

a distance of about 600 yards along the knife-like summit of Medicine Mountain (elevation about 9300 feet), 30 miles east of Lovell, Big Horn County. Two of these were full grown juvenal-plumaged birds of dull, grayish buffy coloration; they followed an adult, periodically begging for food. All were quite shy and flew about restlessly, giving a sharp, rattling call suggestive of that of the Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*). Later on the same day an adult female was found dead among the boulders of a nearby rockslide. This bird was carefully sketched in color, and prepared as a skeleton. It is now in the skeleton collection of Harrison B. Tordoff at the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History. The long western face of Medicine Mountain forms a precipice some hundreds of feet in height and the eastern slope is littered with boulders and talus; hence the area would seem to be suited to the breeding requirements of this species. In fact, it appears to resemble closely the site of the first discovered nest of the Black Rosy Finch (Absaroka Mountains, Wyoming), as described by F. W. Miller (Condor, 27, 1925:3-7, see especially figure 1), but is somewhat lower in elevation. Medicine Mountain, and nearby Bald Mountain (elevation 10,500 feet), are among the highest points in the northwestern part of the Big Horns. Their rocky crests are virtually treeless. The peak of Medicine Mountain lies at the approximate level of the regional "true" timberline which here varies roughly from 9500 to 10,000 feet above sea level (Cary, *op. cit.*: 50). It is essentially alpine in nature. Very small patches of snow were present in sheltered spots during our visit; conies (*Ochotona princeps*) were numerous among the rocks. The Black Rosy Finch has apparently not previously been found in Wyoming in summer east of the Teton, Wind River, and Absaroka mountains, all of which lie in the western or northwestern part of the state (McCreary, *op. cit.*: 99). The Big Horns are therefore probably the eastern limit of the summer range of the species, being the easternmost mass of the Rocky Mountains attaining extensive alpine elevations.—ROBERT M. MENGEL, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan*, and JANE S. MENGEL, *Whitmore Lake, Michigan, May 5, 1951*.

Vaux Swift on Santa Rosa Island, California.—In midafternoon on October 7, 1951, while sitting on a rock at the head of a canyon on Santa Rosa Island, Santa Barbara County, California, I noticed a flock of perhaps one hundred Vaux Swifts (*Chaetura vauxi*) pass directly in front of me on the same level. The flock was loose in that the birds were so separated as to require at least a full minute to pass before me. They were all traveling toward the southeast. This species has heretofore not been recorded from this island and apparently the date is quite late for the fall migration.—J. R. PEMBERTON, *Los Angeles, California, October 11, 1951*.

The Hudsonian Curlew in Nevada.—On July 31, 1951, while driving across the Joshua tree-creosote bush desert of northern Clark County, Nevada, I flushed a crippled Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*) from the shoulder of the highway about one-half mile east of Cactus Springs. The bird, dangling one leg as it flew, moved about 20 yards off the road and settled among the cactus where it remained nearly motionless for several minutes while I carefully examined it with binoculars. The head striping and short bill were so prominent that there can be no doubt about the species. The bird was still standing among the cactus when I left.

This apparently is the first record for this species in the state of Nevada since Linsdale (Condor, 53, 1951:228-249) makes no mention of it in his recent paper on Nevada birds.—GORDON W. GULLION, *Nevada Fish and Game Commission, Boulder City, Nevada, October 1, 1951*.

Land Birds at Sea.—On two occasions, while some 15 to 20 miles off the coast near San Diego, California, a variety of land birds was observed about the motor vessel M. V. Paolina T. of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. At 2:00 p.m., Pacific standard time on May 10, 1951, about 20 miles west of San Diego, a pair of Yellow Warblers (*Dendroica aestiva*) was observed flying about the ship and alighting occasionally. The weather was very mild, with an overcast sky and light breeze from the northwest. At first the birds were quite nervous and allowed no approach but rapidly lost their fear and would alight quite near to personnel. One was reported as flying through an open galley window and perching briefly on the head of a member of the party. At 4:00 p.m. three more Yellow Warblers and a Pileolated Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) appeared. The Yellow Warblers seemed considerably more at ease in their strange environment than did the Pileolated. They climbed about the rigging and lines as if hunting food and seemed undisturbed by a noisy winch. After dark the birds could be seen flitting about the lighted areas but were not seen to land on board. Twittering calls were heard throughout the night and resembled those made by the warblers during the day.