off San Diego, and it is possible that some of these earlier birds had arrived over the Gulf-overland route, driven north by the warmer climate on the Gulf. However, many more data are necessary before definite conclusions can be drawn.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, June 1, 1927.*

Records of Two Rare Migrants in California.—In a small consignment of bird skins recently purchased by the San Diego Society of Natural History from Franklin J. Smith of Eureka, California, two specimens, rare in California, were included which would seem worthy of record. The specimens and data are:

Baird Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdii*); Eureka, California; August 20, 1926; female; "Samoa ocean beach near Manila, Calif.;" coll. Franklin J. Smith.