Snowy Owls were obviously living largely on ducks and other sea birds on the New England coast during the winter of 1926-27, yet their pellets contained nothing but mouse fur. Even after killing seven live duck decoys no evidence of a duck diet could be found in the pellets picked up at the owl's roosting place.

Later a captive owl was fed a variety of foods. Murres were stripped of their breast skin and the flesh only eaten, with no resulting pellet. Chicken and turkey heads and wings were picked clean, no feathers being swallowed and no pellet ejected afterwards. When these were cut in pieces and force fed, feathers and all, a pellet would result. Killy-fish in large numbers were likewise fed by force but no pellets or bones were ejected later. The heads of large fish (haddock) were picked clean —no pellets. But a meal of one mouse or more always resulted in a pellet of skin, bones and skull.

In conclusion it should be emphasized that a thorough knowledge of a raptor in life is of infinitely more value than pages of the results of stomach analysis even when these have been made by the most competent authorities.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, June 9, 1929.*

The Texas Nighthawk in Santa Clara County, California.—The Texas Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis texensis*) does not appear in the "Directory to the Bird Life of the San Francisco Bay Region" by Grinnell and Wythe. Up to that time there were no published records of this bird for the Bay counties.

This bird was first noted by the writer in Santa Clara County in 1894, when the first set of eggs was taken near Gilroy. Some eight or ten pairs bred over a distance of about four miles along the Uvas Creek. Well back from the water were dry, rather loose beds of gravel covered with a sparse growth of weeds (*Mentzelia laevicaulis.*) Here the nighthawks bred, laying their eggs on the bare gravel, generally on the north side of one of these plants.

Since then many of these eggs have been observed by the writer *in situ* and a few sets taken. In 1922, D. B. Bull was taken into the field where he collected some sets. Later he discovered another breeding ground near Coyote on the Coyote Creek. Dr. Chas. Piper Smith also visited Coyote and personally took sets. Some nesting dates are: Taken by D. B. Bull, Gilroy, June 21, 1922, two fresh eggs; June 28, 1922, two fresh eggs; Coyote, June 4, 1925, two fresh eggs; taken by Chas. Piper Smith at Coyote, July 1, 1925, two fresh eggs and two partly incubated; taken by the writer at Gilroy, June 21, 1922, two fresh eggs, and on June 10, 1923, two eggs about one-half incubated. There are also sets of eggs taken by the writer in the collections of O. P. Silliman and D. S. DeGroot. H. W. Carriger accompanied by the writer took a set at Gilroy, June 20, 1929.

The Dusky Poorwill (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii californicus*) sometimes breeds in this same association and the writer obtained one set of fresh eggs there April 14, 1926. This set is in the collection of D. B. Bull.—W. E. UNGLISH, *Gilroy, California, June 22, 1929.*

Additions to the Rancho La Brea Avifauna.—During the course of a recent examination of Pleistocene Passeriformes of Rancho La Brea, several skeletal elements pertaining to non-passerine groups of birds were prepared for study by the present writer. A study of these bones reveals the presence of three species of Recent birds hitherto unknown from the deposits. One additional Recent species is probably present but can not be identified with certainty because of incompleteness of the material. Also, a number of elements were found which belong to species poorly represented in the fossil collections from Rancha La Brea and which, for this reason, deserve mention. All fossils here noted were taken from locality no. 1059 (R. C. Stoner, Univ. Calif. Publ. Bull. Dept. Geol. Sci., 7, 1913, p. 389) and are now contained in the paleontological collections of the University of California.

Shore-birds' remains are present, though rare, in the Rancho La Brea deposits; thus far they have not been identified even to the genus. With the recognition of a few additional elements, and with a more complete assemblage of Recent skeletons than has been available for previous studies, the identification of two members of the suborder Limicolae now is possible. *Limnodromus griseus* is represented by a coracoid