

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.

American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica dominica*); Eureka, California; September 10, 1922; male; "in field near Mad River Slough"; coll. Franklin J. Smith. The breast of this specimen is checkered with white and black feathers in about equal proportion.—CLINTON G. ABBOTT, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, May 28, 1927.*

The Allen Hummingbirds in Golden Gate Park.—In the May, 1925, CONDOR (XXVII, p. 98) Dr. H. C. Bryant has given observations on the nesting of the Allen Hummingbird near the Chain of Lakes in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. As further evidence of these birds selecting this as a nesting territory, I give the observations of March 26, 1927, in this same region.

We discovered fourteen nests of the Allen Hummingbird (*Selasphorus alleni*). Most of these were in a small area of pine and cypress trees just west of the Forty-third Street entrance to the Park. Of the fourteen nests, two were in the crotches of small branches, and twelve were saddled on branches. The lowest nest was four feet from the ground. It was unfinished and contained one egg. Another nest, containing two eggs, was seven feet from the ground. The others ranged in height up to twenty feet. About half of the nests showed only gray lichens on the outside. The others were mixed with green. On four of the nests we found the female sitting. One of these birds had some building material in her bill. The male birds were found some distance from the nesting site and in a more open space.

No bird demonstration is more interesting and fascinating than the pendulum swing of the male Allen Hummingbird. He swings through an arc of ninety degrees or more, several times, then making a loop at one end of the arc, he suddenly drops down as straight and as swift as an arrow. In a moment he repeats the swing, then suddenly flies straight upward and alights on a branch, sixty or seventy feet above the ground.—MRS. H. J. TAYLOR, *Berkeley, California, April 19, 1927.*

Lark Bunting in Orange County, California.—On April 10, 1927, my wife and I saw a male Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) on Magnolia Avenue about one mile east of Stanton, Orange County, California. It flew up ahead of us as we drove along the road and, perching in a wild radish plant in a barley field, allowed us to approach within fifty feet, where we observed it for several minutes before it flew away across the field. This is the only individual of this species I have seen in nearly twenty years of watching birds in this region.—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Buena Park, California, June 3, 1927.*

New Additions to the Yellowstone Park List of Birds.—Black-bellied Plover (*Squat-
arola squatarola*): The morning of September 24, 1926, was very cold, with the thermometer down to zero, the first really cold weather of the autumn. As I drove by, I noted a single bird of this species on a mud shore where Alum Creek discharges into the Yellowstone River, 7800 feet above sea level and just above the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. This bird was comparatively tame. The next day was almost as cold, but in the morning I found two of these plovers at the same location as the day before. On September 26, the cold had moderated considerably, but one of these plovers was seen again at the same location as before. This time it was feeding in company with a Killdeer on small insects picked up from the surface of the exposed muddy shore. I did not see either of these two plovers again. Needless to say both were in dull winter plumage.

This bird has never been recorded before in the Yellowstone National Park. Knight says very rare in Wyoming; only one record and that at Cheyenne in the extreme eastern part of the state on the plains (The Birds of Wyoming, University of Wyoming, Bulletin No. 55, 1902, p. 52). Saunders says his only records for Montana are at Priest Butte Lakes, 1911, and Flathead Lake where it is taken every fall by hunters (A Distributional List of the Birds of Montana, Pacific Coast Avifauna no. 14, 1921, p. 53).

Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*): On the afternoon of August 30, 1926, a single individual was seen catching grasshoppers in the Upper Geyser Basin, Yellowstone National Park. This species is recorded by both Knight and Saunders as being common on the plains although not ordinarily seen in the mountains. The history of this bird in the Park has been peculiar. It was originally reported by Dr. George Bird Grinnell as having been seen by C. Hart Merriam in 1872. After that, no more individuals were seen until this one in 1926 and the species was dropped from the list.