ever, on open mountain slopes extending from the upper borders of the Canadian zone through the Hudsonian zone to timberline. Although I have not chanced to find a nest of this species within such an area, I have noted young birds not long on the wing in Hudsonian-zone growths of alpine fir, white-bark pine, and Lyall larch.

My observations on the range of the Red-breasted Nuthatch in winter have been limited to Lincoln County; but over the rest of the adjoining area described above its habits are probably similar. In winters when the birds occur as commonly as in summer, they may be found locally in all the forest types which they frequent during the breeding season, showing the same preference for fir-larch woods in the Transition zone and heavily-forested high valleys and basins in the Canadian zone. During winters when most of the nuthatches have migrated from the region, a few remain throughout the season in the Hudsonian and upper Canadian zones, even when they are entirely absent from the Transition and Canadian zone forests of the lower valleys and foothills.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Montana, September 19, 1932.*

Uncommon Winter Birds at Davis, California, in 1932.—The severe winter weather early in 1932 brought several uncommon bird visitants to the "plains" of the Sacramento Valley. On February 13, Mr. Leo K. Wilson saw a dozen or more Western Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina brooksi*) in trees along Putah Creek at Davis. On February 16, I saw five in almond trees in town and they were present in the same location at least until March 7; I also saw a group of eight on the University Farm on April 4, and one bird was heard there on April 7. Mr. J. A. Neff reported the species as present in Marysville for a month up to March 14, and on March 30 he saw about twenty in Woodland, feeding on seeds of elm trees about the County Building. Dr. H. Gibbons reported them in his garden at Sacramento late in March. A flock was reported feeding on almond buds at Dunnigan, Yolo County, whence I received a specimen shot on March 26. These scattered observations suggest that the species was present over a considerable area during the late winter and early spring season.

On March 5 I watched a group of at least eight of the grosbeaks, including both sexes, which were feeding on the blossoms of soft-shelled almonds along A Street in Davis. The trees were at, or a little past, the peak of blossoming. The birds were biting in at the bases of the blossoms and eating out the then small ovaries. On the sidewalk below the trees were many dropped blossoms each of which had a cut near the base of the corolla where a grosbeak had extracted the favored food item. Despite the fact that the birds were busy in these trees for several days and a multitude of blossoms was removed, a fair crop of nuts resulted. Some almonds of the previous year's crop remained on the trees and a few of these were being eaten as well. Later, grosbeaks were present in an orchard of seedling almonds on University land opposite my home but I could not be certain that they used these trees other than for perching.

Cedar Waxwings are of fairly regular occurrence at Davis in winter, but more than the usual numbers were present early in 1932. On January 17, a flock of about twenty Cedar Waxwings came into a tree in our home garden and among them I detected one Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrula pallidiceps*). Scrutiny of flocks of the more common species, in nine years of residence at Davis, has not revealed any other individual of the Bohemian.

The first local record for the Band-tailed Pigeon (*Columba fasciata fasciata*) was of a bird picked up dead just southeast of Davis on January 13 this year by Mr. W. Warner Wilson. On February 14, Mr. Leo K. Wilson and I saw at least six of these pigeons along Putah Creek, just south of the University Farm. Mr. Wilson told me this is the first season the birds have occurred here within his recollection. A week previously pigeons to the number of more than six hundred were observed in trees on ranches west of the University Farm by Mrs. W. W. Wilson; some were feeding in fields being seeded to barley. Mrs. Frank Campbell reported them as still present on March 2.

The California Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus californicus*) has been noted here in winter a few times during the past decade, but this last winter the species was more common and more widespread than usual. My first record was on January 17 when four adults were feeding on buds of a Tilton apricot and later on berries of *Pyracantha coccinea* scattered on the ground at my home. A small band stayed about

the garden for a number of days feeding on buds and berries; and on February 7, while I was pruning a Blenheim apricot tree, the birds came into the tree to forage and they also took buds from branches already cut and lying on the ground. Many were seen feeding with Brewer Blackbirds in barnyard litter under some oaks along Putah Creek on February 14. The species was last recorded on April 7.

Two other winter visitants, usually of scarce occurrence, were more in evidence. Varied Thrushes (*Ixoreus naevius* ssp.) are represented at Davis almost every winter by a few individuals which ordinarily remain in the vicinity of fairly dense tree growths; the species was more common this year, and one or more individuals was noted out in the open in trees and shrubs along a well traveled street. The Townsend Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) was noted on several dates between January 31 and March 7 in locations suggesting that several individuals were present.

A conspicuously large congregation of Western Robins (*Turdus migratorius propinquus*) on the University Farm this past winter has already been recorded (The Gull, vol. 14, no. 5, May, 1932, pp. 1-2).—TRACY I. STORER, *Division of Zoology, University Farm, Davis, California, October 18, 1932.*

California Quail Attacked by Gopher Snake.—On July 9, 1932, in the Rockridge district, Oakland, Alameda County, California, a California Quail (*Lophortyx californica*) was heard calling in distress by three members of my family. The bird, a female, was located at its nest beneath a bush. It was thrashing about on the ground, while its throat was held fast in the jaws of a good-sized gopher snake. When the snake was struck it released its hold upon the quail and turned its attention to the eggs. The snake swallowed one egg and was undisturbed until the egg had progressed about six inches from its mouth. It was then chased away from the remaining eggs. —MARGARET W. WYTHE, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, October 18, 1932.*

White-crowned Sparrows Banded in Pasadena.—Because *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* is rather a rare bird in Pasadena it may be of interest to publish the records of those banded by us at 418 North Hudson Avenue, Pasadena, California.

Band numbers	Dates of captures	Band numbers	Dates of captures
570464	April 18, 1928	A131477	April 29, 30, May 1, 1930
570479	April 19, 1928	B111924	April 27, 1931
570484	May 11, 12, 1928	C103071	May 11, 1932
694402	April 18, 1929	C103100	May 29, 1932

These birds were all in their adult plumage and presumably were on their northward migration at the time of capture. None, other than those captured, has been seen at this location.—HAROLD MICHENER and JOSEPHINE R. MICHENER, *Pasadena, California, October 31, 1932.*

The Lucas Auk of California.—Dr. U. S. Grant of the Geology Department of the University of California at Los Angeles, on his return from field work on the Marine Pliocene at San Diego, California, placed in my hands a small fragment of bone which proves to be of more than passing interest. In 1902, Lucas (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XXIV, 1902, pp. 133-134) described the first fossil bird recorded from the state of California. This specimen was taken during the construction of the Third Street Tunnel in the business district of Los Angeles, and was limited to the proximal three-fourths of the humerus, evidently of a marine diver. Lucas established for the bird a new genus and species, *Mancalla californiensis*, a category which has stood for thirty years without an additional representative. The imperfect fragment at present in hand is so completely in harmony with the type specimen in the characters preserved that I have no hesitation in announcing it as basis of the second record of the species.

At the time of original description, the age of the formation penetrated by the tunnel was considered to be Upper Miocene. Four years later Arnold (U. S. Geol. Surv., Prof. Paper no. 47, 1906, p. 29) revised the geologic correlation on the basis of molluscan remains, and assigned it to a later time, that of Lower or Middle Pliocene. The specimen in hand comes from the Pliocene of San Diego and thus strengthens the opinion of Arnold.