

when its nest is molested. *Legatus* has been recorded from Panama as entering nests of an *Oropendola* (*Zarhynchus wagleri*). This species is absent from the vicinity of El General.—AUSTIN SMITH, *San José, Costa Rica, June 10, 1932.*

Sanderlings and Turnstones at Salton Sea, California.—On a visit to Salton Sea, Imperial County, California, May 17, 1930, Sanderlings (*Crocethia alba*) were found to be fairly common on sandy beaches; one specimen was taken. On some small rocky islets in the sea, one Black Turnstone (*Arenaria melanocephala*) and four or five Ruddy Turnstones (*Arenaria interpres morinella*) were seen.—G. WILLET, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, May 17, 1932.*

Nesting of the Black-chinned Hummingbird in Santa Clara County, California.—There appear to be but three records for the Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) for the Bay counties of west-central California (Grinnell and Wythe, *Pacific Coast Avifauna* No. 18, 1927, p. 94) and no record at all of its nesting in that region. Some twenty years ago the writer gave about one hundred sets of locally taken eggs to a young friend. After being packed away for nearly that length of time they were recently returned. Among them were three sets with nests of the Black-chinned Hummingbird. One set was still in perfect condition but unfortunately the other two were broken.

Set number 1 was taken on May 5, 1907. The nest was placed eight feet up on the end of a sycamore limb and contained two fresh eggs. Nest number 2 was taken on May 12, 1907, and was placed about fifteen feet up in a small white oak; two fresh eggs. Nest number 3 was taken May 14, 1907, and was only two feet up on the tip of a low-hanging sycamore limb. It held two fresh eggs. These sets were taken by the writer about four miles west of Gilroy.

The nests are all typical of this species and are composed entirely of down taken from the underside of sycamore leaves, and cobwebs. One pair of birds was under close observation during nest building and the female apparently gleaned most of the material from dried leaves which were frozen earlier in the spring. It would be interesting to know if this bird ever uses any other down in the construction of these sponge-like nests. This may not be the northern breeding limit of this bird along our coast. A search should be made along the sycamore-bordered streams of northern Santa Clara and Alameda counties. Male birds were noted July 15, 1926, and April 1, 1928, at the writer's home, feeding among potted plants on the porch.—W. E. UNGLISH, *Gilroy, California, May 16, 1932.*

Titmouse Menu.—In the course of the several years during which food of various kinds has been offered to birds in my back yard on the Tunnel Road in Berkeley, I have never seen a Titmouse come to eat until recently. These birds are mainly insect eaters and it was quite surprising to discover one taking bread and eating it. This I have witnessed daily for the last week.

Yesterday a Plain Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus inornatus*) picked up a piece of bread too large to carry away, but managed to carry it to a clothes line and there feed from the bread exactly as a jay would. The bread was held on the line with the feet and particles broken loose by repeated pecking and then eaten. When the meal was finished, the bird released the bread, which immediately fell to the ground, and departed, leaving no doubt as to the bread being held by the bird's feet.—CLAUDE GIGNOUX, *Berkeley, California, May 23, 1932.*

Notes on the Western Burrowing Owl.—While digging out a few nests of the Western Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia hypugaea*) which were in excavations of Douglas Ground Squirrels (*Citellus douglasii*) near Benicia, Solano County, California, on April 23, 1932, with Henry W. Carriger, we found several examples of the food of these birds other than the usual segments of Jerusalem crickets (*Stenopelmatus*), ground beetles, and such.

From one of the cavities, before the eggs were reached, Carriger withdrew three Pacific Coast Newts (*Triturus torosus*), the heads missing from each of these salamanders.

From another hole, while we were following by means of pick and hoe the carpet of horse manure, I removed a Pacific Pallid Bat (*Antrozous pallidus pacificus*) with a wing spread of about fifteen inches. This, too, had been considerably "chewed upon."

In still another cavity was the rear half of a freshly-killed Least Sandpiper (*Pisobia minutilla*). Large flocks of these little "peeps" had been noted on the previous day flying over and feeding on the mud flats a quarter of a mile away. There was a question in our minds whether a burrowing owl could outfly and capture on the wing one of these sandpipers. In this connection I found that the food in the stomach of the sandpiper had been digested, there remaining in the stomach only thirty grains of sand and a hard-cased seed of similar size. From this it might be inferred that the sandpiper was taken by the owl during the night or early in the morning while the former was at roost. If taken at such a time the food would normally have become digested.

Another rather interesting note in connection with this day's collecting was the fact that one of the females captured in the nest cavity had evidence of holding another egg. She was taken to my home, placed in a box, and the egg was laid for us the next morning, quite likely completing the set of seven. The bird was then returned to the nesting locality and released.

I got another thrill when I found that an owl caught on her eggs in one of the holes bore a band which I had placed on her two seasons before, as I had captured her under similar circumstances in this identical field on May 6, 1930.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California, May 24, 1932.*

Bird Notes from Southern California.—Perusal of a few recent volumes of the Condor has brought my attention to facts regarding the occurrence of a few species of birds from southern California. A few statements from my notes on three species may, in the light of these, be of interest and are presented here.

Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*). This bird is rare in the region during the summer months. Mr. J. Moffitt (Condor, 33, 1931, p. 252) has published a record of four immature birds seen at the Bolsa Chica Gun Club, Orange County, on June 9, 1931. While at Palisades del Rey, Los Angeles County, on June 25, 1929, I discovered three birds, all apparently immature, in the canal east of the colony of beach homes. The birds were noticed again July 2 off-shore in company with some White-winged Scoters.

Wilson Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*). This species is none too common in southern California in spring and there are few coastal records. I saw a small flock of these birds in the salt marsh owned by the local gun club at Palisades del Rey on April 13, 1929. All the birds were in breeding plumage. Two specimens were collected.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus mexicanus*). Mr. W. C. Hanna has brought up the subject concerning the most westerly breeding station of this species in California (Condor, 31, 1929, p. 75). On April 15, 1928, he found a nest with eggs at Coachella, Riverside County. There are several specimens of this species, taken in March and April at Mecca, which are now in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at Berkeley. One female was collected by W. P. Taylor at Torres (now Toro), seven miles south and slightly west of Coachella. This bird (no. 828, Mus. Vert. Zool.) was taken April 15, 1908, with these notes of the collector: "The Vermilion Flycatcher contained well-developed eggs, so probably the species breeds here." While collecting at Indian Wells on May 11, 1930, I discovered a family of flycatchers in a grove of Fremont cottonwoods along the Palm Springs-Mecca auto road. Two immature birds were being fed by both adults. This locality is eight miles west of Coachella and extends the breeding range of this bird slightly still farther to the westward. The male was collected.—JAMES STEVENSON, *Berkeley, California, March 28, 1932.*

Bohemian Waxwings in Colorado, 1931-32.—Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrula*) were present in Colorado over a large area of the State, and in incredible numbers, from October to April (1931-32); there seems no way to estimate, even approximately, the numbers of these birds in Colorado during those months, but it was of the order of hundreds of thousands.

So far as I am able to ascertain, through reports sent to me by obliging friends residing in widely separated Colorado areas, the species came into Colorado by the