Recent Records of the Little Owl and Water Rail in Korea.—On October 10, 1958, a dead Little Owl (*Athene noctua plumipes*) was given to me by one of the employees of the Army Post Exchange of Seoul, Korea. It was said to have been found in the folds of a tarpaulin on a supply truck that had arrived that morning from the port of Inchon on the Yellow Sea approximately 25 miles west of Seoul. Although the specimen was in good plumage, the body was in an emaciated condition and the stomach was empty. It weighed 108 grams. The sex was undetermined. According to Austin (Birds of Korea, 1948:149) only three records of this species exist for Korea, all based on specimens taken by Won in North Korea (Pyongan Namdo) in November, 1931, and February, 1932.

On January 28, 1960, Mr. Won Pyong Oh gave me a dead male Water Rail (*Rallus aquaticus indicus*) which he had purchased in the East Gate Market in Seoul the same day. According to Won, the shopkeeper claimed that it had been brought in from Chungchong Namdo, the province immediately south of and adjacent to Kyonggi-do, the province in which Seoul is located. The specimen was in excellent condition and weighed 129 grams. The stomach was empty. Austin, in reference to this species, states (1948:102), "From the specimen record it appears to be a rare transient" and lists a total of only eight specimen records for Korea, all taken in the months of November, October, and May. The present specimen appears to be the first definite winter record of the species in Korea.

Both specimens taken are deposited in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.—CHESTER M. FENNELL, *Seoul, Korea, February 3, 1960.*

Notes on the Behavior of the Xantus Hummingbird.—On November 7 and 8, 1959, under the sponsorship of the California Academy of Sciences and with financial support from the Belvedere Scientific Fund, Mrs. Wiggins and I were doing field work in the foothills of the Sierra de la Laguna between the village of Valle Perdido and Rancho la Junta, about 40 miles south of La Paz, Baja California. The region is one of rolling hills with general altitudes of 1200 to 1800 feet above sea level, and it is well clothed with semitropical scrub. In the canyons are two definite stories of vegetation. *Lysiloma candida, L. divaricata, Prosopis palmeri,* and an occasional tree of *Pithecellobium dulce* constitute the upper story and a number of different shrubs make up the lower one. On the adjacent slopes above the immediate influence of runoff in the bottoms of the canyons, *Cyrtocarpa edulis, Bursera microphylla, B. hindsiana,* and *Jatropha cinerea* comprise the upper story. Many of the perennials produce flowers during most of the year, and Xantus Hummingbirds (*Hylocharis xantusii*) are common residents.

About the middle of the afternoon of the 7th as I climbed toward the head of a small rock slide, a male Xantus Hummingbird flew in a close circle around my head. I "froze" and the hummingbird seemed to be merely curious; there was nothing belligerent about his actions. For the space of a trifle over three minutes he flew around my head, down to my feet, between my legs, up one side of my body and down the other, zig-zagged in front of my face, hovered, and circled. On four occasions as it made the circuits around my head the bird hovered directly in front of my face, tilted his head from side to side, approached more closely and touched the lenses of my glasses with the tip of its beak. It made no sounds that I could hear other than the slight whirring of its wings, nor did it touch my face or hands. The bird flew between my slightly straddled legs several times and ranged around my body in such a way as to give a very close inspection to every portion of my clothing and body. At the end of a final circuit around my head, it flew to a nearby twig of a *Lysiloma* tree and preened its wings and back for about twenty seconds, then flew rapidly up the hillside and out of sight.

Early the following day, as we camped beside a small stream flowing past Rancho La Junta, about two miles from the locality where the hummingbird had given me such a thorough inspection, another Xantus Hummingbird went through a similar routine around Mrs. Wiggins. This bird "ticked" the lenses of her glasses, and the fact that her lenses were heavily tinted, while those of my own were untinted, suggests that the contact was merely a tactile exploration and not an attempt to get at her eyes. This inspection lasted a shorter period than that of the previous afternoon, perhaps because I approached too closely and too rapidly, not knowing that a hummingbird was hovering in front of Mrs. Wiggins' face as I came up from down the canyon.

In the middle of the afternoon of the 8th I saw two Xantus Hummingbirds probing the flowers of *Ruellia peninsularis,* one of the shrubs frequently and regularly visited by this and other hummingbirds. Careful observation of their actions, and subsequent examination of the flowers they vis-

ited, revealed that they worked almost exclusively on buds that were nearly full grown but which had not yet expanded, their orifices tightly closed by the overlapping lobes of the funnelform corolla. The buds of this flower are about one and one-half inches long just before they open and have the five unequal lobes turned inward over the mouth in such a manner that the two forming the upper lip of the corolla are folded downward and inward at the tips; the central lobe of the lower lip turns abruptly upward outside of and over the notch between the two lobes of the upper lip. The two lateral lobes of the lower lip in turn overlap the edges of both the central lobe and those of the upper lip. Neat little pleats are folded inward into the throat of the bud at the angles between the margins of the upper and the lower lip. The whole chamber is thus effectively sealed against probing moths and other insects until the bud expands. The hummingbirds approached such large but unopened buds from a slight angle, and while hovering just barely to one side or the other of the tip of the bud, the bird would place the tip of its beak at the forward edge of one of the lateral lobes, give a slight but easily observed forward thrust and simultaneously execute a twist of the head so as to pry open the flap of tissue closing the bud at that point. With no appreciable delay the bird continued the thrusting motion and inserted its beak to the bottom of the bud where the nectar is secreted in this flower.

As soon as it was apparent that the hummingbirds went through this peculiar set of motions only in front of unopened buds, but inserted their beaks immediately into fully opened flowers, between twenty and thirty large but unexpanded buds were examined minutely, and a tiny opening at almost the same spot was found on each bud at which the hummingbirds had been observed. There seemed to be a slight preference for approaching the buds so as to open them from the right-hand side, as one faced the flower, but there were some that had been opened on the opposite side. The opening is made so skillfully that there is almost no tearing of the tissue of the flower's corolla, so the mechanical damage is insignificant.

We were in the field almost continuously from mid-October until late in December, and although hummingbirds of this and other species were observed visiting flowers belonging to a number of species, only the Xantus Hummingbird was observed probing unopened buds. Neither did we see the Xantus Hummingbird attempt to open unexpanded buds of any other species of plants.—IRA L. WIGGINS, *Natural History Museum, Stanford University, Stanford, California, February 12, 1960.*

Records of Lewis Woodpecker for Humboldt County, California.—There are no records for the Lewis Woodpecker (*Asyndesmus lewis*) listed in Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:1–608) for Humboldt County in northwestern California. From 1953 to 1960, I have three records for this county, all in October: one, Horse Mountain, October 10, 1954; one, near Sunny Brae, Arcata, October 1, 1958; three, flying several hundred feet above Klamath River at Orleans, October 5, 1958. The occurrence of this species in the inland mountainous country is to be expected, but the one seen near Arcata represents an unusual record. The latter area is in the redwood fog-belt for which there are no published records for the Lewis Woodpecker.—CHARLES F. YOCOM, *Division of Natural Resources, Humboldt State College, Arcata, California, February 1, 1960.*