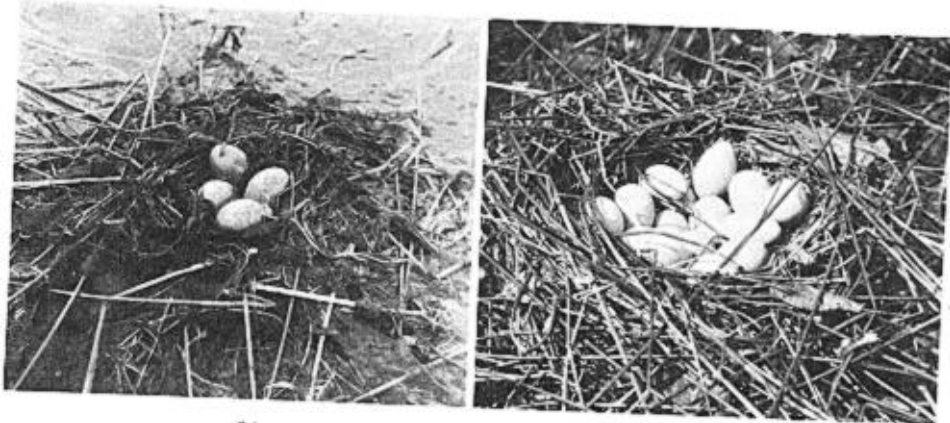


These grebes were not all laying, as hatching eggs and downy young were frequently seen. The crows nearby were innocent, for (1) they were never seen near the colony, (2) they would have left traces of depredations on such frail structures, and (3) they would have taken all the eggs. Several nests with two or less eggs had bits of broken shell. One egg with a fully grown embryo was floating near the edge of the colony.

I am indebted to Messrs. Barney M. Reid and Edward T. Nichols for their help in the census.



24

Fig. 24. NEST OF EARED GREBE.

25

Fig. 25. NEST OF AMERICAN COOT.

Photographed by Barney M. Reid.

Numbers of ducks were seen daily; on the 29th I counted 11 Common Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), 70 Pintail (*Dafila acuta*), 5 Blue-winged Teal, (*Querquedula discors*), and 4 Cinnamon Teal (*Querquedula cyanoptera*). Drakes were decidedly in the minority. A female Pintail was seen with a brood of six or more downy young in the northern corner of the lake. Late in the afternoon of June 30 an Osprey (*Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis*) flew in from the west, circled low, and departed northward.

Seventy-five or more American Coots (*Fulica americana*) were glimpsed among the sedges, and their nests were scattered over most of the lake. About 49 empty and unfinished nests were found, and 26 others as follows:

1 egg	1	7 eggs	7
1 hatching egg, 2 young	1	8 eggs	1
2 eggs, 1 young	1	9 eggs	3
4 eggs	1	10 eggs	2
5 eggs	2	11 eggs	1
4 eggs, 2 young	2	14 eggs	1
6 eggs	2		

One nest, with five young scattered about, two eggs in the nest (one just hatching), and one sunken egg in the water below was encountered.—ALLAN R. PHILLIPS, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, February 9, 1933.

Further Occurrence of Sporadic Visitors in Southern California.—During the fall and winter of 1932, three birds worthy of record were brought in by friends or staff members of the San Diego Natural History Museum and prepared by the writer of this note.

Piranga rubra rubra. Summer Tanager. Female shot by J. W. Sefton, Jr., on September 19, 1932. The bird was found early in the morning in his garden on Point

Loma, within the city limits of San Diego. It is in the peculiar reddish plumage, not unlike the specimen recorded by the writer as *P. hepatica oreophasma* (Condor, XXIX, 1927, p. 154) and later identified as *P. rubra rubra* by Grinnell (Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 32, 1928, p. 187). This marks the fourth recorded occurrence of *P. r. rubra* for southern California, all within the last twelve years. Miller (Condor, XXI, 1919, p. 129; *id.*, XXXIV, 1932, pp. 48-49) records two taken and one seen in the vicinity of Los Angeles. One of these was a spring record and the others fall. The present bird adds another as a fall wanderer. It is interesting to note further that the three recorded captures of this bird in Lower California are of fall specimens and all from the northern district.

Buteo albonotatus. Zone-tailed Hawk. An immature female with a poly-banded tail killed by Nat Rogan on October 10, 1932. The bird, perching on a telephone pole, was shot with a 410 gauge shotgun from an upstairs window at Mr. Rogan's home in Chula Vista, San Diego County. He said it was quite tame and had been about the premises for several days. He also stated that it seemed to prefer this particular pole for a perch and, because of its close proximity to the house, an exceptionally good view was possible. On foggy mornings, Rogan said, the hawk would raise its neck feathers, showing the white under-down and giving a white-headed appearance. Indeed he was much surprised to find the bird black-headed when collected. In a period of seventy years there have been four fall records of this species and one early spring record, all from San Diego County.

Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis. Louisiana Heron. A female in first year plumage shot by F. F. Gander of the Museum staff December 20, 1932. The bird was found in an estuary of San Diego Bay, near National City, California. Another heron of this species was seen during the last week of January, 1933, by Lester W. Smith, custodian of Stone Bird Sanctuary at Babson Park, Massachusetts, who was a visitor in San Diego. This bird was in company with a single American Egret resting at high tide amid a large flock of shore birds on a sandy point on the south side of Mission Bay near Ocean Beach, San Diego. It was scrutinized at close range with high-power binoculars and Mr. Smith later checked the bird's identity by comparing specimens in the Museum collections. Four California records of this heron have now been made during the past nineteen years. All three of the collected specimens are at the San Diego Natural History Museum and are of either late winter or early spring record.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, March 2, 1933.*

Nesting of the Say Phoebe in San Bernardino Valley, California.—My note in the *Condor* (XXXIII, 1931, p. 216) concerning the use of an active gasoline shovel as a nesting site by a pair of Ash-throated Flycatchers has excited some interest. It was expected this pair would return in 1932. We were disappointed in not seeing these flycatchers again, but were very much surprised to have a Say Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) build a nest on a beam in the cab of the shovel.

The phoebe was observed around the shovel (near Colton, California) when it was in operation, but most of the actual nest building was done during several days when the shovel was not being used. The four eggs were deposited from day to day, probably during the night when the shovel was idle, up to April 25 (1932). The nest was but a few feet from the head of the shovel operator. The bird would not remain on the nest while the operator was at his post, but would go to the nest as soon as he shut off the engine and retreated ten or twenty feet, which he did at every opportunity. The excitement proved to be too great a strain for the phoebe and on May 23 I collected the cold eggs from the deserted nest. Incubation had progressed about one-third in each egg.

The site for this nest is not only unusual but the case furnishes the first breeding record of the Say Phoebe that I have for San Bernardino Valley where I have been an observer for over forty years. I have observed nests in the hills twenty miles farther south, between Corona and Elsinore, Riverside County. The birds are common visitors in the San Bernardino Valley in the winter months and breed commonly on both the Mohave and Colorado deserts.—WILSON C. HANNA, *Colton, California, February 22, 1933.*