

abstinence on the two succeeding days. Indications of similar behavior appear in the few other consecutive record days. This suggests that there may be normal physiological accumulations and deficiencies which are balanced by subsequent decreases and increases in the food intake. It may also suggest an explanation for the apparent tendency among animals to eat sparingly sometimes and to gorge themselves at other times when food is abundant.

The average daily consumption of food during the period of observation, when the thermometer ranged from 15 to 70 degrees above zero Fahrenheit, was 24.8 grams or 20.9% of the presumed normal body weight of 113.8 grams. The single-meal average consumption of 7.9 grams was 6.9% of the same body weight. The average number of calories per day was 43.6. The average number of calories per gram of body weight per day was .383 calories.

It may be of interest to note that the caloric consumption of this hawk, whose activity was slight (compared with that of a normal bird of the same species), amounted to nearly twelve times the .032 calories per gram of body weight per day consumed by a human being whose relative activity may be considered analogous.—LEONARD WING and ANNE HINSHAW WING, 205 Prospect Street, New Haven, Connecticut, April 18, 1939.

Starlings Arrive in Utah.—Thirteen Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) were discovered feeding with a flock of Brewer Blackbirds about the corrals on the Jeremy ranch, in Salt Lake County, by Mr. Thayer Evans, February 26, 1939. Mr. Evans killed one of the birds for identification, mounted it, and presented it to the University of Utah. I observed these birds on several occasions thereafter. Their attitude was decidedly like that of a meadowlark rather than that of a blackbird. The short tail, quick wing beat, and long glides to alight, are characters that differentiate them when in a flock of Brewer blackbirds.—C. W. LOCKERBIE, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 15, 1939.

A Pacific Kittiwake Comes Inland.—On February 16, 1939, during my absence from the city, Alva Oakes, of the Oregon Audubon Society, called at my office and left a very good written description of a gull-like bird he had found apparently sick on a sandbar on the south bank of the Columbia River in Multnomah County, Oregon. Two days later, Mr. Oakes again called and repeated his description of the bird that he had picked up and carefully examined. When I told him that I believed he had seen a Pacific Kittiwake, a species not before recorded in Oregon from any other than seashore localities, he returned to the Columbia River and found the bird dead at the exact spot where he had seen it before. The area is overrun with house cats, dogs, and small boys, but the bird had not been molested in any way; thus *Rissa tridactyla pollicaris* has been added to the birds of the Portland, Oregon, area. On being dissected, it was found to be an adult male in much emaciated condition.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, Portland, Oregon, March 22, 1939.

Geographic Variation in the Fork-tailed Petrel.—Recent acquisition by the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of two series of specimens representing the species *Oceanodroma furcata*, one series from the southern limit, the other from near the northern limit of its range, demonstrates the existence of a readily appreciable geographical variation. The differences seen between northern and southern populations seem sufficient to warrant the use of separate names to indicate them.

The Fork-tailed Petrel was first formally named by Gmelin in 1789 as *Procellaria furcata*, based on an English description published four years before by Pennant in his Arctic Zoology. Both these authors indicate the icy waters between Asia and America as the bird's range, and Pennant, in the descriptive part of his Zoology, records the sighting of these petrels northeast of "Kamtschatka" on Cook's voyage to that region. It is therefore clear that the type locality for the name *furcata* is Bering Sea; this name is thus to be used for the northwestern population.

In reviewing the literature, the only old name we have found, that is seemingly useable for the now newly discerned southern form of the Fork-tail, is *plumbea*. This was allegedly a manuscript name, proposed by Peale and listed by him (U. S. Explor. Exped., vol. 8, Mamm. and Ornith., 1848, p. 292) as if a synonym of *Thalassidroma furcata* (Gmelin). The description given in the text applies quite as well to one race as the other. But this fact does not, in our judgement, preclude its resuscitation, when we take into account the circumstance that the only specimens Peale had before him "were obtained on the coast of Oregon." We therefore use Peale's name for the southeastern race, defining it as follows.

Oceanodroma furcata plumbea, new subspecies, though old name (Peale's).
Southern Fork-tailed Petrel.

Type.—Not known to be extant, if, indeed, ever designated; but before us is one of two "cotypes" contained in the United States National Museum, namely, no. 15461. The specimen is old, soiled, rag-