ing habitats. There is therefore no conclusive evidence, though this point of more than passing interest should be made. The Kites have disappeared from the hills and are persisting in the single lower valley region previously occupied by them. It would seem that the destructive factor lies in the foothills. At the risk of reasoning that may be but remotely circumstantial if not entirely fallacious, one may mention that there are no squirrels to be poisoned in the lower valley, but formerly there were many in the foothills. Can there be a relation between the poisoning of the California ground squirrel and the passing of the White-tailed Kite?—GAYLE PICKWELL, *State College, San Jose, California, October 30, 1931.*

Small Pools Dangerous to Cormorants.—On the morning of September 26, 1931, while walking up Susan River, I saw a Farallon Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus albociliatus*) in a small pool about one mile west of Susanville, California. Its plumage was that of an immature bird, dull black and brown. The pond is about four feet deep and not more than fifteen feet in diameter. As I came up to the pond the cormorant was underneath the water catching a fish. When it came to the surface and saw me it coughed up the fish which was about eight inches long. It swam nervously about the pond, frequently diving and swimming under-water. I tossed in a few rocks which caused it to dive more frequently. It did not fly. I returned in about three-quarters of an hour and found it resting on a board sticking six inches out of the water. It took to the water and swam about again.

Twenty-five feet up-stream is an old dam with a longer stretch of smooth water. Perhaps the cormorant flew down to this water and followed the water over the rocks to the smaller pool from where it could not fly. The next day it was not there.

On September 29, by a small pool of the river in Susanville, I found a dead immature cormorant with a stick run through its body. Perhaps it was prompted to enter the pool, from which it could not arise when it was later molested. Small boys probably killed it.—DONALD THOMAS MCLAUGHLIN, *Lassen Union High School and Junior College, Susanville, California.*

Two New Records for the Lassen Peak Region.—While engaged in an investigation of the California Quail in the foothill region east of Red Bluff, California, two specimens were taken upon which the following new records for the Lassen Peak region are based.

California Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*). On the morning of July 14, 1930, while writing notes in my shack, a cuckoo was heard calling in some tall cottonwoods along a small stream about 300 yards away. Earlier that morning I had been reading the account of the Road-runner in the galley proof of the Vertebrate Natural History of Lassen Peak Region (Grinnell, *et al.*, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 35, 1930, p. 232) and, upon hearing this cuckoo, remembered that I had seen no mention of the species in this report. A hurried check-up revealed that it was not included, so I immediately set out to collect the bird. Typical of cuckoo nature it was elusive and only after considerable stalking, at times during which it seemed that this record was certainly not going to be made, was I successful in collecting the bird. It was the only cuckoo seen or heard during the three months (May 15 to August 15) that I was in this region.

Paine Creek at this point follows a small well-watered valley which, with the brushy and tree studded banks of the stream, offers a habitat characteristic of the cuckoo's general range. However, a few miles down stream the creek passes through a dry and rocky region that isolates this habitat from any similar one. This specimen is now in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, catalogue number 58053, collector's original number 962; female with ovaries enlarged; collected, July 14, 1930, three miles west of Payne Creek Post Office, Tehama County, California.

Hutton Vireo (*Vireo huttoni huttoni*). One specimen, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology number 58056, collector's number 1154, male, taken February 15, 1931, at 1200 feet altitude, three miles west of Payne Creek Post Office, Tehama County, California. This species was relatively common at this time, a dozen or more individuals being seen during the three mornings that I was in the field, although none was observed during the three months of the previous summer in the same neighborhood. This record is of especial interest since it serves to establish a connecting link be-

tween the southernmost Cascade record, at Baird (altitude 800 feet), Shasta County (C. H. Townsend, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., **10**, 1887, p. 223), and the most northern Sierra record, at Grass Valley (altitude 2090 feet), Nevada County (E. B. Richards, Condor, **26**, 1924, p. 103).—LAWRENCE V. COMPTON, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, October 16, 1931.*

Some Light on the Introduction of Gambel Quail on San Clemente Island, California.—In his article, "New Records for the Channel Islands of Southern California" (Condor, XXXIII, 1931, p. 219), J. R. Pemberton states that a Gambel Quail (*Lophortyx gambeli gambeli*) was taken on San Clemente Island by A. J. van Rossem on October 25, 1930, but that details of the introduction of this species on the island are lacking.

It may be well to record that on December 13, 1925, the writer took a pair of Gambel Quail, now preserved in the collection of the San Diego Society of Natural History, from a flock of about seventy-five birds on the south end of San Clemente Island. Upon returning to San Diego the question of the introduction of these quail on the island was discussed with Clinton G. Abbott, Director of the Natural History Museum, who wrote for information to E. G. Blair, President of the San Clemente Sheep Company, which was at that time operating a concession on San Clemente Island. Mr. Blair referred Mr. Abbott to Charles T. Howland, who had earlier been interested in the live stock on the island. Mr. Howland's reply was essentially as follows:

"The quail on San Clemente Island were released by us about 1912. We secured, through the Game Commission, twenty dozen, about one-half of which died before being released. They were caught in the Banning-Coachella district and shipped to Los Angeles. It took about two weeks to get them to the points of distribution and although they were fed and watered there was a heavy loss because of their wildness. The first year or so after being released there was no apparent increase but I understand that later the showing was quite fair."

Prior to 1926, it seems that the only quail captured on San Clemente to be recorded in ornithological literature were six specimens taken there by J. Grinnell in May, 1897 (Grinnell, Pasadena Acad. Sci. Publ., **1**, 1897, p. 12), all of which were Valley Quail. In the same article Grinnell makes reference to the introduction of quail on the Island, twelve dozen birds having been reported liberated about ten years previously. G. Willett also mentions the Valley Quail as "Occasionally seen on San Clemente" (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 7, 1912, p. 43).

A. B. Howell (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 12, 1917, p. 52) states, in dealing with the Valley Quail, that Mr. Howland of San Clemente Island told him that "there were two or three dozen birds liberated there in 1913." One cannot help wondering whether this may not have been the same liberation reported by Mr. Howland in his letter of January 29, 1926, to Mr. Abbott. Inasmuch as he mentions Banning and Coachella as sources of supply it would seem that both Valley and Gambel quail were introduced on the Island about 1912-1913. Recent attempts to get into touch with Mr. Howland for specific information have been unsuccessful.

The writer can say with certainty that the flock from which the two specimens were taken on December 13, 1925, was entirely made up of *L. g. gambeli*.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, October 19, 1931.*

First Record of the Pectoral Sandpiper for Arizona.—On Monday, September 21, 1931, I visited an earthen reservoir or "tank" on the lower, northeastern corner of the Santa Rita Experimental Range, in company with Mr. D. M. Gorsuch, who is carrying on Gambel Quail studies on that Reserve. This reservoir, known on the Range as "Desert Tank" (altitude, 2900 feet), was well filled with water from the summer rains and we examined it with interest for possible water or shore bird migrants.

Two sandpipers, busily feeding in the mud, were the only such birds present, and after a close-up study of them we had to admit that we were at a loss as to their absolute identity. We, therefore, agreed they should be collected, though with regret, since they were so tame and confiding. Accordingly, I collected them and Mr. Gorsuch prepared the skins. They proved to be males, both young, of the Pectoral Sandpiper (*Pisobia melanotos*). This identification has been checked by Dr. J. Grinnell at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California.