

Notes

The Fall Migration August 16 - November 30, 1972

Regional Editor for the Western Great Lakes Region (Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota) for the winter season will be Irma W. (Mrs. Merwood) Chipman, R#2, Box 394, Wautoma, Wisconsin, 54982, to whom sectional editors, contributors and others should forward their reports for December 1, 1972 - March 31, 1973 not later than April 10.



Regional Editor for the Central Southern Region, for the winter season will be Dr. W. Marvin Davis, Box 515, University, Mississippi 38677, to whom sectional editors, contributors and others should forward their reports not later than April 10.



Winter Bird Population Studies, published in the June issue, are due the editor on April 1. They should be addressed to Dr. Ronald A. Ryder, 6 Grenfell Avenue, St. Johns, Newfoundland.



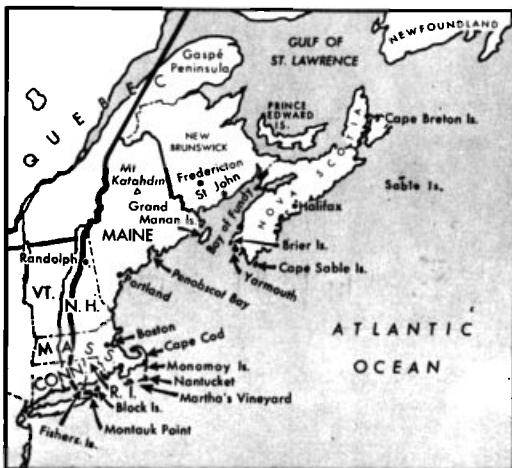
Editing of the giant April issue is now in progress, with approximately 1018 Christmas Bird Counts to be published, a new high, including a scattering of counts from Latin America. Total participants this past year topped 20,000 for the first time. This year the counts are being edited regionally, and it is expected that the April issue will be published earlier than in recent years—possibly as early as May.



The response to a recent request for contributions of Site Guides of various places of special birdwatching interest has been enthusiastic, and we can look forward in months to come to guides to Okefenokee Swamp; Bodie-Pea Island, North Carolina; Horicon Marsh, Wisconsin; Brazoria, Texas; Bear River, Utah; Presque Isle, Pennsylvania; Monterey Peninsula, California; Brownsville, Texas; Lonoke, Arkansas; Yellowstone Nat'l Park, and other birding hot spots in the U.S. and Canada.

NORTHEASTERN MARITIME REGION / Davis W. Finch

Except for Tropical Storm "Carrie" of Sept. 3-4 and lesser storms in October and November, which produced interesting observations of pelagic species on Cape Cod, there was little of a dramatic nature



in the fall's weather, and with the exception of the usual sharp peak of Broad-winged Hawk movement in mid-September, no periods of especially heavy migration were detected by observers in the Region. A few trends, more or less clearly perceptible, included the continued increase of Fulmars and Manx Shearwaters (and Skuas?), the northward spread of Cattle Egrets, formerly uncommon except in spring, and the still uncertain pioneering of a few Monk Parakeets in Massachusetts. Particularities of the season included the near absence of Snowy Owls, a hint of southward movement by Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers, a strong flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches (but not of chickadees), a very faint echo of Bohemian Waxwings, normal to above average numbers of Northern Shrikes, relatively few southern warblers wandering north, and a winter finch flight dominated by Evening Grosbeaks and Red Crossbills, with few Pine Siskins and almost no redpolls.

TUBENOSES — Fulmars continue to appear in the fall off New England in numbers suggesting a range extension by the species. At Jeffreys Ledge off the New Hampshire coast, 25 were found Nov. 12 (A.S.N.H., DWF), and on Cape Cod, following a

storm, 5 were seen from Sandy Neck in Barnstable, Oct 7 (PKD, MLG *et al.*), with 3 other single birds reported elsewhere in Massachusetts. Although much better than last fall, it was still a below-average season for Cory's Shearwaters, the higher counts being 30+ off Tuckernuck I., Mass., Aug. 21 (RV), 55 in Block I Sound, Sept. 19 (RLF) and 50 at Cox's Ledge, 4 hours east of Montauk in Massachusetts waters, Sept. 23 (PA, THD *et al.*). The higher counts of Greater Shearwaters were 1000 around Mount Desert Rock, Me., Aug. 28 (WCR, EVT, WCT), 3000 at Moore Ledge off Brier I., N.S., Sept. 3 (N.S.B.S., DWF, ELM), and 5000 off Cape Cod at Barnstable Oct. 7 (PKD, MLG *et al.*). Eight of these birds at Jeffreys Ledge Nov. 12 were later than any previously reported in New Hampshire. The season's 23 reports of Manx Shearwaters totaled 113 individuals; 6 birds seen on a total of 4 transits of the "Manic" between Souris, P. E. I. and Cap-aux-Meules, Magdalen Is., Aug. 18-30 (DSC, DWF, JAH *et al.*) indicated the species' presence at least in small numbers in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Relative to last fall's counts of 50-75 in the Bay of Fundy, this year there were almost none — *e.g.* only 2 individuals on the 2 N.S.B.S. Labor Day weekend trips off Brier I. — but storm-driven birds in Massachusetts Bay later in the season were impressively numerous, as many as 15 being seen off Barnstable Oct. 7, and 20-30 off First Encounter Beach in N. Eastham the following day (PKD, MLG, CAG *et al.*). A storm in the Gulf of St. Lawrence Nov. 10 brought many Leach's Petrels into view along the n. shore of New Brunswick from Eel River Bar south to Cape Tormentine, and on Nov. 12 David Christie believed that "there probably were thousands along the Northumberland Strait shore". High counts of Gannets included, at First Encounter Beach, 1500 on Oct. 30 (WB), 1000 on Nov. 10 (PWP *et al.*) and 2000 off Nantucket Nov. 11 (WWH).

HERONS — About 22 Little Blue Herons, largely white or pied birds, were reported at scattered localities from Massachusetts north, the Maritimes' only individual being photographed near New Grafton, Annapolis Co., N.S., Sept. 4 (Norman Bowers, *vide* PRD) and the Region's latest remaining at Quonochontaug, R.I., Dec. 1-16 (EAS, CW *et al.*). The highest count of a flock of adult and young Cattle Egrets at Appleton Farms in Ipswich, Mass., present throughout September, was 35 on Sept. 18 (DTB). Two birds of this species were seen at Limerick, York Co., Me., as late as Nov. 27 (Rosemary Mason, *vide* AMT). Relatively few Com. Egrets wandered north this fall and the only egrets to reach the Maritimes besides those of the previous report appeared in Cape Breton: a Com. Egret at Pt. Michaud Sept. 1-2 (FMack) and 2 Snowies at Round I., Sept. 4 (Peter Boucher, *vide* PRD). A Louisiana Heron at Sable I., Aug. 3 (DAW) was new to the island list and the season's only other was one which summered at Plum I., Mass., remaining to Sept. 14 (MLG *et al.*). A dead Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Sable I., July 21, and a live adult there Sept. 12 (DAW) brought to at least 10 the total island occurrences of this species, considerably more frequent there than the Black-crowned. Other wandering Yel-

low-crowneds, both immatures, appeared at Brier I., N.S., Aug. 30-Sept. 1 (ICTN, ELM *et al.*) and at Isle au Haut, Me., Aug. 16 (BB).

WATERFOWL — A Whistling Swan at Little Compton, R.I., Nov. 22-23 (SSD *et al.*) was the only one reported this season, and in the same state an ad. **White-fronted Goose** of the yellow-billed Greenland race (*flavirostris*) was discovered by Eloise Saunders at Moonstone Wildfowl Refuge, where it remained Oct. 22-Dec. 10. This was a first state record, and that the bird was authentically wild seemed unquestionable. Snow Geese were almost absent from the Region this fall, making all the more surprising the occurrence of a flock of 30 at Malpeque, P.E.I., Oct. 17 (AAMacL), a new provincial high count by a wide margin. Still farther east of the normal migration route was a single ad. Snow Goose in Cape Breton at Glace Bay Sanctuary Oct. 8 (SMAcL, George Spencer). A ♂ Gadwall at Appledore I., Me., Oct. 11 (DWF) was a new species for the Isles of Shoals, the species being still quite rare north of Massachusetts. About as usual, 6 Eur. Widgeons appeared on 4 ponds in s. New England. In Massachusetts there were 2 on Sider's Pond in Falmouth, Nov. 19 (RM *et al.*), one on Niles Pond near Gloucester Nov. 25 to at least Dec. 11 (DJA *et al.*), one on Long Pond, Nantucket Oct. 17 to at least Dec. 4 (EFA), and in Rhode Island, 2 on Gorton's Pond, Warwick Nov. 25 to at least Dec. 10 (CW *et al.*). At least 8 Shovelers occurred in Nova Scotia, where they are uncommon, and 3 Redheads were seen at Three Fathom Harbor near Halifax, Oct. 27 (ELM *et al.*), the only other Redheads north of New Hampshire being in Maine, 2 at Moosehorn Nat'l Wildlife Refuge in Calais, Sept. 23 (EVT) and one on Merymeeting Bay near Bowdoinham Oct. 15 (DJA, DWF). Two fall maxima of Barrow's Goldeneyes at traditional localities were 77 at Dalhousie, N.B., Nov. 7 (after arrival by Oct. 25 — J-PL) and 43 on the Penobscot R. at Bangor Dec. 3 (GF). A pair of Harlequin Ducks at East Point, P.E.I., Oct. 25 (RRH, JMacF) was only the fourth provincial record. In Massachusetts, the Manomet Bird Observatory's Operation Seawatch again counted migrating scoters, tallying, between Sept. 20 and Nov. 10, 60,687 birds (9921 White-winged, 36,919 Surf, 6442 Common, 7405 unidentified). These figures were furnished by Wayne Petersen, who pointed out that unlike previous years, there were no days of particularly heavy flight, the biggest day's total being 8575 birds on Oct. 19. Both the White-winged/Surf ratio and the overall numbers were below last year. On Nov. 19, 50,000 scoters, mostly White-winged and Common, were estimated off Monomoy (CAG, WRP).

HAWKS, EAGLES — Birders in the Region did not detect a flight of Goshawks such as occurred this fall in other parts of the country. An interesting observation of migrating Sharp-shinned Hawks was made Oct. 11 at Grand Manan, where in about 1½ hours, 32 were seen at the Swallowtail coming in from the east off the Bay of Fundy (DSC *et al.*). Single Cooper's Hawks, rare in the Maritimes, were also seen at Grand Manan Oct. 8 (CET *et al.*) and Oct. 10 (Dr. M. F.

Majka, *vide* DSC), and reports from elsewhere farther south in the Region totaled 24 of these birds, most probably correct. Broad-winged Hawk migration was again carefully observed in New Hampshire's Lakes Region, with September counts over Bristol of 1934 on Oct. 15 1208 on the 16th and 1759 on the 18th (RWS *et al.*). On the 16th, 1972 Broad-winged were also counted over nearby New Hampton (RCH), and the same day, the cooperative hawkwatch carefully organized by Donald Hopkins and Gerald Mersereau in s.w. New England recorded a grand total of 9131 over 44 observation sites, the total including the approximately 3200 New Hampshire birds.

This fall's 5 Golden Eagles were single birds as follows, by date: Sebasco Estates, Me., Aug. 10 (Willard Leshure, *vide* Helen Bates, RPE), Concord, N.H., Sept. 21 (Jane Grant, *vide* RWS), Gardner L., near Machias, Me., Oct. 14 (CD), Quicksand Pond in Little Compton, R.I., Oct. 15 (DLE, RE), and Browns Flat, N.B., Nov. 12 (Irenie Gorham, *vide* DSC). The season's 3 Gyrfalcons were a very dark bird at Southwest Head, Grand Manan, Oct. 10 (DSC *et al.*), a white bird at Douglas, York Co., N.B. (Schneider, *vide* DSC), and a gray immature at Monomoy from Nov. 10 into early winter (WB, WWH *et mult. al.*). Peregrine Falcons numbered at least 40 (*cf.* fall totals since 1968 of 39, 24, 45, 61).

RAILS, GALLINULES — A moribund Yellow Rail at Glace Bay, Cape Breton, in September was the only occurrence of this seldom detected species (specimen preserved — Edith MacLeod, *vide* PRD). In Maine, an apparently healthy imm. Purple Gallinule appeared on a lawn in Surry, Hancock Co., about Sept. 26 (Marjorie Leach); it died Oct. 1 at the Stanwood Bird Sanctuary in Ellsworth, where the specimen was preserved. Two Com. Gallinules associating with Am. Coots at Pisquid Pond, south of Mount Stewart, P.E.I., Sept. 14 (AAMacL *et al.*) were the first for the province. About 4 of these birds reached Nova Scotia this fall, including 2 at Caledonia, Queens Co., Oct. 11 (RRH).

SHOREBIRDS — Two Wilson's Plovers at Cape Sable I., N.S., Oct. 8 (BKD), were remarkable, there being but 3 previous records for the province, including one seen earlier this year at Sable I., and an Am. Woodcock at Sable Sept. 12 (DAW) was only the second island record. At least 4 Western Willets also occurred in the province, where until recently the race was considered hypothetical. These were 2 at Seal I. in the period Aug. 26-Sept. 4, one at Joggin Bridge near Digby Sept. 4, and one at Conrad's Beach near Halifax Sept. 30 (DWF, IAMcL). Two high counts of Pectoral Sandpipers were 400 at Brackley Beach, P.E.I., Sept. 15 (AAMacL) and 100 at Cape Sable I., N.S., Oct. 8 (BKD), and both Pectorals and White-rumped seemed unusually plentiful along the New England coast this fall, particularly in October. About 61 Baird's Sandpipers were reported, the northeasternmost being one at Saint Paul's Bay, Nfld., Sept. 7 (PRH, LMT). In the period Sept. 19-Oct. 17, 3 and possibly 5 were seen on P.E.I., where there had been but 2 previous records (AAMacL), and as many as

15 were seen in Nova Scotia. This species' predilection for rotting kelp along the upper beach seems not too widely recognized. A Curlew Sandpiper was seen at Nonquit, near Dartmouth, Mass., July 23 (Peter Stowe, *vide* RPE), another at Plum I., Aug. 23 (Donald Alexander, *vide* RPE), and 2 were carefully studied at South Bar near Sydney, N.S., Oct. 8-11 (IMacG *et al.*).

The only Long-billed Dowitchers to reach the Maritimes were seen in New Brunswick: 3, still largely in breeding plumage, were at Cape Jourimain, Aug. 16-17 (DWF, ARGMacL), 3 were also there Sept. 22 (DSC *et al.*), and 5 were at Saints Rest Marsh in Saint John W., Sept. 22 (DSC). Until recently this species had been virtually unknown north of southern Maine. It was a relatively poor season for Stilt Sandpipers, although fluctuating water levels at their favorite pools are probably important in determining how many are seen. About 86 individuals were reported in the Region (*cf.* 108 at Monomoy alone during August, 1969), the northernmost being one at Stanhope, P.E.I., Sept. 5, a second provincial record (AAMacL), one at Cape Jourimain, N.B., Aug. 16-17 (DWF, ARGMacL), 2 at Saints Rest Marsh, N.B., Sept. 5 (DWF *et al.*), and 6 birds in Nova Scotia. Single W. Sandpipers, also quite rare in the Maritimes, were seen at Brackley Marsh, P.E.I., Sept. 10 (AAMacL) and at Saints Rest Marsh, N.B., Sept. 15 (HWMacC, NM). A poor flight of Buff-breasted Sandpipers brought no more than 15 reported individuals to the Region (*cf.* about 70 last year); 1 at Brier I., N.S., Sept. 6 (CDG, JRG) was unique north of Massachusetts, where about 9 scattered birds were seen, with 5 others in Rhode Island. Seventeen Marbled Godwits were reported; one photographed at Sable I. Sept. 12 (IAMcL) was new to the island list, and the only other bird in the Maritimes was at Castalia, Grand Manan, July 6, an unusual date



Bar-tailed Godwit, Chatham, Mass., Sept. 9-16, 1972. Photo/Jeff Harris. Fourth Mass. and Regional record.

(Kenneth Edwards, *vide* DSC). The rarest shorebird of the season was a Bar-tailed Godwit on Cape Cod at North Beach, Chatham, Sept. 9-16 (RVC *et mult. al.*, photographed). The Region's only previous records are also from Massachusetts, 2 Cape Cod specimens (1907, 1937) and a bird photographed at Wasque Pt., Martha's Vineyard, Aug. 27-31, 1968 (AFN 23:19). The increase of Hudsonian Godwits was

again apparent this fall, a hard minimum of 561 birds being reported. The more significant aggregations were, from north to south, 73 at Magdalen Is. Aug. 19 (DWF, WPN), 25 at Brackley Marsh, P.E.I., Aug. 28 (AAMacL), 78 at Cape Jourimain, N.B., Aug. 16 (DWF, ARGMacI), 32 at Scarborough, Me., Aug. 11 (DWF, RWS *et al.*), Massachusetts maxima of 57 at Newburyport July 27 (JR *et al.*), 61 at First Encounter Beach Sept. 3 (B.B.C.), and 76 on Monomoy Aug. 14, and in Rhode Island, 47 at Moonstone Sept. 3 (DLK, EAS *et al.*). The latter count was a new high for the state and, like the flock at First Encounter Beach that day, perhaps consisted of birds blown onshore by tropical storm "Carrie". A Ruff meticulously observed at Rossway on Digby Neck, Oct. 6 (ELM) was the third to occur in Nova Scotia this year; in Massachusetts 3 were reported during July and 2 in September. An imm. Am. Avocet was seen at Scarborough, Me., Aug. 10 (DWF *et al.*), an adult nearby at Pine Pt. Aug. 26 (DD, JCL *et al.*), and another was present at Newburyport, Mass., Aug. 6-28 (Philip Martin *et al.*). This brought to 24 the total seen in the Region since May, 1968.

One count of Red Phalaropes eclipsed all others this season: 20,000 about 4 mi. off Brier I., N.S., Sept. 3 (a fairly careful estimate, RGG, DWF, WPN). Point blank examination of a great many individuals revealed only a very few with any paleness at the base of the bill. With them were no more than 100 N. Phalaropes, a species which abounds in late summer in nearby Passamaquoddy Bay (*e.g.* 100,000 on Aug. 21, 1971), invariably outnumbering Reds by a wide margin. This fall's highest estimate of Northerns there was 10,000 off Eastport, Me., Aug. 23 (WCT), and an identical estimate was made the previous day farther south around Monhegan I. (SH *et al.*). About 22 Wilson's Phalaropes occurred this season, the total identical to last fall's, and 7 of them were seen in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Finally, isolated but interesting late occurrences among the shorebirds included an Upland Plover at Petitcodiac, N.B., Nov. 12 (KHD), a Willet (Western?) in the same province at Little Dipper Harbor Oct. 29 (CLJ), and a Spotted Sandpiper at Newburyport, Mass., Dec. 2-3 (DWF, RAF). Notable inland occurrences were a Whimbrel at East Quabbin, Mass., July 19 (Tom Gagnon), and in New Hampshire, a White-rumped Sandpiper at Littleton, Nov. 4 (RB), a Purple Sandpiper at Andover, Nov. 8-9 (KCE *et al.*), and 2 Hudsonian Godwits at Exeter, Oct. 19-23 (JEC, DWF, *et al.*), the state's first inland records of the latter two species.

JAEGERS, SKUAS — Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, which had been scarce in the Bay of Fundy during the summer, had virtually disappeared by early fall, in marked contrast to last year. Almost all the season's reports came from Massachusetts, where totals of the two species were 55 and 371, respectively, most being seen from shore during storms. A seawatch from Sandy Neck in Barnstable Oct. 7 produced 35 Parasitics (PKD, MLG *et al.*), while 193 of the birds were counted passing Manomet Pt., including "160 filing by the point in a 25-minute period" (DW). The following day at First Encounter Beach 28 Pomarines (8 adults) were seen, along with 50+ Parasitics (PKD,

MLG, CAG *et al.*) Six of the very much rarer Long-tailed Jaeger were reported, the first an adult seen from the "Bluenose", Aug. 15, the impeccable report mailed from Lansing, Mich., being complete in every detail save the observer's name! The following day an adult was seen about 70 mi. off Nantucket (Vernon Laux, *vide* RPE), an immature was seen among the just-mentioned Parasitics at Barnstable Oct. 7, and 3 were seen the following day at First Encounter Beach (WB) For one reason or another — perhaps proportionate to the number of pelagically inclined birders — the number of Skua reports continues to increase. The 9 this fall were as follows: from the "Bluenose" 3 on Sept. 2 (MM *et al.*) and 2 on Sept. 23 (WCT), from the "Prince of Fundy", one about 1½ hours from Yarmouth, N.S., Aug. 23 (RDL); in Massachusetts, single birds in Plymouth Harbor, Sept. 16 (DC *et al.*, *vide* RPE), and at First Encounter Beach, Oct. 8 (PKD, MLG, CAG *et al.*) and Nov. 10 (CAG, WRP, PWP *et al.*).

GULLS, TERNS, ALCIDS — The Lesser Black-backed Gull discovered in March, 1970 at Digby, N.S., had returned there by Nov. 1 (CLJ). About 44 Black-headed Gulls were reported during the period, mostly scattered individuals aside from 8 at Eastport, Me., Oct. 7 (WCT), the virtually resident 2 or 3 at Newburyport, Mass., and the traditional flock which reassembled in the Wollaston-Squantum area south of Boston, reaching a total of 14 by Nov. 21 (DTB). In Passamaquoddy Bay, 20,000 Bonaparte's Gulls were estimated from Eastport, Me., Aug. 23 (EVT), and 12,000 from Deer I. Point, N.B., Oct. 13 (DSC *et al.*) but the Franklin's Gulls of last fall did not reappear. At Prince Edward Island, where the species had been reported only once previously, 2 Little Gulls were seen at the Rustico I. Causeway, Oct. 17-21 (AAMacL *et al.*) and another at the east end of the province at Basin Head Oct. 25 (JMacF, RRH). Another which was seen in Digby Gut Nov. 1 (CLJ), was the third record for Nova Scotia. Elsewhere there were 4 at Eastport, Me., Oct. 7 (WCT), 2 or 3 at Newburyport, Mass., from summer into early winter, 2 others elsewhere in the state in November, and one at Pt Judith, R.I., Nov. 22 (KBK). The only sizable concentrations of Black-legged Kittiwakes were 2000 in Passamaquoddy Bay Oct. 7 (WCT), 1000 there Oct. 13 (DSC *et al.*) and 3000 off First Encounter Beach Nov. 10 (WB, PWP *et al.*). Six Sabine's Gulls were seen from the "Manic" in the Gulf of St. Lawrence Aug. 30 (KSA, JAH, BAH), and single ad. birds were observed at First Encounter Beach Sept. 3 (WB, BAH, DW) and Oct. 8 (PKD, Michael Moore *et al.*), the latter bird said to be in breeding plumage.

Two late terns in Massachusetts were a Forster's at Plum I., Dec. 2 (RAF) and a Royal at Barnstable, Nov. 9 (RAF, CAG, WRP *et al.*), the only previous November record in the state being one at Nauset, Nov. 22, 1953. The only Caspian Terns reported in New England were 11 individuals in Massachusetts, Sept. 4-Oct. 14. Despite autumn storms, only a scattered few alcids were seen along the New England coast other than the inevitable Dovekies. An oiled Com. Murre photographed at Covehead Bay, P.E.I., Oct. 21-24 (AAMacL, RRH) was, perhaps surpris-

ingly, a first provincial record. Fourteen scattered imm. Com. Puffins on waters from the Isles of Shoals east to Jeffreys Ledge, Nov. 12, were a new high for that trip, and remarkable for anywhere in the Region south of the breeding colonies (A.S.N.H., DWF, ARK).

PARAKEETS, OWLS, NIGHTJARS, WOODPECKERS — In e. Massachusetts, single Monk Parakeets appeared at 4 localities south of Boston, July-Oct., and a pair was building at Braintree during November (RPE). Nine widely scattered Snowy Owls arriving during November in Nova Scotia (1), New Brunswick (2), Maine (1) and Massachusetts (5) were the entire extent of the species' southward movement this fall. A Great Gray Owl was observed near Oak Point, Kings Co., N.B., Nov. 12 (Edward Carson, Harry Makepeace *et al.*, *fide* SWG), the fourth specific record for the province, and the seventh to occur in the Region since 1968. A calling Chuck-will's-widow at the Fowl Meadows in Canton, Mass., Oct. 6 (DTB) must have been startling, and a late Whippoor-will was seen on Appledore I., Me., Oct. 24 (DWF). The Region's only 2 Red-bellied Woodpeckers were reported in Maine, at Cape Elizabeth Nov. 29 (VS *et al.*), and at feeders in Harpswell from Nov. 6 on into the winter (v.o., *fide* CMP). A total of 11 Red-headed Woodpeckers represented an about average number by recent standards (*cf.*, fall totals since 1968 of 42, 24, 10, 13). Some southward movement of Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers was indicated by a ♂ on Nantucket, Sept. 29 (John Dennis, *fide* EFA), and on Cape Cod, 2 at Chatham and one at Provincetown Oct. 14, and one at Truro Nov. 25 (WB *et al.*).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — Thirty W. Kingbirds were reported in the period Aug. 27-Dec. 4 (*cf.* fall totals since 1968 of 16, 16, 22, 38). Two late flycatchers were an E. Kingbird at Appledore I., Me., Oct. 25 (DWF) and a Great Crested Flycatcher at Fredericton, N.B., Nov. 12 (KHD). An Ash-throated Flycatcher was discovered by Steven Harty and Joan Twisdorn Nov. 25 at Eastern Pt., Gloucester, Mass., where it remained, feeding at times on pyracantha and yew berries, until at least Dec. 3 (photographed, SSD, RE, CW). This was a first record for Massachusetts (where a surprising number of western flycatchers have been recorded); for other records in the northeast, see AFN 26:34. Of a somewhat lesser degree of rarity were 2 Say's Phoebes, the first at Ingolish, Cape Breton, Sept. 7, on the same wire with a W. Kingbird (IC, JW), the second at Block I., Sept. 25 (KPA, EL). There were, respectively, third records for Nova Scotia and Rhode Island. An Acadian Flycatcher was netted, measured, photographed, banded and released at Center Harbor, N.H., Aug. 16 (JPM). The photographs were, alas, insufficient to prove the identification, and in the absence of any previous New Hampshire record, this one is somewhere between the substantiated and the hypothetical. Two Acadians were banded at M.B.O. Aug. 23 & 25 (TLL-E). In Nova Scotia, 2 Rough-winged Swallows were seen at Brier I., Sept. 1 (ELM) and an unusually late

one on Oct. 9 at Seal I., where it was the only swallow present (IAMcL). The species is still relatively rare in the province.

TITMICE, NUTHATCHES, WRENS — There was no detectable southward movement of Black-capped Chickadees this fall: at M.B.O. only 124 were banded (*cf.* 4537 last fall) and no Boreal Chickadees at all. Red-breasted Nuthatches, on the other hand, after a very modest flight last year and virtually none the year before, irrupted strongly in the latter third of August, the birds being noted as superabundant throughout the Region, particularly at coastal localities, and remaining so into October. A singing House Wren at Cavendish, P.E.I., Aug. 18 (GG, *fide* AAMacL) was a second record for the province, 2 others were found in New Brunswick, and in Nova Scotia the surprising total of 4 was present at Seal I., Oct. 9-10 (JB, IAMcL) and 2 others nearby at Cape Sable Oct. 10-11 (SS, *fide* PRD). Single Short-billed Marsh Wrens were seen near Trustom Pond, R I., Aug. 21 (KBK) and at Plum I., Mass., Sept. 27 (DTB *et al.*); since 1968, fall totals of this now surprisingly rare species have been 1, 1, 3, 3-4.

MIMIDS, THRUSH, WHEATEARS, GNATCATCHERS — In Newfoundland, where the species is rather rare, a Mockingbird was seen at Rocky Harbor, Oct. 18 (Robert Gray, *fide* PRH). About 12 of these "persistent strangers" as Phyllis Dobson calls them were present at scattered localities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick this fall. The first of the winter's Varied Thrushes showed up at a feeder in Truro, Cape Cod, Nov. 23-25 (WB *et al.*). A Wheatear discovered by Jim Cavanagh on the New Hampshire coast at Rye was present Sept. 9-10, and was seen by many observers and photographed for a first state record, there being one previous and shaky sight record. Another Wheatear was seen at Eastport, Me., Oct. 22 (NF, *fide* WCT), and elsewhere in that state reports of single birds at West Harpswell Sept. 12 and Vinalhaven about Sept. 15 were not entirely convincing, but interesting nonetheless by virtue of their coincidence within a week of the New Hampshire bird. Five of the 7 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers reported in Maine this fall were at Monhegan, Aug. 26 (WCT), and a count of 12 at M.B.O., Aug. 28, was high even for that particularly favored place (PKD).

WAXWINGS, SHRIKES — There was little to indicate another incursion of Bohemian Waxwings, but a few did appear in areas where flocks have wintered in recent years. At Cambridge, N.B., a flock of 6 on Nov. 1 had grown to 10 on Nov. 4 (v.o., *fide* DSC), and also on Nov. 1, six appeared in Orono, Me. (EJD), and one was present at Bethel, Me., Dec. 8-11 (Vachon, *fide* CMP). Northern Shrikes appeared almost simultaneously from the Maritimes to Massachusetts in the latter third of October and a good shrike winter seemed probable. Nineteen Loggerhead Shrikes between August and November, only 5 of them north of Cape Cod, represented a fairly typical fall flight of these scarce birds.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — A White-eyed Vireo at Cape Neddick, Me., Oct. 6 (HMC) was one of only a few state records, and a Warbling Vireo at Dalvay, P.E.I., Aug. 20 (GG *et al.*, *fide* AAMaCL) was thought to be a first record for the province. A Prothonotary Warbler at Chatham, Mass., Aug. 29 (v.o., *fide* WB) was the only individual of this more or less regular fall wanderer to be reported in the Region. Probably the most surprising record of the season was that of a Swainson's Warbler collected at Seal I., N.S., Oct. 9 (JB, IAMcL). This was of course a first record for Canada, the northern limit of its accidental occurrence having hitherto been New York City (one reliable spring sight record). At Grand Manan, a Golden-winged Warbler near Southwest Head, Oct. 8 (CET) was a



Black-throated Gray Warbler, Seal I., N.S., Oct. 10, 1972. Photo/Jean Boulva. First confirmed record for N.S.

fourth record for New Brunswick. Another Seal I. rarity was a Black-throated Gray Warbler photographed Oct. 10 (JB, IAMcL), the first confirmed record for Nova Scotia, there being two May sight records at Sable I., and in New Hampshire, a Black-throated Gray closely studied at Charlestown, Nov. 2-3, was a first sight record for the state (Gladys and Walter Kidder). A Yellow-throated Warbler at Monomoy, Aug. 28, was unique this fall (Richard Palmer, *fide* RPE). At least 9 Prairie Warblers reached Nova Scotia, one a lighthouse kill at Cape Sable, Aug. 15 (SS), 6 seen at Sable I., Aug. 18-22 (DAW) and 2 at Seal I., Aug. 29 and 31 (DWF, IAMcL). In recent years this species has been a frequent late summer wanderer to the province, particularly the islands. A Kentucky Warbler at Block I., R.I., Sept. 17, was the Region's only fall record (specimen, RLF). In New Hampshire, Jim Cavanagh discovered that fall migrant Connecticut Warblers can be attracted and even induced to sing with a tape recorder, and proved the point by finding at least 12 individuals at Fort Dearborn in Rye, Sept. 11-29. A Yellow-breasted Chat at Rustico I., P.E.I., Sept 1 (v.o., *fide* AAMaCL) was another first provincial record; 7 of these birds were found in Nova Scotia, 1 in New Brunswick, 6 in Maine, 5 in New Hampshire, and the usual somewhat greater numbers farther south. Hooded Warblers are regular strays at Sable I., where in seven different years of the last decade a total of 21 individuals have been seen,

including 8 this fall, Aug. 10-21 (DAW). The only other Hooded Warblers in the Region were one which came aboard the CSS "Dawson" en route from Bermuda, about 200 miles from Halifax, in the last week of October (JE), and another seen at New Harbor, Me., Sept. 25 (GS). Among the more notable late warblers were a freshly dead Parula at Falmouth, Me., Nov. 18 (Al Barden, *fide* WCT), single Prairies at Star I., N.H., Nov. 12 (DWF *et al.*) and Rockport, Mass., Nov. 25 (SG *et al.*), and an Am. Redstart at Halifax, N.S., Dec. 3 (CWH).

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS — Eight widely scattered Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported in the period Sept. 2–Oct. 14 (*cf.*, fall totals since 1968 of 2, 3, 8, 3). Orchard Orioles are rather rare in Nova Scotia, more so in fall than in May; this year single birds were seen at Brier I., Aug. 20 (ELM) and at Seal I., Oct. 14 (N.S.B.S.). In the same province a W. Tanager was seen at Lower Ohio, Shelburne Co., Sept. 29 (Elizabeth Harris, *fide* PRD), and another was found at Block I., R.I., Sept. 23 (DWF, RWS). Single W. Tanagers have occurred in the Region each fall since 1968. Summer Tanagers numbered 6 (*cf.*, fall totals since 1968 of 3, 1, 0, 3); a ♀ or immature was found in Fredericton, N.B., Sept. 4 (KHD) and a young ♂ at the same place Oct. 15-18 (NM, PAP), the third to occur at Sable I. was photographed there Sept. 13 (IAMcL, DAW), and the others were seen in Maine (1) and Massachusetts (2).

WINTER FINCHES — Evening Grosbeaks, abundant all summer in the Maritimes, staged a normally heavy flight throughout New England starting in September and reaching a peak about mid-October. Purple Finches passed through in only moderate numbers, and most were gone by late November. The Pine Grosbeak flight was about average, with small flocks appearing in the southern part of the Region about the end of October. Common Redpolls, except for scattered reports of 1-4, were almost entirely absent, and although Pine Siskins were plentiful in the Maritimes, only a few trickled south, mostly in the second half of October, with perhaps another small wave about the third week in November. As noted in the previous report, Red Crossbills moved into s. New England in early July, and throughout the fall they remained quite abundant almost everywhere, with White-winged present as well, though in much smaller numbers.

OTHER FRINGILLIDS — In Massachusetts, a Black-headed Grosbeak was briefly present at a feeder in Rockport, Nov. 15 (Johnson *et al.*, *fide* RPE); two September birds in the state (1968, 1971) are the Region's only recent fall records. Eleven Blue Grosbeaks were reported, Sept. 9–Oct. 28, the northernmost being at North Head, Grand Manan, Oct. 10 (DSC *et al.*); 3 were seen in Maine, 6 in Massachusetts, and one in Rhode Island. The season's total of Dickcissels was about 66, about 30 of them north of Massachusetts, and represented an average flight. The total of 12 Grasshopper Sparrows at Seal I., N.S., Oct. 9 (JB, IAMcL) was surprisingly high, the species normally

reaching the Maritimes in the fall in ones and twos; at the Isles of Shoals, single birds of this species at Appledore I., Me., Oct. 24-25 and Star I., N.H., Nov. 12 (DWF) were the only other fall migrants north of Massachusetts. A Henslow's Sparrow carefully studied at Fort Foster in Kittery Point, Me., Nov. 19 (DJA, Otis Smith) was a third sight record for the state, the only one in the Region this fall, and only the second this year. Single Seaside Sparrows were found in Nova Scotia at Economy, Sept. 27-Oct. 22 (Francis Spaulding) and in New Brunswick at Castalia, Grand Manan, Oct. 9-12 (DSC *et al.*); there were four previous records in each province. About 26 Lark Sparrows were reported, 14 of them north of Massachusetts, and of particular interest was the appearance of 3 imm. birds at Block I. as early as July 31 (EL). About 10 Clay-colored Sparrows occurring Sept. 7-Nov. 18 from Monhegan to Block I. constituted an average season. A Harris' Sparrow at Isleford on Little Cranberry I. off Mount Desert, Me., Oct. 13-14 was unique this fall (Mrs. Andrew Stanley *et al.*, *vide* WCT). Observers differed in their assessment of the flight of White-crowned Sparrows; 358 were counted in Matapedia County, P.Q., Sept. 27 (RCH, VHH), and numbers in Connecticut were also said to be excellent (GB). However, none was reported from P.E.I., and barely average numbers in most of New England. Another Gambel's White-crowned Sparrow was photographed at Seal I., N.S., Oct. 8 (JB, IAMcL). Finally, A Lapland Longspur at Biddeford Pool, Me., Sept. 8, was unusually early (DWF, WCR).

CORRIGENDA — In the last report, the initials NB (for NH) and LJR accompanying the record of Black-capped Petrels are those of Natalie Houghton and Leif J. Robinson, contributor of the report. The omission of a line of type obscured the meaning of a sentence which should read: "Breeding Marsh Hawks were thought to number more than a dozen pairs on Martha's Vineyard (GGD), etc." A later report included word that Great Crested Flycatchers *did* breed at Kejimikujik Nat'l Park, N.S., 2 young being seen fed by parents in mid-August (Simon Lunn).

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HUDSON-ST. LAWRENCE REGION

/ Ned R. Boyajian

The abnormal rains of late summer continued in most of the Region through the fall. Temperatures were generally mild in the early part of the season, and in the south, except for a record-breaking but very short cold-snap in mid-October, remained so to the end of the period. Northward, November turned notably cold-



er with considerable snow in some areas. Although on a broad scale the season could only be considered "normal", as almost all are, it did have undertones of eccentricity traceable to the terrible weather of early summer. Most obvious was the several reports of late nestings. But certain individuals and populations seemed to have suffered some migratory disorientation as well. Shorebirds, especially, kept turning up in the wrong place at the wrong time. Also, early arrivals and late departures seemed equally frequent, sometimes involving the same species. In the Oneida L. Basin (O.L.B.) alone, 25 species were noted as arriving early and 35 as departing late. Other seasonal trends of interest were a fair-to-middling winter finch flight and the occurrence of high counts of several species. Most dramatic of these was the Goshawk, but a number of passerines were up as well; apparently a nasty nesting season has little effect on the tempo of such cycles. A note that will be of interest to some readers; The Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences, Woodstock, Vt., had published *Birds Of East-Central Vermont*, by Rick Farrar. The Institute will be holding a state convention on Vermont birds in mid-June.

LOONS THROUGH HERONS — An excellent count of Com. Loon for the O.L.B. was 116 on L. Ontario, Oct. 28. Peak along the coast occurred on Nov. 4 when "many hundreds" of loons, Gannets and waterfowl were observed off Long I. and New Jersey. Red-necked Grebes, very unusual in w. Mass. were reported from Cheshire, where 2 were seen Sept. 27 (*vide* RS) and the Pittsfield area, two Nov. 5-12. Equally odd was one on Culver L., Sussex Co., N.J. in late October (*vide* RR). On Aug. 19 & Sept 23, pelagic trips were made to Cox's Ledge off the e. tip of Long I (L.S.N.Y.). Highlights included 500 Wilson's Petrels on the 19th and 115 Greater Shearwaters and a **Manx Shearwater** on the 23rd. Also interesting was the combined total for the two trips of 16 Pomarine Jaegers vs. only one of the supposedly more common Parasitic. Best on-shore report was a great movement of shearwaters, thought to be mostly Cory's, passing the vicinity of Quoque, L.I. at the rate of 50-60 an hour for four hours on Sept. 3 (E&LS). Otherwise, on-shore reports were few, mostly small groups of 5-20 Cory's on e. Long I. through October. A count of 375+ Snowy Egrets at N. Arlington, N.J., Sept. 18 (RK) was outstanding for the Region and certainly the highest ever recorded inland. A Snowy was also present in late summer at L. Oneida, where it is very rare (*vide* MR & CS). As has been usual in recent years, a scattering of "summer" herons, egrets, Little Blue, Louisiana, Glossy Ibis, lingered along the coast well into November. More unusual was a Com. Egret lingering at Ferrisburg, Vt. until Oct. 15 (BG) and a Cattle Egret at Wallingford, Conn. Oct. 18 (NP). There were two very high counts at Green Heron roosts in the O.L.B., 237 at Horseshoe I., Aug. 20 and 172 at Seneca R., Aug. 27. Single Yellow-crowned Night Herons, a rare species inland, were seen at N. Arlington Aug. 19 & Sept. 24 (RK).

WATERFOWL — Relatively few Whistling Swans were reported although 2 overhead at Sharon, Conn. during the Snow Goose flight, Oct. 30 (GK) were a

good find for that locale. Otherwise, only a few small flocks of 3-6 were seen, all on e. Long I. in November. At Mt. Tom, 80+ Brant, usually very rare in w. Mass., were seen overhead Oct. 18 (TG) and Oct. 19-Nov. 5, a total of 5 were noted in Berkshire Co. A major flight of Snow Geese swept south Oct. 30 with flocks of 150-2000 seen from Vermont to New Jersey. Main routes of movement seemed to be the Connecticut, and secondarily, the Hudson, Valleys. Very few were noted west of the latter point, or in actual movement down the coast. A Blue Goose, rare in Connecticut, was seen at Fairfield Nov. 28 (CH & HH). For the first time in several years, another of those curious visitations of **Fulvous Tree Ducks** occurred, bringing 11 to Searington, L.I. where they remained from Nov. 11-18 (m.ob.). A waterfowl count at the Great Swamp N.W.R. Nov. 27 tallied 3140 Mallards / 400 Black Ducks, (GG). A Gadwall with 5 young, and a Ruddy Duck with 6 young were found at N. Arlington (RK). As mentioned in the Summer Report, several pairs of each were present, and more may have bred. A Gadwall was also seen at Tarrytown, N.Y. on Dec. 3. Its occurrence in small numbers at such localities during migration is now more or less expected. Three Pintails arrived at S. Windsor, Conn. on the early date of Aug. 20 (PD). A few flocks of 5-18 Blue-winged Teal were still on Long I. in late November, an unusual number for so late in the season. Three Am. Widgeon scarce in the Gale Meadows section of Vermont, were seen there Sept. 16 (WN). A Eur. Widgeon was seen at Cote Ste. Catherine, Qué., Oct. 9-10 and a total of 8-10 were reported from coastal areas from mid-October, on. They seem to be recovering from their relative scarcity of a few years ago. The amazing total of 939 Wood Ducks on the Seneca R. in the O.L.B. was undoubtedly a record Regional count. Representative of the usual fall straying of ducks was a Redhead present at Petersham, Mass., Oct. 28-31, and 12 Canvasbacks at Arnold's L., Milford, N.Y. Nov. 28. For the second straight year, a **Tufted Duck** appeared at Belmont L. State Pk., L.I. It was present for about a week in late November (m.ob.). Maximum count of Greater Scaup in the O.L.B. was a very low 2500 on L. Ontario, Nov. 12. But the peak at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, L.I., 20,000 in late November, did not seem too bad. Two **Barrow's Goldeneyes** on L. Ontario, Nov. 3 was the first fall record for the O.L.B. (MR *et al.*) and the only Regional report of the season. The flight of Oct. 30 brought 1225 Oldsquaws to L. Ontario, a record high for the O.L.B. (DC, *vide* MR & CS). Six Com. Eiders were seen in the Montauk area on the early date of Oct. 16 (H&RA) and they appeared there in numbers as early as Nov. 7, when 200 were seen. Season high was 500 off the Point along with 5 King Eiders Nov. 24. A good inland movement of Com. Scoters was noted in mid-October, with 31 at Milford, N.Y. and 2000 in the Pittsfield area Oct. 18-19. Two groups of Com. Mergansers totalling 18 were seen on Aug. 23 at Indian L., Hamilton Co., N.Y. (TS). In the Moriches Bay, L.I. area, 18 Red-breasted Mergansers were present in late Summer. They breed there erratically, but non-breeders also summer. Closer investigation next summer seems indicated.

RAPTORS — Ten Turkey Vultures at Dutchess Co., Sept. 19 was a good count for that area. Goshawks inundated the s. part of the Region in what was certainly the greatest flight since at least 1926. Though close determination of numbers is impossible, season totals of 200+ from Raccoon Ridge, N.J. and 112 from Hook Mt., N.Y., two hawk watches with negligible duplication, give some indication. Most watches had at least several, with peak days of 8-20 not uncommon. Elsewhere, almost every contributor reported at least one, some had 2 or 3. Oddly, things seemed much quieter northward. The O.L.B. reported 22 for the season, although no report was received from Derby Hill, which might have changed matters, and Montreal had 5. Individually, there was a fair scattering of singles, but some contributors reported none. The major movement of Broad-winged Hawks was more prolonged than usual; consequently there were no exceptionally large single counts. The first peak came early, on Sept. 11, when 3869 were seen at Mt. Peter, N.Y. and 2000+ further west at Raccoon Ridge. Next notable concentration was 2500 in an hour on the late afternoon of Sept. 15 at Sharon, Conn. The next day, a total of 9131 were reported, with much duplication, from 44 sites in s.w. New England. No one site had more than 900-1300. As late as Sept. 20-23, there were still a few reports of 1200-1500 a day from scattered localities. The results of the coordinated New England watch are detailed in an excellent bulletin by Hopkins and Mersereau which could serve as a blue-print for similar projects elsewhere. It appeared an off-year for Rough-legged Hawks, with most locations reporting them scarce or absent. However, 6-8 migrants were noted moving into the Hackensack Meadows, N.J. in mid-December (NB) perhaps an indication of a later build-up. Golden Eagles continued to be seen with considerable frequency. Raccoon Ridge reported 30 for the season. Other sightings totalled about 20, scattered from Quebec to New Jersey. The season total of Bald Eagle was only 15 for the entire Region; 6 ad., 4 imm., 5 unspecified. The best Osprey count reported was 24 on Sept. 19 at Pittsfield. Along the coast, a few lingered into November, including one at New Haven, Nov. 9 (MH & TW). On Nov. 21, a Gyrfalcon, pale gray, was seen at St. Laurent, Qué. (P.Q.S.P.B.). Inland, where migrant Peregrine Falcons are always relatively few, reports seemed about normal; much more indicative was a very poor showing on the major coastal flight. No reports showed more than 1 or 2 a day, some observers saw none all season.

SHOREBIRDS — A Piping Plover lingered at New Haven until Oct. 26 and a Semipalmated Sandpiper at S. Windsor, Conn. until Oct. 17. A Black-bellied Plover at Vergennes, Vt. Aug. 18 (BG) and another at Petersham, Mass., Oct. 28 (*vide* RS) were unusual for those locales. A Whimbrel at Onondaga L. Sept. 3 (FS) was the first in the O.L.B. in three years. Single Solitary Sandpipers were seen as late as Oct. 28 at L. Ontario (PDe & FS) and Nov. 24 at Overpeck Creek, N.J. (NB), both late. Also late was a Greater Yellowlegs at Winhall, Vt. Oct. 30 (WN). For the third

year in a row, a Knot was reported from N. Arlington, this one on Sept. 24 (RK). A good coastal count of this species was 500-700 at Moriches Inlet Aug. 23 (E&LS). There were 30 Pectorals at Ile du Moine, Qué., Sept. 19 and 71 at Onondaga L., N.Y. Sept. 20. On the coast, about 12 lingered into November, including one at Hempstead Res., L.I. on Nov. 6 (SD) and one Nov. 18 at Jamaica Bay W.R. (CH). High inland counts of White-rumped were 46 at Onondaga L., Sept. 3 and 60 at Cote Ste. Catherine Oct. 21. One was present at Lithgow Oct. 20-27 (RSm *et al.*) the first for Dutchess Co. since 1925 (*vide* EP & OW), and there were at least 8 in w. Massachusetts, Oct. 15-28. On the coast, about 30 lingered into November, including 2 at Bridgehampton, L.I. Nov. 26 (E&LS). There were 12 Baird's at Onondaga L., Sept. 29, one was seen at Longmeadow, Mass., Sept. 9 (WNa) and there was one at New Haven as late as Oct. 24 (PD *et al.*). Other reports in the same vein were a Dunlin at Lithgow, Oct. 20-27, a Semipalmated Sandpiper at Croton, N.Y. Nov. 4 (WH) and single W. Sandpipers showing up during the season at such odd places as Hinsdale and Pittsfield, Mass., S. Windsor, Conn. and Orange, N.J. A Curlew Sandpiper was seen at N. Arlington, Aug. 29 (RR). A ripple of inland Buff-breasted Sandpipers, L. Onondaga, S. Windsor, N. Arlington, produced the first Dutchess Co. record, one at Fallkill Oct. 1-11 (m.ob.). It was a good fall for godwits. About 4-5 Marbled were reported along the coast. More unusual was one that voluntarily joined the collection of the Bronx Zoological Park. It was present for several days in late August on a pond behind the new bird house. Groups of 6-8 Hudsonians were found along the coast from mid-July into October, with some lingering into early November. Several appeared inland also. N. Arlington had 3-4, Montreal 6 and the O.L.B., 3, one of which lingered until Oct. 30. More unusual was one picked up dead at Bridgeport, Addison Co., Vt. in August (BG). Unusual Sanderling reports were one present for six days in mid-August at Pittsfield (GS, *vide* RG) and 20 at N. Arlington Oct. 28 (RK). No less than 3 Am. Avocets were seen in August. There was one at Tobay Pond, Jones Beach Aug. 17-30 (m.ob.) and 2 at N. Arlington, Aug. 27-31 (RK *et al.*).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, ALCIDS — Four rather late Parasitic Jaegers were seen off Deal, N.J. Nov. 5 (IB & RK). An unusual find for Berkshire Co. was a Great Black-backed Gull at Pittsfield, Nov. 5 (RG). For the second year in a row, a Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen in Quebec, this one present at Beauharnois, Nov. 18-25 (P.Q.S.P.B.). Three sightings of Black-headed Gull on L. Ontario, Sept. 7-Nov. 2, may have been of the same bird (*vide* MR & CS). There are only two previous records for the O.L.B. One at N. Arlington Aug. 29 (RR) was also quite unusual, especially so early. A Franklin's Gull was seen on L. Ontario Oct. 28 (PDe & FS) the only place in the Region it occurs with any frequency. A Black-legged Kittiwake was seen at L. Ontario on Nov. 12 (PDe *et al.*) and a total of 4 were at Beauharnois Nov. 7-Dec. 4 (P.Q.S.P.B.), where it has been sighted with some frequency of late. There were the usual scattered

sightings of this species on the coast Best count was 115 at Montauk, Nov 26-29 (H&RA) which probably represents some duplication. A first record for Quebec was a Forster's Tern at Ile du Moine, Aug. 19-26 (P.Q.S.P.B.). A concentration of 5000+ terns, Commons and probably some Roseates, was noted at Milford Pt., Conn. Oct. 14 (GD & AK). Least Terns were present throughout late summer at N. Arlington, with a peak of 100+ Aug. 17 (RK). Counts of up to 25 Royal Terns per location were noted along the south shore of Long I. during the season, mostly eastward. Apparently these birds keep feeding in from the south well into the fall. On Oct. 14, Sandford saw 16 moving north along the New Jersey coast, a phenomenon he has noted around that date for the past few years. The only fall report of Gull-billed Tern was one at Jamaica Bay W. R., July 8 (KK *et al.*). A post-Agnes renesting of Black Skimmers at Cedar Beach, L.I. resulted in the presence of downy young into mid-October. The presence of a scattering of skimmers along the coast well into November may have been owing to this and similar incidents. Alcids were not much in evidence. Only 2-3 Razorbills and 10-12 Dovekies were noted along the coast, mostly Nov. 5-25

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH NUTHATCH — Western Kingbirds were both somewhat later and more numerous than usual. About 25 were reported, mostly along the coast after mid-October. Highest concentration were 6-8 in the Montauk area, Nov. 24-26; most unusual were 2 at Shrewsbury, Mass., Sept. 18 (DF, *fide* SE). An E. Phoebe was seen on the late date of Oct. 27 at Sharon, Conn. (GK) and an albino of this species observed at Pine Plains, N.Y. Sept. 30 (TH, *fide* EP & OW). Olive-sided Flycatchers appeared early, e.g., one at N. Fayson, Vt., Aug. 1 (DB) and one at Easton, Conn., Aug. 5 (CH). Many localities which normally record only 1-2 per season reported 3-6. Another instance of early Bank Swallow movement, received too late for the Summer Report, was 900 at Milford, Conn., July 24 (CH). A Cliff Swallow and 30 Purple Martins in Oswego Co., N.Y., Sept. 24 (FS, *fide* MR & CS) were extremely late, as was a Cliff Swallow at Riis Park, L.I., Oct. 15 (RPa). At Montreal, 4 Gray Jays were seen during the season at locales south of their normal winter range (P.Q.S.P.B.) and there were 7 in w. Mass. by late October (B.N.W.M.). A Black-capped Chickadee was seen feeding young on the very late date of Sept. 9 at Mt. Tom (MY, *fide* RS). An invasion of Boreal Chickadees seems in the making, though to date it has been relatively mild. Altogether, perhaps 15-20 were seen in n. areas away from breeding stations. There were 2 southward, one at Anthony's Nose, Orange Co., N.Y. on Oct. 28 and one at Raccoon Ridge Nov. 3. The Red-breasted Nuthatch invasion which began in mid-Summer was very heavy by mid-season, with much comment on great numbers but little counting. It faded rather quickly; by mid-October in the north and early November in the south. Some available figures are: 32 in Onondaga Co., N.Y., Sept. 4; 50 at Jones Beach, Oct. 1; and 72 crossing the Hudson R. in 30 hours at N.J. Palisades, Sept. 15 through Oct 15.

PARAKEET, OWLS, NIGHTHAWK, WOOD-PECKERS — Monk Parakeets were reported from three new locations. One died in a barn at Florence, Mass. (TG), a pair present at Schenectady since June built a nest in a Norway spruce (RY) and one was present at Middletown, N.Y. July 15-Nov. 1 (JT). A resident pair of Barn Owls was discovered in late August at Maine, Broome Co., N.Y., a rather northerly site (PBy). An encouraging note from Heck reported that 5 pairs of Horned Owls are still resident on the n.c. shore of Long I. Snowy Owls appeared very early and in fair numbers. There was one at Pittsfield (AS) and 2 at Greenwich, Conn. (*fide* TD-N.Y.R.B.A.) Oct. 31 and another at Ferrisburg, Vt., Nov. 4 (BG). By late November, 2-3 had reached s New York and Long I. Contributors (GD; JZ) who investigated the capture and release of a Hawk Owl at Stamford, Conn. on Oct. 12 are satisfied it was a valid record. A Long-eared Owl at Pittsfield Nov 26 was the first found in that area for many years (*fide* RG). A Boreal Owl was seen at St. Laurent, Qué Nov. 9 (P.Q.S.P.B.). There was a good flight of Saw-whet Owls, especially on Long I. At least 38 were banded at Fire I., including 10 on Oct. 26 and 12 on Nov. 11. Best Com. Nighthawk counts were 373 at Syracuse, Aug. 24, 92 at Ardsley, N.Y. and 188 at Fair Lawn, Aug. 27, and 500 at Torrington, Conn., Aug. 25-Sept. 1 with a high of 163 on Aug. 28. The Red-bellied Woodpecker continued to do well in recently invaded territories, especially n.c. Long I, s.w. Connecticut and the Delaware Valley. It appeared in Berkshire Co. for the first time, with one at Ashley Falls Oct. 29 (JH, *fide* RG). There was also one at Fire I., Oct. 29, the first Fall record there (PB). The Hairy Woodpecker, which normally avoids the outer beaches, appeared there in numbers, e.g., 8 banded at Fire I., Oct. 26. Elsewhere it was erratically abundant, e.g., 17 in 20 hours at New Jersey Palisades in October vs. a norm of 8-10. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers were in fair evidence in the north, with 17-20 noted away from breeding stations; including one as early as Aug. 1 at N. Fayson, Vt. (DB).

WRENS, THRASHER, THRUSHES — A good count of House Wrens was 24 at Northampton, Mass Sept. 25 (B.N.W.M.). Winter Wrens were everywhere in numbers. In the Connecticut Valley, Mass., there were 23 for the season vs. 6 last year and at Visher Ferry, N.Y., 30 were banded for the season vs 13 and 18 for the past two years respectively. Other counts of note were 47 at L. Ontario, Oct. 8 and 11 in 75 acres at Fairfield, Conn., Oct. 1. There were 5 Carolina Wrens in the Conn. R. Valley vs. 2 last year, and also 2 at Tarrytown, N.Y., Oct. 27 and 1 at Palmerton, Pa., Oct. 23. There was a noticeable northward move of this species last Spring. On Sept. 15, a Short-billed Marsh Wren was seen at Gale Meadows, Vt., where it is quite rare (WN). A great rarity was a Sage Thrasher, very carefully identified at Jones Beach Oct 22 (PL *et al.*). There is one other record for Long I., also in October. There were 4-5 more August sightings of very early migrant Swainson's and Gray-

cheeked Thrushes, and one very late Swanson's at Branford, Conn., Nov. 5 (NP). Good E. Bluebird flights, a rarity these days, were 35 at Woodstock, Vt., Sept. 15, 33 at N. Bay, Oswego County, Oct. 19, 300+ at Greenwich, Conn., Oct. 25 (WC, *fide* GD) and 35 at New Haven, Oct. 26. A Wheatear was present, Sept. 26-27 near Bridgeport, N.Y. (PLa *et al.*, *fide* MR) the first record for the O.L.B. A few days later, on Oct. 2, the Macdonalds, extremely meticulous observers, carefully observed one of a flock of 4 birds at Topsham, Vt. they thought to be Wheatears. The description was entirely convincing.

KINGLETS, PIPIT, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES — During the flight of Oct. 25, a mixed flock of 200 Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen in a tiny Manhattan park (RP). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Milford Pt., Conn. Oct. 27 was late (NP). A Water Pipit at Winhall, Vt., Sept. 11 was early, as was one at N.J. Palisades Sept. 16. On Oct. 23, there were 150 pipits at Woodstock, Vt. and on Oct. 28, 75 at Cooper's Hill, Mass.; both good counts. Cedar Waxwings began moving early, e.g., 30-40 an hour for four hours at Lighthouse Pt., New Haven, Aug. 13, and were numerous all season. From mid-September on daily maxima of 400-600 were noted from a number of locales, e.g., Oneonta and Oswego, N. Y., Arcadia, Mass. and Fair Lawn, N.J. A few Bohemian Waxwings were noted also. There was one as early as Oct. 17 at Charlotte, Vt. (TM, *fide* BCa) and another at Arcadia, Oct. 26-30. In November, a small flock was reported at Montreal and a scattering of singles from other northern places. Most northern areas reported at least one or 2 N. Shrikes after mid-October. The first reached the New York City area early, with one at W. Orange, N.J., Oct. 26 (RR) and another at Fire I, Oct. 27 (PB). Thereafter, a scattering of about 20 sightings indicated at least a light invasion. A few more Loggerhead Shrikes lingered into late November than is usual, about 6-8 were reported from n.w. New Jersey to Long I.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Although late departures were numerous this season, it has been obvious for several years that many vireos and warblers whose main period of migration ends in early October regularly pass through southern areas in small numbers well into November, especially along the coast. A representative few are mentioned below. There were excellent counts of some vireos in the O.L.B., 25 Solitary on Aug. 31, 98 Red-eyed on Aug. 19, and for the season, 38 Philadelphia; one as late as Nov. 2 at L. Ontario (FS). A White-eyed Vireo, very rare northward especially in Fall, was seen at W. Hartford, Conn. Sept. 24 (PD). Indicative of late nesting was a resident Yellow-throated Vireo at Sharon, Conn. which sang regularly through Sept. 18. An interesting note on hybrids from the Conn. R. Valley was a Blue-winged and Brewster-type with 2 nestlings, one Blue-winged, one Lawrence's type (MY, *fide* RS). There were also 2 Brewster-types seen in the O.L.B. in late August (*fide* MR & CS). Record early arrival, Sept. 7, and departure, Nov. 2, of Orange-crowned Warbler in the O.L.B. was typical of the pattern throughout the Region. One

reached Prospect Park, Brooklyn on the remarkable date of Sept. 14 (B.B.C.) and several were still present in southern areas well into December. Frequency was up, also. Season totals averaged 1-3 per locality rather than the usual 0-1. A Myrtle Warbler with a brood-patch was netted at Visher Ferry, July 18 where it is not known to breed (RY) and a very early migrant was seen at Croton Pt., N.Y. Aug. 23 (WH). The **Yellow-throated Warbler**, very rare in fall, especially inland, was seen twice, once at Montclair, N.J., Sept. 14 (RR) and once at Poughkeepsie Sept. 30 (AJ, *fide* EP & OW). An early Connecticut Warbler was seen at L. Ontario, Aug. 28 (FS). On migration, this species often shows a penchant for a particular spot where it can be found in small groups year after year, though perhaps unrecorded in places immediately adjacent. Such a situation existed at Bound Brook, N.J. many years ago (*fide* RC). A concentration of up to 5 this season at Garvies Pt., L.I., Sept. 10-15 (BS *et al.*) may represent another. Fall Mourning Warblers are being discovered more frequently of late. There were 8 in the Conn. R. Valley this season and a scattered 6-8 elsewhere, including one very late bird at Montreal, Sept. 30 (P.Q.S.P.B.). Two fall rarities for Dutchess Co., N.Y. were a Yellow-breasted Chat banded at Millbrook Sept. 19 (*fide* RS) and a Hooded Warbler at Thompson, Sept. 2 (EP *et al.*). Representative late warbler dates were: Black-and-white at Croton Pt., Nov. 4, Worm-eating at Fairfield Oct. 1 (CH), Tennessee at Millbrook Nov. 22 (CT *et al.*), Cape May at W. Orange, N.J., Nov. 16, Bay-breasted at Sea Girt, N.J., Nov. 12 (WS), a dead Ovenbird at S. Hadley, Mass., Oct. 16 and Am. Redstart at Winhall, Vt., Oct. 14 and Brookhaven, L.I., Nov. 19.

ICTERIDS, TANAGER — Some maximum Icterid counts for the season were: Red-winged Blackbird, 15,000, L. Ontario, Oct. 13-19, Rusty Blackbird, 600, L. Ontario, Oct. 29, Com. Grackle, 20,000, Southwick, Mass., Oct. 20. Good local counts of Bobolink were 250+, Sept. 13-15 at Woodstock, Vt. and 1075 in two hours at Lighthouse Pt., Sept. 4. Two **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** were reported, one at Cote Ste. Catherine, Qué. Oct. 6 (P.Q.S.P.B.) and the other at Larchmont, N.Y. Oct. 15 (PL *et al.*). A **Bullock's Oriole** (possibly two) was reported from the identical spot in Montauk State Pk. Oct. 9 (JY) & Nov. 29 (H&RA). A **Boat-tailed Grackle** seen at Montauk, Oct. 14 (H&RA) was the third on Long I. in recent years. As noted previously, this species has been increasing notably in s. New Jersey. No less than 3 Summer Tanagers were reported for the season. An ad. at Fairfield, Conn., Oct. 1 (CH) and imm. at Montauk, Nov. 24-25 (m.ob.) and most remarkable, another at Philipsburg, Qué. Nov. 19 (m.ob.).

WINTER FINCHES — There was a moderate-to-heavy winter finch flight. Though early arrivals were prominent, main movements of some species seemed unusually rapid, with short, sharp peaks then rapid dwindling. Evening Grosbeaks were being reported around Montreal by early August, c. Vermont by mid-August and the Berkshires by the first days of October. From mid-October to early November, flocks of 50

or more were everywhere numerous, some localities reporting daily maxima of 600-1500. Thereafter, numbers dropped off quickly in most places, although good numbers, e.g., 500 in the w. Adirondacks, Nov. 25, were still reported here and there. A Pine Grosbeak appeared in the O.L.B. as early as Oct. 12. A few n locations had good numbers by the end of the month, but Region-wide there were few until a sharp peak in mid-November when small flocks even reached the outer beaches, where normally they are rare. Goodrich's comment that they swept through Berkshire County in two days was typical. By early December numbers had dwindled appreciably. During the peak of flight typical flock-size was 15-20; with numerous daily maxima of 200-500. There were a few scattered small flocks of Com. Redpoll at Montreal and Topsham, Vt. in late October-early November and by mid-November, one at Purchase, N.Y. and 21 at Sandy Hook, N.J. But thereafter they were little in evidence. No consistent, wide-spread flight of Pine Siskins developed. They were most regular in c. Vermont, where 10-50 a day were noted from mid-October, on. Elsewhere they were very erratic. Most locales had at least one count of about 200, but otherwise only irregular reports of groups of 15-30. Red Crossbills, which had been moving since mid-Summer, slacked off a bit in early Fall but came back in a rush later in the season, with widespread flocks of 10-50. Counts of 300 at Fire I., 150 at Raccoon Ridge and 85 at Pompey, N.Y., some typical daily maxima, were indicative of the magnitude and ubiquitousness of the invasion. As with other species, numbers diminished sharply in December. White-winged Crossbills were widespread but few in numbers. Five remarkably early birds appeared at W. Orange Sept. 5 (RR) but most places had none until late October. What peak there was came in early November with such typical daily maxima as 34 in the O.L.B., 11 at Mt. Tom and 8 at Topsham and Fire I.

OTHER FINCHES— One of the very few observations of migrating Cardinals in the Region was the report of 6 definite migrants at Fire I., Oct. 26 (RP). Up to 7 were present at a feeder in Vergennes, Vt. in late October, some indication of their numbers northward. A belated report of note was a **Black-headed Grosbeak** at Middletown, N.Y. on the remarkable date of June 29 (JT). The pair of Blue Grosbeaks at N. Arlington apparently did breed successfully. Immatures were seen on various occasions, sometimes in company with the adults (m.ob.). A good count for Northampton, Mass. was 56+ Indigo Buntings Sept. 15. Dickcissels were reported as normal along the coast, e.g., 6 in nine days in September at Fire I. Most unusual reports were one at Winhall, Sept. 11, the first Norse has seen there, and a rather late bird at Branford, Conn., Nov. 23 (NP). There were 2 reports of Painted Bunting, at Fairfield, Oct. 4 (CH) and at an Ogdensburg, N.J. feeder Nov. 18-26 (m.ob.). The problems regarding escapes have been discussed in these reports several times before. In this case it might be noted that a number of Painted Buntings were among the birds illegally trapped on the Gulf Coast and transported to New York City recently (*fide* RR).

See also, AB 26 584. Purple Finches bred late at Jenny L., N.Y. but actually had a better season than last year. Maximum late Summer count was 633 (RY). Migrants were generally numerous, e.g., 60 at Floyd, N.Y. Nov. 7, 40-60 on several days at N.J. Palisades, where the first appeared as early as Sept. 14. Observers at key points along the north edge of the House Finch's range, Syracuse, Poughkeepsie, Northampton, indicated that current populations are well entrenched but not noticeably expanding. This species made its usual late fall appearance at Schenectady, where Yunick had 12-15 at his feeder, Oct. 21 through mid-November. Am. Goldfinches were abundant along the coast, e.g., 1000 in four hours at Fire I., Nov. 16, and spottily elsewhere. For instance, no major flights were noted in the O.L.B. or at N.J. Palisades, but good numbers were reported for Dutchess County and n.w. New Jersey. A Rufous-sided Towhee was seen feeding a young at Williamsburg, Mass. on the late date of Sept. 5. At Pompey, N.Y., A Henslow's Sparrow lingered until Oct. 28, a local late date (DC, *fide* MR & CS) and a Grasshopper Sparrow was seen at Greenwich, Conn. Nov. 5 (GD). Only 3-4 Lark Sparrows were reported along the coast, far fewer than usual, but 2 at Palmerton, Pa. Oct. 23 (GZ) were good for that locale. Many observers commented on the abundance of Slate-colored Juncos. From Oct. 1 on, many flocks of 50-100 were present around Montreal, and by mid-month, in most areas. Some daily counts at that time were 400 at L. Ontario, 250 in Riverside Pk., Manhattan, and 380 at N.J. Palisades, of which about 90 were seen crossing the Hudson R. Only 2 Clay-colored Sparrows were reported, one at S. Windsor, Conn., Oct. 9 (PD) and one netted at Brookhaven, L.I., Oct. 31 (DP). White-crowned Sparrows were also numerous. Maximum daily count was a very high 222 at Vienna, N.Y. Oct. 18. More typical were 28 in a small plot at Larchmont, N.Y., Oct. 16 and groups of 12-20 in the Conn. Valley. Total numbers there were twice last year's. Though the evidence is complicated by a historic pattern of sharp fluctuations, as exemplified by this year, this species seems to be becoming steadily more numerous. Another belated report, an individual of the *gambelii* race of this species was identified at Sharon, Conn. May 3 (GK). The Conn. Valley reported 50 Lincoln's Sparrows for the season, about twice last year's total. In the south, late bird were more numerous than usual, with 10-12 early November sightings. On Oct. 20, 4 Lapland Longspurs were seen at Pittsfield (TO, *fide* RG) where they are quite unusual. On Nov. 10, 1000+ Snow Buntings were seen at Jones Beach (BC), a good count for Long I.

OBSERVERS — Bob Ake, Mark Aronson, Jim Ash, Harold and Rachel Axtell, Moreton Bates, Al Bell, Ken Berlin, Bird Notes of Western Massachusetts, Irving Black, B. Boeringer, Joe Bookalam, Peter Both, Ned Boyajian, Dorothy Briggs, Mony Brigham, Brooklyn Bird Club, (PB) Paul Buckley, Enid Butler, (PBy) Paul Bystrak, (BCa) Barbara Carpenter, Robert Clark, Gary Choen, Richard Cohen, (RC) Robert Conn, Martha Connor, Barbara Conolly, W. Bolton Cook, Dorothy Crumb, Neil Currie (GD)

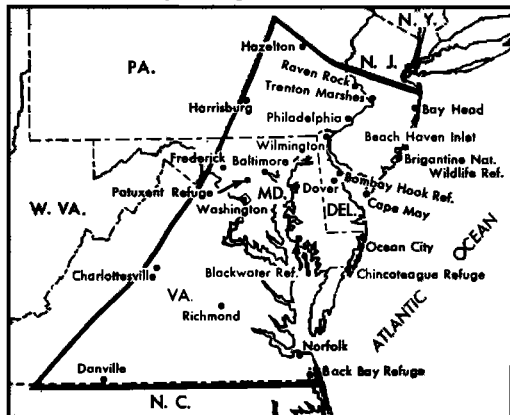
Gus Daniels, Tom Davis, (PDe) Paul DeBenedictis, Steve Dempsey, G. Dennis, Paul Desjardins, Laura Drummond, Sam Eliot, Rick Farrar, Davis Finch, (DF) Dave Fischer, Betty Forquer, Roger Foxall, Robert Fritz, Fyke Nature Association, Tom Gagnon, George Gavutis, Florence Germond, Robert Goodrich, Michel Gosselin, Beatrice Guyett, Thelma Haight, (MH) Michael Harwood, Otto Hack, Alan Hickey, Highlands Audubon Society, Charles Hills, Helen Hills, Bob Hines, Stewart Holohan, Donald Hopkins, Marshall Howe, William Howe, J. Hurlburt, David Johnson, Alice Jones, (RK) Richard Kane, Rosemary Kearney, Allan Keith, S. Kellogg, Ken Kelly, Jim Key, Mary Key, Tim Kobel, George Komorowski, (PLa) P. Laible, Paul Lehman, Linnaean Society of New York, Boris Lyzak, Alison and Elizabeth Macdonald, Helen Manson, Florence McDonough, M. McFee, Keith McGuirk, Mabel McIntosh, Gerald Mersereau, Clifford Miles, George Montgomery, Thomas Myers, (WNA) William Natti,

New York Rare Bird Alert, William Norse, Nick Niosi, Thomas O'Connell, (RPa) Roger Pasquier, Bill Paterson, Robert Paxton, Elinor Pink, (NP) Noble Proctor, Ted Proctor, Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds, Dennis Puleston, Norma Purdy, Richard Rabeler, Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club, John Reddall, John Rinaldo, Margaret Rinsma, (MR) Marge Rusk, (RR) Richard Ryan, Eric and Lorna Salzman, Alvah Sanborn, (WS) William Sandford, Fritz Scheider, (GS) Gary Shampang, Ruby Silverstein, Samuel Silverstein, (RSm) Robert Smart, Gerald Smith, P. Smith, W. Smith, Barbara Spencer, Chris Spies, Jack Steeves, (RS) Rudolph Stone, Timothy Sterrett, Czecher Terhune, Stiles Thomas, Fred Tilly, Greg Toffic, Anne Townsend, John Tramontano, Marion Van Wagner, Neil Ward, Wendell Wassner, Otis Waterman, J. Weigand, Berna Weissman, Tom Will, Floyd Wolfarth, Mary Yenlin, Robert Yunick, John Yrizarry, Joe Zeranski, Guy Zern. — **NED R. BOYAJIAN, 9 Reading Terrace, Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410.**

MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST REGION

/ F. R. Scott and David A. Cutler

After two autumns in succession with above-normal temperatures, the fall of 1972 was somewhat cooler than average overall. Although August was very dry, rainfall picked up in September, and the rest of the



period was very wet. A rather local storm in Virginia in early October sent the James River out of its banks for the second major flood in four months. There were no major coastal storms.

Details on coastal banding stations were available only for Island Beach, N.J. and Kiptopeke Beach, Va. Based on these, it appears that major flights of small land birds occurred on Sept. 10 and 23 and Oct. 1-2, 9-10, 14, and 26.

Features of the season included some stunning pelagic observations, a minor flight of Fulvous Tree Ducks, and more than the normal number of extralimital species.

GREBES, SHEARWATERS, PETRELS— Three Red-necked Grebes at Stone Harbor, N.J. Oct. 8 (PEB & SO) and 3 in e. Anne Arundel Co., Md. Nov. 18

(PGD) were good counts for this elusive species. Cory's Shearwaters were reported twice on the many pelagic trips taken this fall. One was seen 60 mi. east of Brielle, N.J. Sept. 17 (PGD) and 2 about 20 mi. east of Virginia Beach, Va. Sept. 30 (PGD). Some impressive counts of Wilson's Petrels were obtained, among which were 180 off Indian R. Inlet, Del. Aug. 26 (HTA, MVB *et al.*) and 1000 off Seaside Park, N.J. Sept. 9 (RLA, PGD, PWS *et al.*). Late reports included 8 seen from the Lewes-Cape May ferry Sept. 23 (JD) and 4 off Virginia Beach Sept. 30 (RLA, PGD *et al.*). Outstanding were a **White-faced Petrel** (*Pelagodroma marina*) seen and beautifully photographed in color 22 mi. off Indian R. Inlet Aug. 26 (MVB, AEC, HBM, *et al.*) and a small petrel believed to be a **British Storm Petrel** (*Hydrobates pelagicus*) 99 miles off Brielle, N.J. Sept. 17 (PGD). More detailed publication is anticipated for both of these records.

GANNETS, CORMORANTS, FRIGATEBIRD— An imm. Gannet off Indian R. Inlet Aug. 26 was early (AEC). Good numbers of Gannets were reported all along the coast in October and November, culminating in a massive northward flight off Seaside Park, N.J. totaling 1200 Nov. 4 and 2400 Nov. 15 (HHA). Great Cormorants returned again to St. Georges I., Md. on the Potomac R., and 5 were noted there first Oct. 7 (HM). An immature was carefully observed at Lynnhaven Inlet, Virginia Beach Oct. 29 (RLA), and apparently the same bird was picked up dead later the same day and preserved as a specimen (GSG). A **Magnificent Frigatebird** was photographed at Hog I., near Wachapreague, Va. July 14 (TJA & AHT) and the color slide examined by C. S. Robbins. This is the first confirmed record for the state.

HERONS, IBIS, FLAMINGO— Late summer concentrations of most herons and Glossy Ibis were not up to those of recent years. Two Green Herons at Chincoteague Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Va. Nov. 20 were rather late (FRS). Cattle Egrets peaked at 350

at Bombay Hook Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Del Sept 2 (NEH), and an unprecedented 778 were counted flying to a roost at the Susquehanna R. flats near York, Pa Aug. 1 (HBM). Two good concentrations of Least Bitterns were reported, with up to 15 at Manahawkin, N J Aug. 15-Sept. 1 (PWS) and 20 at Cape May, N.J. Aug 15-Sept. 29 (NP). The peak concentration of Glossy Ibis was 400 at Brigantine Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N.J. Aug. 27 (SRL), and 9 were still present at the Stone Harbor, N.J. roost Nov. 22 (HHA). Two imm White Ibis were present at Little Creek, Del. Aug 19-27 (AEC & NEH), and an **Am. Flamingo** was reported on the beach at Back Bay Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Va. Sept. 8 (FS, *fide* DFH), possibly the same bird previously reported at Assateague I., Md. and Va during the summer.

SWANS, GEESE — Up to 5 Mute Swans were present at Chincoteague Refuge, Va. Oct. 21 to the end of the period (MAB, EL, JOP *et al.*), and a Whistling Swan was seen on a lake at Pt. Pleasant Beach, N J Nov. 5 (PWS). Near Clifton, Fairfax Co., Va. 100 early Whistling Swans were noted migrating south-eastward Oct. 19 and 289 Nov. 17 (JWE). Numbers of imm Brant and Snow Geese were extremely low, indicating a disastrous past nesting season for these two species. Adult Brant numbers were also low, though this might be owing mainly to a late migration. First migrant Snow Geese were noted at Bombay Hook Refuge Oct. 4 (NEH), and although numbers increased during the month, the main first flight into the Region occurred Oct. 29 with 4000 at Brigantine Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N.J. (RJB) and 3000 at Fortescue, N.J. (DEK) Blue Geese were first seen Oct. 18 at Cape May (BS), and by Nov. 12 there were 550 at Blackwater Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Md. (HTA). A White-fronted Goose was reported at Bombay Hook Refuge Oct. 25 & Nov. 17 (NEH).

DUCKS — A few Fulvous Tree Ducks appeared in the Region again. At Chincoteague Refuge one was seen in late August (PGD, JEJ, RAR) and 2 Nov. 23-24 (EL *et al.*), 4 were found at Prime Hook Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Del. Nov. 16 (RN), and at Bombay Hook Refuge at least 2 were present Aug. 17-Oct. 4 (BBeh, GWW) with a peak of 8 on Sept. 23 (CUA). The 2 Com. Shelducks previously reported at Bombay Hook Refuge remained at least to Oct. 4 (NEH *et al.*) A count of 1500 Gadwall at Bombay Hook Sept. 27 was a new fall peak (NEH), and single Eur. Widgeon were reported at Brigantine Refuge Oct. 22 (RS) and Nov 17-18 (HHA) and at Sandy Point State Park, Md Oct. 19-24 (JMA, HW). A Com. Teal was seen at Shark R., N.J. Nov. 6 (PWS) and 2 at Tinicum Refuge, Philadelphia, Nov. 11 (JCM & SO). Counts of 65 Wood Duck at Tinicum Refuge Sept. 5 and 150 at Brigantine Refuge Sept. 15 were both considered excellent (JCM). Few Redheads were reported away from Chesapeake Bay. These included 7 at Lewes, Del Oct. 31 (AK), 10 at Kleinfeltersville, Pa. Nov. 5 (SRL), and 10 at Bayhead, N.J. Nov. 18 (RJB). Fifty Ring-necked Ducks at Bristol, Pa. Dec. 1 (DAC) and 60 at Nassau, Del. Nov. 17 (NEH) were both good counts. A pair of Harlequin Ducks appeared on

one of the islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, Va. first on Oct. 24 (MAB), and both Com and King Eiders returned in small numbers to numerous spots along the coast. Of particular interest was a King Eider at Sandy Pt. Md. Nov. 18-28 on the upper Chesapeake Bay (JMA, PGB, RAR).

HAWKS — Five Black Vultures were found at Smyrna, Del. Sept. 5, an unusual number this far north (AEC), and one was seen at Wagonner's Gap, Pa Sept. 17 (GWW). A record flight of Goshawks was noted at Hawk Mountain, Pa. where 428 had been recorded by the end of the period (AN), and the banders at Cape May, N.J. observed 50 during the fall (*fide* EAC). Elsewhere, 20 were seen at Bake Oven Knob, Pa. Nov. 15 (EWG), one was found at Longwood, Pa. Nov. 4 (PEG), and Blicharz noted one at Hopewell, N.J. Nov. 24. There were at least ten other reports for the n. part of the Region. Oct. 8 was apparently the "big day" for Sharp-shinned Hawks along the coast. At Higbee's Beach, Cape May, Beach estimated that "several thousand" passed through in the morning, and Pulcinella had similar reports from Cape May Pt. At Kiptopeke Beach, Va. W. P. Smith reported a "remarkable number" passing overhead and estimated that at least 50 were seen hitting the small bird mist nets at the banding station, of which 14 were caught and banded. The Broad-winged Hawk flight at Hawk Mountain totaled 16,621 (AN), but there were few other reports of note. One interesting observation, however, was of at least 75 seen moving north-northwesterly over Chevy Chase, Md. Sept. 19 (PP) A record inadvertently omitted from the nesting season report was of a Golden Eagle seen at Blackwater Refuge, Md. June 3, a remarkable observation (HTA) The fall Bald Eagle total at Hawk Mountain was 23 (only 10 of which were immatures), the lowest on record (AN), and the largest concentration reported was 4 adults and 4 immatures at Blackwater Refuge Nov. 12 (HTA). Daniels, Keith, Lincoln, and others counted 65 Ospreys moving past Cape May during a 2-hour period Oct. 1, surprisingly late for such a number. Peregrine Falcons were also in the lowest numbers on record at Hawk Mountain, where only 10 were recorded (AN). On Assateague I., Md. and Va. Ward and Berry recorded only 40 Peregrines in 33 days of observation in late September and October, and of the 8 trapped and banded, only 3 were immatures. Comparable figures for the fall of 1971 were 120 seen in 16 days of observation and 35 banded, of which 31 were immatures (*Journal of Wildlife Management* 36: 484-492). Vaughn reported a peak of 15 Pigeon Hawks on Assateague I., Md. Sept. 22. A remarkable discovery was the capture of a European **Kestrel** (*Falco tinnunculus*) at Cape May Pt. Sept. 23 (WSC). The bird, a ♀, was banded photographed, and released.

RAILS, OYSTERCATCHERS, PLOVERS — A **Clapper Rail** was found dead but still bleeding on a road near Charlottesville, Va. Oct. 7 (RSM). This area is some 150 mi. inland from the coast. There were three records of the seldom-reported Yellow Rail Wertz flushed one at Woodland Beach, Del. Sept. 16, another was seen at Cape May Oct. 1 (JT, *fide* CFH),

and one was picked up dead at Linwood, N J Oct 14 (JD). Good concentrations of Am. Oystercatchers included 31 at Tuckerton, N.J. Aug. 24 (BCH) and 285 in the Wallops and Chincoteague Is. area, Va. Nov. 5 (CRV), and a count of 35 Wilson's Plovers at Wallops I. Aug. 27 was excellent (PDG, CRV *et al.*). There were possibly more Am. Golden Plover reports than in any other fall on record. Outstanding peak counts in the n. part of the Region included 78 at Atlantic City, N.J. Sept. 8 (JD), 115 at Pamona, N J. Sept. 9 (JFA), 325 at New Sharon, N.J. Sept. 10 (PS), and 125 at Bombay Hook Refuge, Del. Sept. 27 (NEH). Farther south, a maximum of 35 was seen at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C. Sept. 21 (JMA), 28 were found at Kiptopeke Beach Sept. 17 (MAB *et al.*), and 20 were observed at Hog. I., Surry Co., Va. Sept. 24 (RLA).

SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES — Peak Upland Plover counts included 20 at the Richmond, Va. airport Aug. 18 (DEP & RHP), 44 at Wallops Station, Va. Aug. 23 (CRV), and 32 at the Atlantic City airport Aug. 25 (AAB & ETM). A Spotted Sandpiper at Presqu Coast Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, near Hopewell, Va. Nov. 18 was quite late (FRS) as was a Solitary Sandpiper at Blackwater Refuge, Md. Nov. 26 (TL), and Lesser found a Spotted Redshank which remained at Manahawkin, N.J. Aug. 17-22. A Purple Sandpiper at Longport, N.J. Sept. 17 was quite early (JF), and the peak along the islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, Va. was 142 Nov. 26 (MAB). A White-rumped Sandpiper at Harrisburg, Pa. Oct. 15 was locally unusual (GWW), and late reports included one at the West Chester, Pa. reservoir Nov. 9 (JG) and 2 at Craney I., Portsmouth, Va. Nov. 11 (GSG). Atkinson reported a Baird's Sandpiper at Bombay Hook Refuge Sept. 23, and one was present inland at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C. Sept. 29-Oct. 19 (JMA, RLP). Two Curlew Sandpipers were seen at Brigantine Refuge, N.J. Sept. 10 (RLA & PGD), and single ones were found at Bombay Hook Refuge Oct. 4 (PLH) and Brigantine Refuge Nov. 10 (JFA), the last unusually late. Also at Brigantine Refuge, the peak count of W. Sandpipers was 1000 Aug. 12 (PWS).

Reports of Buff-breasted Sandpipers came from at least six localities. Inland records included up to 5 at Bolling Air Force Base Sept. 16-Oct. 2 (JMA *et al.*) and one at Hog I., Surry Co., Va. Aug. 26 (CCS). Fewer individual godwit reports were received, probably because observers feel they are no longer newsworthy. The most interesting reports were 6 Marbled Godwits at Chincoteague Refuge Aug. 26 (CRV) and 10 at Brigantine Refuge Nov. 11-17 (HHA, JKM). The flock of 25 Hudsonian Godwits previously reported at Brigantine had decreased to 15 by Aug. 15 and 2 by late September (JD). Up to 2 Ruffs were present at Brigantine Refuge Aug. 12-27 (EB *et al.*), and one was seen off and on during August at Chincoteague Refuge (RLA, PGD, CRV). Elsewhere, one was reported at Bombay Hook Refuge Sept. 3 (PGD) and another along the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel Sept. 9 (FRS). Maximum counts of Am. Avocets included 143 at Bombay Hook Refuge Sept. 21 (NEH) and 25 at Brigantine Refuge Aug. 15 (many observers).

There were still 28 present at Chincoteague Refuge Nov. 20 (FRS). DuMont found 6 Red Phalaropes off Ocean City, Md. Sept. 3 and one 65 mi. off Brielle, N.J. Sept. 17, and the best Wilson's Phalarope report was a flock of 7 on a sewage lagoon at Chesapeake, Va. Aug. 26 (GSG). There were many N. Phalarope reports along the coast, with a remarkable 55 being reported off Virginia Beach Sept. 30 (RLA, PGD *et al.*). Inland reports included one at Harrisburg, Pa Sept. 10 (CJ) and one at Kleinfeltersville, Pa Oct 21 (WWK).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS, DOVEKIE — Jaegers were widely reported along the coast and offshore. A remarkable count of 51 Pomarine Jaegers was made 80-99 mi. off Brielle, N.J. Sept. 17 (MVB & PGD), the birds being in "obvious migration." There were three other Pomarine reports: one off Virginia Beach Sept. 30 (RLA & PGD), one at Ocean City, Md Oct 28 (HTA), and another off Ocean City Nov. 19 (BBlk, PGD, & RAR). Exceptional counts of Parasitic Jaegers included 16 at Island Beach, N.J. Sept. 8 (JCM) and 6 off Virginia Beach Sept. 30 (RLA & PGD). Two off Ocean City Nov. 19 were late (BBlk, PGD & RAR). A Glaucous Gull at Sandy Pt., Md Oct 13 was early (PGD), as was an Iceland Gull at Reeds Beach, Cape May Oct. 1 (RR). Single Lesser Black-backed Gulls, or perhaps the same bird, were reported at Fort Story, Virginia Beach Sept. 30 (JD) and along the nearby Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel Oct 28 (RLA). Single Black-headed Gulls were found at Brigantine Refuge Sept. 9 (BBeh), Cape May Nov 19 (JD), and 14 mi. off Ocean City Nov. 19 (BBlk, PGD & RAR). At Chincoteague Refuge a Little Gull was found on the remarkable date of Aug. 24 (CW), 3 were seen here Aug. 27 (PGD, CRV & VW), and one was still present Sept. 24 (PGD). Two unprecedented counts of Black-legged Kittiwakes were made. The Axtells estimated that in 3½ hours they saw 3000 passing northward off Island Beach, N J Nov. 13, and 75 (62 adults and 13 immatures) were reported off Ocean City Nov. 19 (BBlk, PGD & RAR). While the former were observed by telescope from the beach, most of the Ocean City birds were 9-14 mi. offshore.

Forster's Terns seemed unusually scarce along the lower Virginia rivers, perhaps due to a poor nesting season (JMA, FRS). Wiltraut considered 11 Com. Terns on the Lehigh R. near Allentown, Pa. Sept 30 to be unusual inland, and DuMont reported 4 Roseate Terns off Ocean City Sept. 4. An ad. Royal Tern still feeding a young at Fort Story, Virginia Beach Oct. 29 seemed very late and was perhaps indicative of very late nesting (RLA). A concentration of 66 Royal Terns at Hereford Inlet, N.J. Aug. 28 was a good count here (AAB & ETM), and DuMont reported an imm. Sandwich Tern at Chincoteague I., Va. Sept 24 and an ad. Sooty Tern at Assateague I., Md Sept 4. A Dovekie was found alive inland at Vineland, N.J Nov. 20 following a storm (JB).

HUMMINGBIRD, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, RAVEN — A very late-Ruby-throated Hummingbird was observed at Virginia Beach, Va

Nov 18 (BL), and the peak E. Kingbird flight at Kiptopeke Beach apparently occurred Sept. 2 when 450 were recorded (FRS). Western Kingbirds were reported from at least eight localities including 3 at Cape May, N.J. Sept. 24-30 (HHA *et al.*) and 2 at Capahosic, Gloucester Co., Va. Oct. 28-Nov. 2 (MBP). Miller found a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Tinicum Refuge, Pa. Oct. 21, and single Fork-tailed Flycatchers, or perhaps the same bird, were seen on coastal New Jersey Sept. 4, one at Brigantine Refuge at 6 30 a.m. (JD) and one at Cape May at 6 p.m. (F&MB). Two Tree Swallows at Wagoners Gap, Pa. Nov 11 were late (RLP) as was a Barn Swallow at Brigantine Refuge Nov. 16-24 (HHA, RCA, HTA), and Alexander found a Com. Raven at Media, Pa. Nov 6.

CROWS NUTHATCHERS, WRENS, THRUSHES — Akers estimated 300 Fish Crows at a roost at Pleasantville, N.J. Nov. 2. A major flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches occurred in the Region, and at Kiptopeke Beach they were common by Sept. 10 (FRS). A DuMont *et al.* estimated 50 in the Cape Charles, Va. area Sept. 23. A Bewick's Wren was trapped and banded at Kiptopeke Beach Oct. 9 (WPS), the third banding record here in 10 years. Some 4200 Robins were estimated flying over College Park, Md. Oct 19 (CFH). The transient thrushes were in very poor numbers at reporting banding stations along the coast, and for the second year in a row Gray-cheeked Thrushes outnumbered Swainson's Thrushes at Kiptopeke Beach (WPS). A late Swainson's Thrush was accidentally killed near Clifton, Va. Nov. 5 (JWE).

WAXWINGS, SHRIKES, VIREOS, WARBLERS — A Cedar Waxwing nest with newly hatched young was found at West Chester, Pa. Sept. 15 (PEB & JG). This is not only unusually late, but breeding records in s.e. Pennsylvania are rare at any time. A N. Shrike was banded at Island Beach, N.J. on the early date of Sept. 24 (*vide* KGP), and one was present at a feeder in Zionsville, Pa. Oct. 5-30 (RW). Kane reported a Yellow-throated Vireo at Cape May Sept. 30, a rare occurrence in Cape May County, and Scott reported a late Red-eyed Vireo feeding a young cowbird out of the nest near Lewisetta, Va. Aug 26. Philadelphia Vireos were widely reported on coastal New Jersey Sept. 29-Oct. 1 (RJB *et al.*), and one was banded near Fairfax, Va. Sept. 8 (MBP). Single Warbling Vireos were seen at Cape May Sept. 23 and 30 (RK & GM), and one was banded at Kiptopeke Beach Sept. 22 (JPC). This species is quite rare along the coast, and the latter record was only the fourth one trapped at the banding station in 10 years.

Early warbler reports included an Orange-crowned Warbler at Tyler Arboretum, Media, Pa. Sept. 15 (CUA) and one Nashville and 2 Cape May Warblers at Prime Hook Refuge, Del. Aug. 26 (PGD). Thirty-four Nashville Warblers were banded at Kiptopeke Beach Sept. 2-Oct. 15, a station record (WPS *et al.*), and a ♀ Black-throated Gray Warbler was seen and photographed at Whitehall, Pa. Sept. 20 (RW). Ake reported "thousands" of Palm Warblers at Back Bay

Refuge, Va. Sept. 23, and DuMont reported different Mourning Warblers near Ocean City, Md. Sept. 3 & 4. Late warblers included a Prairie Warbler banded at Irish Grove, near Crisfield, Md. Nov. 18 (CSR), another seen at Chincoteague Refuge Nov. 24 (EL & HL), and an Am. Redstart found at Sandy Point State Park, Md. Nov. 25 (DB & PGB).

BLACKBIRDS, NORTHERN FINCHES — Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds were noted at Brigantine Refuge Aug. 19 (PLH) and Mickleton, N.J. Nov 14 (CB), and 2 Brewer's Blackbirds were seen at Bombay Hook Refuge Nov. 11 (JMA). The Boat-tailed Grackle continues to be recorded regularly in the Atlantic City, N.J. area. Five were found at Longport Sept. 22-23 (ETM), 10 at Egg Harbor Inlet, N.J. Sept 25 (JFA), and 13 at Brigantine Refuge Nov. 21 (HHA). For the second successive year northern finches swarmed into the Region. Evening Grosbeaks arrived early with 2 at Longwood, Pa. Sept. 24 (JG), and by late October they had reached all parts of the Region, with a peak count of 500 at Longwood Oct. 25 (JG). Pine Grosbeaks were first recorded Nov. 4 when 4 were seen at Bake Oven Knob, Pa. (AM & JM). Other reports included 25 at Baer Rocks, Pa. Nov. 12&24 (AEC), 6 at Bake Oven Knob Nov. 18 (EWG), and 4 at Rockville, Md. Nov. 26 (PGD). Pine Siskins overall seemed much less common than in 1971. Red Crossbills were first noted Nov. 3 when 6 were seen at Felton, Del. (NEH), and by late in the month there had been numerous reports south to Maryland. The only White-winged Crossbill reported was one at Kent I., Md. Nov. 18 (PGD).

OTHER FRINGILLIDS — The peak Dickcissel count at Island Beach, N.J. was 20 Sept. 11 (JCM), and one was found at Dyke marsh, Fairfax Co., Va. Sept. 16 (JMA). A winter-plumaged ♂ Lark Bunting was seen at Lynnhaven, Virginia Beach Oct. 29 (RLA), and there was an unusual concentration of about 85 Seaside Sparrows noted with little effort at Fisherman I., Va. Oct. 28 (RLA & WWF). Lark Sparrows appeared as usual in several localities along the coast, inland, one was present at Newburg, Md. Aug. 31-Sept. 3 (FPB), and another was seen at Clifton, Va. Oct. 3 (CLE & JWE). McNeill found a well-marked ♂ Oregon Junco at Gibbstown, N.J. Oct. 21. Mrs Mitchell trapped and banded a bird in Newport News, Va. Nov. 22 thought to be a White-winged Junco. Unfortunately, it was snowing at the time and snow on the bird somewhat obscured the wing bars. The significance of the record was not realized until the bird was released and revealed the full extent of the white in the tail, so no photographs were obtained. Clay-colored Sparrows were reported four times: one at Assawoman Wildlife Area, Del. Sept. 3 (PGD), one at Tuckerton, N.J. Sept. 23 (PLH), one at Island Beach, N.J. Sept. 29 (RJB & IW), and 2 ads. in e. Anne Arundel Co., Md. Oct. 13 (PGD). A Harris' Sparrow was also found in e. Anne Arundel Co. Oct 13 (PGD) and perhaps the same bird at Sandy Pt., Md. Oct. 21 (DA & DG). The first Lapland Longspur was found at Manahawkin, N.J. Oct. 25 (PWS), and by mid-November there had been reports from Sandy

Pt., Md. (PGD, RAR), Bolling Air Force Base, D.C. (JMA), Dyke marsh, Fairfax Co., Va. (JMA), and Craney I., Va. (RLA, GSG).

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SOUTHERN ATLANTIC COAST REGION / Robert P. Teulings

The climatological charts indicated that after a dry August mild and rather wet conditions prevailed over much of the Region in September, followed by wet and cooler weather in October. High rainfall continued

Atlanta; the bird was rescued unharmed and later released on L. Lanier (TF). A Red-necked Grebe was an uncommon visitor at St. Simons I., Ga. in late October (FB), and Horned Grebes made an early appearance at Columbus Oct. 15 (LAW). A remarkably high inland count of the latter species was recorded at Salem L. near Winston-Salem, N.C., where 104 were seen Nov. 17 (CF).



in November. The migration generally proceeded in an unspectacular way in terms of weather-related events which usually make ornithological news. This was one of the quietest hurricane seasons on record, and there were few strong frontal systems to trigger heavy passerine movements. However, a glance at the boldface entries will show that the season was far from a dull one.

LOONS AND GREBES — Common Loons were noted with uncommon frequency at Roanoke Rapids L., Halifax Co., N.C. through October and November with a peak count of 8 on Nov. 27 (JML). At other inland locations, one was seen at Columbus, Ga., Oct. 17 (LAW), 2 at Clemson, S.C., Oct. 29 (SG), and one at Raleigh, N.C. Oct. 22 (BS). On Nov. 16 an errant Red-throated Loon landed on a wet street in

Table 1. Fall Pelagic Sightings Off the Carolinas

	Aug. 12 Off Hatteras (BW)	Aug. 19 Off Morehead City (PD, RA et al.)	Aug. 27 Off Morehead City (LB)	Aug. 29 Off Morehead City (CW)	Oct. 8 Off Hatteras (PD, RA and party)	Oct. 22 Off Morehead City (PD, RA et al.)	Nov. 10 Off Charleston (JBK)
Black-browed Albatross	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Cory's Shearwater	30	123	30	3	—	—	—
Greater Shearwater	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
Sooty Shearwater	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Audubon's Shearwater	30	187	30	4	—	—	—
Black-capped Petrel	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Wilson's Petrel	—	106	—	—	12	3	6
White-tailed Tropicbird	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Red Phalarope	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Phalarope	—	—	—	—	45	—	—
Parasitic Jaeger	—	—	—	—	4	6	—
Pomarine Jaeger	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Black-legged Kittiwake	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Bridled Tern	—	1	—	—	—	1	—

PELAGICS — Increased attention was given this season to observations offshore, with the rewarding results summarized in Table 1. Especially noteworthy were the **White-tailed Tropicbird** seen 70 mi. s. of Morehead City, N.C., Aug. 29 (CW) and the **Black-capped Petrel** seen about 50 mi. s.e. of Morehead City Oct. 22 (PD,RA). The sighting of two probable **Black-browed Albatrosses** (PD,RA *et al.*) Aug. 19 off Morehead City was equally notable although not totally unexpected in the wake of earlier sightings in New England waters this summer (*Am. Birds* 26:832). None of these birds appeared to have been storm-driven, leaving the reasons for occurrence beyond their normal range open for speculation. Hopefully these events will inspire further pelagic studies off our coast to better document what is happening.

LONG-LEGGED WADERS — Three Snowy Egrets were fall wanderers inland at N. Wilkesboro, N C Aug. 21 (WPS) and another was seen Sept. 10 near Atlanta (*fide* WD). A Com. Egret was a late and uncommon visitor inland at Winston-Salem Nov. 3 (CF) Single Louisiana Herons were reported from L. Murray, Richland Co., S.C. Aug. 1 and from Raleigh Sept. 19 (RSi). A Least Bittern found at Swansboro, N C Nov. 22 was very late (JF). Am. Bitterns were seen at Winston-Salem Oct. 21 (JS, *et al.*) and at Raleigh Oct. 26 & Nov. 4, with 2 birds noted on the later date (RJH). As of Oct. 31, an estimated 4000 Wood Ibis were in Okefenokee NWR (WM, *fide* EC), and elsewhere on Sept. 12 five were seen 45 mi. s. of Columbus, Ga. where the species is casual (AS, *fide* LAW) Single White Ibis were unusual visitors at Pea I NWR Aug. 27-29 (JML) and at Atlanta Sept. 10 (DC & DC), while 15,000 were found at Okefenokee NWR Oct. 31 (WM, *fide* EC). A summer occurrence of 3 Roseate Spoonbills was reported from Rome, Ga. where their presence was verified July 21 by Mike Enhorn and Robert Manns. This species is a rare visitor in the Region even along the s. coast, and its occurrence almost 300 mi. inland in unprecedented. Continuing the recent series of sightings along the Eastern seaboard, an Am. Flamingo was found in Pamlico Sound at Pea I. NWR Nov. 4 (EL, HL, SP). The bird was in bright plumage and flew strongly. It remained on the refuge at least through Nov. 24 (JOP).

SWAN, GEESE, DUCKS — Two Whistling Swans were early at Pea I. Oct. 9 (JOP). Uncommon inland records were of 2 at Roanoke Rapids L. Oct. 20 (JML) and 3 at Kerr Scott Reservoir in Wilkes Co., N.C., Nov. 30 (MB, *fide* WPS). Arrivals of Canada Geese were noted in North Carolina as early as Aug. 14 at Winston-Salem (*fide* RS) and Aug. 20 at Morehead City (JF), while the earliest reported sighting of Snow Geese was at Pea I. Sept. 14 (TW). Canada Geese numbered *ca.* 2600 and were still increasing at Pea I NWR at the end of the period (TW). This may be indicative of an upswing of Canada Geese in the Region this season, but no confirmatory data are yet available from the other refuges. At Pea I. a good population of at least 10,000 Snow Geese was present by mid-November (TW). Two Com. Shelducks turned up again

at Pea I during the last week in November (TW, JOP, RSi) following a previous occurrence there in early July (*Am. Birds* 26:845). Inquiries have produced no evidence that these birds were released by a local breeder as presumed initially. Conceivably these sightings may be related to those recently reported from Bombay Hook, Del. (*Am. Birds* 26:842) Start of the fall duck migration was signaled by the early appearance of a Green-winged Teal at Raleigh Aug. 19 (CMA,RSi). By early September, Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal were both abundant at Pea I. where tallies of 550 and 4500 respectively for these species were recorded at fresh-water impoundments there Sept. 8 (TW). Up to 1100 Pintails were at the Refuge by Sept. 14 (TW). Probably the most spectacular waterfowl record of the season was a flock of 45 Fulvous Tree Ducks seen in the Brunswick, Ga area in November (*fide* CM). The birds were clearly seen by a competent observer (JB) as they circled and landed in an old rice field in the Altamaha R. delta. The sighting occurred during the week of Nov. 18-25, the exact date not specified in the report. Among fall sightings of interest elsewhere were 20 Canvasbacks at Columbus Oct. 31 (LAW) and 2 Greater Scaup at Winston-Salem Nov. 17 (CF). A small flock of Com Goldeneyes were seen at L. Lanier n. of Atlanta Nov. 24 (JNC) and one was at the Jekyll I. marina Nov. 27 (CM). Two Oldsquaws were found at L. Wheeler near Raleigh Oct. 30 (BB,JW) and 12 were seen at Roanoke Rapids L. Nov. 12 (JML). Noted during the same period at these two inland locations were 2 Surf Scoters at Roanoke Rapids L. Oct. 30 (JML) and one at L. Wheeler Nov. 13 (BB,JW). Two Com. Mergansers were found at L. Wheeler Nov. 17 (BB,JW).

DIURNAL RAPTORS — Two late-lingering Broad-winged Hawks were observed in Sumter Co., Ga., Nov. 21 (DC & DC). A Rough-legged Hawk was seen at Belews Creek L. n. of Winston-Salem Oct. 12 and found there again Nov. 16 (RS,RH,RW,CF). Another was reported from Newton Co. in c. Georgia Nov. 27 (TF). More than the usual number of Bald Eagle reports were received this fall. Sightings were of an adult near St. George, Ga Oct. 7 (CMo), an adult at Orton Plantation near Wilmington Oct. 9 (PD), a nesting pair and 2 other individuals at South I. near Charleston Oct. 22 (TB), a single bird at Topsail Beach, N.C. Nov. 4 (GW), 2 adults and an immature in Francis Marion Nat'l Forest Nov. 18 (TD), and an adult and immature at Brookgreen Gardens near Litchfield Beach, S.C. Dec. 1 (FP,GT). But underscoring the plight of the Bald Eagle was the report of an adult found with a wounded wing near Goldston, N.C. Aug. 28 by Wildlife Protector Eugene Jones. Efforts to save the bird failed. The carcass was sent to Patuxent for analysis of pesticide residues and the skin was deposited in the N.C.S.M. An eagle showing considerable white in the primaries as well as at the base of the tail, and thought probably to be an imm. Golden Eagle, was seen Nov. 13 at L. Mattamuskeet (JC,JFP). There was a paucity of records of Peregrine Falcons from the Outer Banks this season where only single birds at Pea I. Oct. 4 (JOP) and Oct. 7 (MG) were reported. Elsewhere,

individuals were sighted at Fort Fisher Oct 9 (PD), at Brookgreen Gardens Nov. 14 (FP,ED,IH,JRH), at Jekyll I. Nov. 14 (*fide* CM), and at Magnolia Gardens near Charleston Nov. 27 (TB).

PHEASANT, CRANE, GALLINULES, COOT — The population of Ring-necked Pheasants at Pea I NWR is now estimated at 500-600 according to refuge manager N.F. Williamson. Said to be derived from a flock released some years ago at Buxton, these birds apparently comprise the only successful introduction of pheasants into the Region. A Sandhill Crane was seen at Sullivans I., S.C. Sept. 19 (ZTR,*fide* DF), and 7 were at Marietta, Ga. Dec. 7 (MAN). The Okefenokee NWR population numbered some 600 on Oct. 31 (WM,*fide* EC). Three Purple Gallinules were unusual at Orton Plantation near Wilmington Sept. 24 (EL, *et al.*), as were 3 Com. Gallinules found well inland at Occoneechee Neck, Northampton Co., N.C., Oct. 15 (JML). Am. Coots were much more common than usual at Onslow Beach, N.C. late in the period where more than 10,000 were found Nov. 23 (GG).

SHOREBIRDS — Two Am. Oystercatchers were found inland at Par Pond on the A.E.C. Reservation near Aiken, S.C., Nov. 30 (TM,*fide* GK). During field work along the N.C. Outer Banks in late August, Richard Rowlett found Semipalmated Plovers extremely abundant, outnumbering all other shorebirds by at least 15 to 1. Estimated numbers were 3500 at Ocracoke I. Aug. 20, 15,500 at Pea I. Aug. 2 21, and 7500 at Portsmouth I. Aug 22. On the s. Georgia coast, 3 late Wilson's Plovers were seen at Jekyll I. Nov. 12 (JBr,*fide* CM). There were 5 records by several observers of Am. Golden Plovers from the Bodie-Pea I area from mid-August through early October, all of single birds. Elsewhere 2 were seen Oct. 9 at Fort Fisher (PD). Louis Fink reported the rather incongruous occurrence of a grounded Am. Woodcock in the heart of downtown Atlanta Nov. 24. At Ocracoke Inlet, 2 Long-billed Curlews were seen Aug. 3 (RR), and another was found at Oregon Inlet Sept. 30 (JOP). The only Upland Plover report was from the Outer Banks Sept. 9 (RSR). Arrival dates of Purple Sandpipers were Oct. 25 at Wrightsville Beach, N.C. (JC) and Nov. 10 at Charleston (DF). Among a host of reports of White-rumped Sandpipers from the Outer Banks, the largest count by any group of observers was 11 (PD,HM; Aug. 20). Inland, an individual of this species was a late and unusual visitor at Johnston's Pond in the Occoneechee Neck area of Northampton Co., N.C., Nov. 18 (JML). A flock of at least 18 Baird's Sandpipers was found at the north impoundment of the Pea I. Refuge Aug. 1 by Richard Rowlett. There were subsequent reports of single birds seen there Sept. 30 (GO,SP) and at Oregon Inlet Oct. 1 (PD,RA *et al.*). An inland occurrence of a Dunlin was noted at Occoneechee Neck Oct. 29 where the species has not heretofore been recorded (JML). A few Dunlin were also noted as inland migrants in the Raleigh area during the last half of October (HL,EL,RJH,RSi). Various observers reported finding Long-billed Dowitchers in small numbers along with the commonly seen Short-

billed Dowitchers along the coast this fall. Typical counts ranged from 2 to 20, but as many as 40 were identified by one party (PD *et al.*) in the Bodie-Pea I. area Oct. 7. At Columbus, Ga., 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers on Aug. 27 and 5 on Sept. 5 were very unusual (JM,*fide* LAW). Western Sandpipers were the most common shorebird on the flats at Portsmouth I. Aug. 2 with an estimated 4000 present (RR). A good influx of this species was also noted at Bird Key near Charleston Sept. 10 along with Semipalmated Sandpipers and dowitchers (TB,SL). Buff-breasted Sandpipers were observed only twice, 2 at Ocracoke I Aug. 20 (RR) and one at Cape Hatteras Aug. 21 (RR). Several Hudsonian Godwits were present at Pea I through most of the period. The earliest sighting was Aug. 21 (RR) and at least one bird was still present as late as Nov. 4 (EL,HL,SP). Am. Avocets continued to be found in good numbers at Savannah, Charleston, and Pea I., with a population of *ca.* 120 at the latter location at the end of November (TW). Two Red Phalaropes were seen by the DuMont party off Morehead City Aug. 19. On shore, several Wilson's Phalaropes were seen regularly in the Bodie I area from mid-August through September (m.ob.). On Oct. 8, 45 N. Phalaropes were sighted on a pelagic trip off Cape Hatteras (PD *et al.*).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — In addition to the offshore sightings listed in Table 1, a Pomarine Jaeger was seen over the beach at Oregon Inlet Oct. 4 (JOP). Steady E winds brought Parasitic Jaegers near shore in good numbers along the Outer Banks Oct 6-10, with observations reported from Ocracoke to Nags Head. A Ring-billed Gull was a locally unusual inland visitor at Marietta, Ga. Nov. 16 (WD). In the Charleston area, the fall and wintering populations of Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were said to be down (TB). The apparent reason is that several of the city's old garbage dumps have been closed, resulting in a reduced local food supply for the gulls. Single Black-headed Gulls were seen at South I. and Debidue Beach near Charleston Nov. 19 (TB,SL *et al.*); the two birds were immatures. On Oct. 1 an imm. Little Gull was found at Bodie I. (PD,HW,RA,WB). At reservoirs inland, 4 Laughing Gulls were seen along with at least 20 Forster's Terns at L. Hartwell near Clemson, S.C. Sept 30 (SG), while up to 9 Caspian Terns were seen at Roanoke Rapids L. Aug. 29-30 (JML). Late in the period another Caspian Tern was noted at the latter location Nov. 15 (JML). Near Wilmington an unusually large aggregation of some 900 Com. Terns was found resting on a sand bar at Lockwood Folly Inlet Sept. 23 (JC). At Oregon Inlet, a Roseate Tern was observed by James Pullman among a flock of Com. Terns Oct. 5. Elsewhere, an impressive flight of at least 200 Black Terns was seen coming in to roost at Elijah Lump near Morehead City Aug. 24 (JF).

GROUND DOVE, BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO — A record of interest from the summer season was the discovery of a large colony of Ground Doves at St. Simons I., Ga., where over 1000 birds were estimated to be resident, concentrated primarily in areas immediately behind the beach (RE,*fide* CM)

This fall, the Ground Dove was again recorded as far n. as Fort Macon State Park in Carteret Co., N.C. where an individual was noted Nov. 24 (RJH). Single birds were also seen at 2 locations in the W. Onslow Beach area Sept. 24 & Nov. 23 by Gilbert Grant. The Black-billed Cuckoo, an uncommon fall migrant, was seen at Nags Head on the Outer Banks as early as Aug. 18 (MJ), followed by sightings of individuals at N. Wilkesboro Oct. 4 (WPS), Fort Fisher Oct. 9 (PD), and Columbus Oct. 27 (MF, *vide* LAW).

OWLS, GOATSUCKERS AND WOODPECKERS — The previously reported **Burrowing Owl** found on Bird Shoal near Morehead City during the summer season remained until Sept. 3 (JF). The bird very likely sustained itself during its stay by feeding on the chicks of terns and skimmers and was probably forced to move elsewhere when that supply diminished. There were two sightings of Long-eared Owls, one during the second week of October in New Bern (RPH) and one on Nov. 18 at N. Wilkesboro (WPS). A rare appearance for the Saw-whet Owl was recorded in South Carolina this fall when one was trapped and banded at Sumter Nov. 7 (ED). Whip-poor-wills were present as late as November in the Morehead City area where 2 were seen on Bogue Banks Nov. 5 and one on Nov. 22 (JF). At Columbus, Ga. a late Com. Nighthawk was noted Oct. 27 (MF, LAW). A heavy southward movement of Yellow-shafted Flickers was observed at Fort Fisher Oct. 10 involving hundreds of migrants (JC, JFP). A Pileated Woodpecker was seen on Bogue Banks Oct. 22, an uncommon occurrence on that barrier island (JF). A large concentration of Red-headed Woodpeckers was found in the Santee Swamp, Sumter Co., S.C., Sept. 20, where 75 to 80 were counted in one small area along Broadwater Creek (TB).

FLYCATCHERS — More than 100 migrating E. Kingbirds were seen in the Morehead City vicinity Sept. 10 (JF). Found with these birds was one W. Kingbird (JF). There were numerous other reports of W. Kingbirds in the coastal section with the largest numbers occurring, as usual, along the Outer Banks where high counts of 6 were recorded at Hatteras Oct. 21 (PW), 10 on Ocracoke I., Oct. 23 (CW party), and 8 at Duck Oct. 28 (GG). One W. Kingbird was found inland late in the period near Vienna, Ga. Nov. 21 (DC & DC). An ad. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was banded at Chapel Hill, Sept. 4 (ET, RT), and one was collected near Thomasville, Ga. Sept. 21 (RCL; *T.T.R.S.). Additional sight records were reported from several other locations between the dates of Sept. 9 and Oct. 9. Two Least Flycatchers were noted as early migrants in the Roanoke Rapids area Aug. 22 (JML), and one was banded Sept. 2 at Chapel Hill (ET, RT). The latest reported sighting was Oct. 9 at Fort Fisher (PD). An E. Wood Pewee put in a late appearance at Columbus, Ga., Oct. 28 (JM, *vide* LAW), while an Olive-sided Flycatcher was found at N. Wilkesboro, N.C. as late as Oct. 26 (WPS). A highlight of the season was the unexpected appearance of **Vermilion Flycatchers** in the Region. On Oct. 1, a ♂ was found on the Outer Banks near Kill Devil

Hills, N.C. by DuMont and Ake. The bird remained long enough to be seen by other observers during the day. Later, in s. Georgia there was a small invasion of the birds, with a ♂ found and collected in Brooks Co. Nov. 2 (JAB; *T.T.R.S.). This was followed by the sighting of 3 more ♂♂ in the same vicinity on Nov. 5 (JAB), and one was still present Nov. 8 (JAB, RLC, WBa).

SWALLOWS AND CORVIDS — A Rough-winged Swallow Oct. 13 was an interesting record for the Outer Banks (PD). A late occurrence of Barn Swallows was also noted in that locality, with at least 10 seen in the Bodie-Pea I. area Nov. 4 & 5 (HL, EL, SP). Inland at Whispering Pines, very early migrants included several Bank Swallows and a Cliff Swallow July 25 along with an imm. Tree Swallow July 26 (JC). Other noteworthy local records were 6 Cliff Swallows Sept. 12 at Jekyll I. (CM) and 1 at Boiling Springs, N.C., Sept. 16 (JC, FN). A heavy movement of more than 300 Blue Jays was observed at Fort Fisher Oct. 10 (JC, JFP). Their abundance as migrants along that section of the coast contrasts sharply with the consistent scarcity of Blue Jays along the Outer Banks, where 7 were very exceptional on Bodie I. Oct. 8 (HL, EL, RSi). Locally unusual concentrations of Fish Crows were recorded inland at Roanoke Rapids L. where 178 were present Oct. 18 (JML) and at Columbus, where 65 were counted Oct. 28 (JM).

NUTHATCHES THROUGH WRENS — Red-breasted Nuthatches invaded the Region in force this fall, being first noted at Raleigh Sept. 9 (GW). They were very common on the Outer Banks by Oct. 1 (*vide* EL & PD) and reached Savannah by Oct. 6 (PY, SY). Reports from Winston-Salem (RS) and Atlanta (WD) indicated unusual abundances in those localities through the end of the period. A **Bewick's Wren** on Nov. 4 at Pea I. was apparently the first Outer Banks record (EL). Short-billed Marsh Wrens were noted as inland migrants at several widely separated locations. One was seen at Raleigh Sept. 16 (RJH). Others were picked up as casualties at skyscrapers in Atlanta Oct. 4 & 15 (TF), and one flew into the lobby of a downtown bank building there Oct. 13 (LF). A casualty was also picked up at the WECT-TV tower in Bladen Co., N.C., Oct. 19 (JC). Elsewhere one was seen Nov. 15 at Columbus, Ga., the first local record there since 1968 (WMA, *vide* LAW).

VIREOS AND WARBLERS — Philadelphia Vireos were sighted in the Region with notable frequency this fall. Individuals were seen at N. Wilkesboro Sept. 18 (WPS), at Bodie I. Oct. 1 (PD, RA) and Oct. 8 (EL, HL, RSi), and in the Wilmington area Sept. 23 (RFS, RT) and Oct. 9 (PD). In addition, several were listed among skyscraper casualties at Atlanta during the last half of September and early October (TF). A migrant Worm-eating Warbler made an early appearance at Raleigh Aug. 20 (GW), and another was banded near Durham Aug. 27 (JRH). Paul DuMont recorded a rare coastal occurrence of a Golden-winged Warbler on the Outer Banks Aug. 20, and a Blue-winged Warbler was seen near the coast

at Wilmington Sept. 4 (KK). In the Piedmont, 5 individuals of the latter species were observed in the Roanoke Rapids area on 3 dates between Aug. 21 & Sept. 9 (JML). The first half of October was a peak period for Nashville Warblers. Out of 11 reports for the species, 9 fell within this interval, the exceptions being an early sighting at Marietta, Ga. (MAN) and a very late observation at Bodie I. Nov. 25 (JOP). A Black-throated Green Warbler, considered uncommon on the Outer Banks, was recorded there Oct. 1 (PD *et al.*). Cerulean Warblers were seen Aug. 11 and Sept. 17 at Marietta (MAN,DC,DC), and at least 2 were found dead in downtown Atlanta between Aug. 4 and Sept. 3 (TF). Others noted elsewhere were: one in Northampton Co., N.C., Aug. 26 (JML), one at Raleigh Sept. 13 (EL,HL), and one at Fort Fisher Oct. 9 (PD). A Blackburnian Warbler at Raleigh Aug. 12 was unusually early for that locality, and one was rather late at Columbus Oct. 29 (FL, *vide* LAW). Two more were noted as rare transients on the Outer Banks Oct. 1 (PD,RA). A Bay-breasted Warbler specimen was salvaged after striking a motel window at Emerald Isle, N.C., the first documented fall record for Carteret Co. (JRH). Coastal North Carolina has few records for the species, but Bay-breasteds were evidently relatively common this year in early October on the Outer Banks as indicated by reports from several observers. Records of Connecticut Warblers included early sightings at Atlanta Aug. 12 (ME) and Charlotte Aug. 24 (EBC), as well as a late record at N. Wilkesboro Nov. 7 (WPS). Individuals were also seen at Bodie I. Oct. 7 (PD party) and Ocracoke I. Oct. 23 (CW). There were two rare coastal records for the Mourning Warbler: a single bird on the Outer Banks Oct. 1 (PD) and another at Fort Fisher Oct. 9 (P(PD)). A Wilson's Warbler was found as early as Sept. 3 at Castle Hayne, N.C. (KK), and several were seen along the N.C. coast in early October.

ORIOLE, TANAGER, DICKCISSEL — According to independent accounts received from two observers (RSR & GG) who were on the Outer Banks Sept. 9, there was a conspicuous diurnal flight of Baltimore Orioles moving *north* on that day. Hundreds of orioles, along with Am. Redstarts and other migrants, were seen moving up the banks between Pea I. and Duck. The peculiar "wrong-way" movement was evidently in response to strong and shifting winds associated with a weakening tropical storm which lay 75 mi. off Cape Hatteras on that date. At Thomasville, Ga., a ♂ W. Tanager was present at a feeder for several days in late October (RLC). A ♂ (possibly the same bird) appeared at the same feeder last spring (*vide* RLC). Dickcissels were noted at several locations in the Region this fall. At Atlanta, a kill specimen was picked up at a downtown skyscraper Oct. 15 (TF). On the Outer Banks one was seen near Duck Oct. 28 (GG), and 2 appeared at Elizabeth City Nov. 22 where they remained through the end of the period (FA).

WINTER FINCHES — October marked the arrival of Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches, with significant numbers present in many areas as far s. as Atlanta before the end of the period. Very early arrival of

House Finches was noted at Greensboro where returning birds were noted at feeders as early as Oct 10 (DG). A sizeable flock of 40 was counted in the Rose Garden at Raleigh Nov. 21 (RJH). The appearance of Pine Siskins was noted at several locations, and a few Red Crossbills were seen in the Chapel Hill - Durham area late in the period.

SPARROWS AND LONGSPUR — A Le Conte's Sparrow was an unusual visitor at Jekyll I. in late November (JB, *vide* CM). Two Seaside Sparrows were found dead at the WECT-TV tower in Bladen Co., N.C. 60 mi. inland Oct. 19 (JC). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow showed up away from the coast at Oconeechee Neck Oct. 1 (JML). Clay-colored Sparrows made their expected fall appearance on the Outer Banks where one was seen Oct. 7 (GG, RA *et al.*) and 2 on Oct. 8 (EL, HL, RSi). Two Henslow's Sparrows were found near White L., N.C., Oct. 19 (JC). Several sightings of Lincoln's Sparrows were reported along the coast, with one at Pea I. Oct. 1 (RA), one at Fort Fisher Oct. 9 (PD), and one at Wilmington Oct. 29 (KK). Inland, a Lincoln's Sparrow was reported from Columbia, S.C. Oct. 26 (BAM) and a casualty was found in downtown Atlanta Oct. 15 (TF). A very early Fox Sparrow was seen in extreme s.e. Georgia near Jekyll I. in mid-October (NP, *vide* CM). A Lapland Longspur was closely observed near Wrightsville Beach, N.C. on Oct. 25 (FS, *vide* JFP).

Acknowledgment — James Pullman and Elizabeth Teulings provided major assistance in compiling and drafting this summary.

Corrigenda — The specimen tentatively identified earlier as a British Storm Petrel (*Am. Birds* 26: 844) was determined to be a **Harcourt's Petrel** upon examination at the U.S.N.M. The report of 20 Ospreys at Ocracoke I. cited in *Am. Birds* 26:47 should be deleted. The reference to Wood Ibis at St. Simons I. in *Am. Birds* 26:748 should have read 40 birds, not 400.

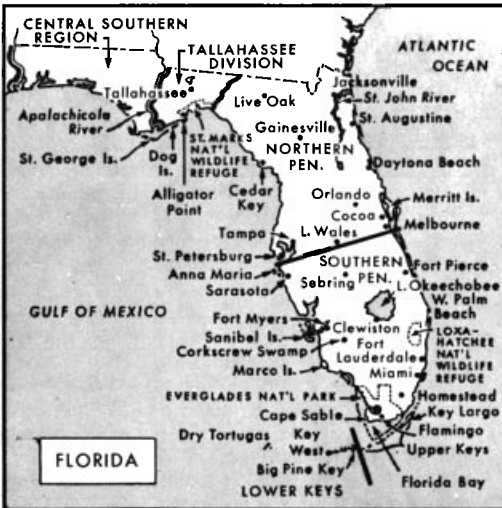
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sions, Jerry Shiffert, Ross Silcock (RSI), Bob Small, Wendell P. Smith, Ramona Snavely, Robert F. Soots, George Tarbox, Elizabeth Teulings, Robert Teulings, Philip Walters, L. A. Wells, Gail Whitehurst, Hal Wieranga, Claudia Wilds, Tim Wilkins, Bill Williams, N. F. Williamson, Plumer Wiseman, Robert Witherington, John Wright, Pat Young, Sam Young. Other abbreviations: N.C.S.M., North Carolina State Museum; T.T.R.S., Tall Timbers Research Station; U.S.N.M., United States National Museum.; *, specimen. — **ROBERT P. TEULINGS, Route 2, Box 154, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514.**

FLORIDA REGION

/ Henry M. Stevenson

WEATHER AND AVIAN ACTIVITIES — The high temperatures and generally dry conditions this fall repeated the pattern of most recent years and produced little visible migration of land birds until about October 1. Another probable effect was that of House Sparrows carrying nest material into a cavity at Jacksonville on Nov. 22 (SAG). The reduction in rainfall allowed water levels to drop and, at least in some areas, increased the numbers of migrating shorebirds.



THE FALL MIGRATION — As usual, most reports did not comment on the relative magnitude of the migration, and opinion was somewhat divided among those who did. From the standpoint of land-birds, however, it was generally agreed that they were more in evidence after the first cold front penetrated most of the region, beginning in the northwestern sector on Sept. 30. I happened to be on Dog Island at the time this front struck there, preceded by a shower. In a period of about three hours, 12 species and 42 individuals of warblers were recorded — probably my best 'wave' in fall for several years. Impressive numbers of birds picked up at the WCTV tower, north of Tallahassee, on Oct. 2 totalled 39 species and 193 individuals, including rather high counts of 8 Blackbur-

nian and 10 Chestnut-sided Warblers. The Jacksonville towers did even worse, with about 1000 birds on Oct. 1, 2, & 4 (*vide* VMM). Also pointing up the contrast between real and apparent migration were Edscom's counts of about 33 birds per minute crossing the face of the moon on the nights of Sept. 23-24, at a period when few migrants were in evidence by day.

BOREAL VISITORS — Despite the mild fall, there was some indication of an invasion of northern birds. At least records of the Com. Eider, Goshawk, Horned Lark, and Snow Bunting occurred in November, but few Purple Finches had been recorded and no Pine Siskins or Evening Grosbeaks.

DECREASES IN RELATIVE ABUNDANCE — Several times in the past this report has pointed out changes in the relative abundance of various species in the Tallahassee Division, sometimes giving brief explanations of the methods employed in handling the data. With the greatly increased emphasis today on the deterioration of our environment, it should be obvious to all contributors that publishing data of this kind should be a major aim of this periodical. It seems likely, however, that few other observers bother to record precise numbers of birds consistently, and perhaps not even rough approximations. Most, in fact, do not even state their general impressions of increases or decreases. Showing that certain species have decreased in one area, even though important, is woefully inadequate, as it may be claimed by some that they are *increasing in all other areas*. Indeed, the decreases claimed this fall by the only contributor of such data (JBE) disagree with my data in about as many cases as they agree. A careful study of my own counts over the past 25 years brings out one fact perhaps above all others: that, other factors being equal, the significance of the data increases in direct proportion to the amount of data involved, whether the units are hours or miles. Stated another way, counts made conscientiously by the same observer over carefully selected routes under unvarying conditions, but representing only a few hours (or miles) each, are almost worthless unless the data from several such trips are lumped together. Even during the breeding season, when the *true* numbers are very consistent, "chance" plays a tremendous part in the *actual* numbers recorded. It is for this reason that I have always summed my data by months rather than comparing individual trips over any one route. Other methods of summing the data, of course, may be equally valid if not more so.

As most of my recent reports dealt with the winter period, writing the fall report provides an opportunity to deal with a largely different group of birds, the fall migrants. Given enough sets of data south of the breeding ranges of these species, one might supplement the evidence of decreases obtained by counts on their more northern breeding grounds. The same point may be made regarding numbers of television-tower casualties over the years, although in that case other factors governing numerical decreases may operate. In any event, it seems important to publish such results as now exist, while stressing the need for more data. The only species

included in the following lists are those that appear to be low in my own data and were considered low by some other observer. All waterfowl are excluded, pending results of later influxes. *Waders*: Wood Ibis, White Ibis. *Predators*: Red-shouldered Hawk, Bald Eagle, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk. *Swallows*: On Aug. 31, 1957, Horace Loftin and I watched an estimated 600 Rough-winged Swallows migrating southward low over the Wakulla River; now it is unusual here to see as many as 10 together, and it is possible to miss the species entirely during one fall migration. One observer (CHW) noted the scarcity of all swallows on Alligator Point in mid-October, and another (JBE) mentioned only the Tree Swallow. My data show all species except the normally rare Cliff Swallow to be in very short supply. *Insectivorous birds*. Edscom considered all warblers except the Cerulean to be relatively scarce. My data for 1972 agree with respect to the Black-and-white, Myrtle, Pine, Prairie, Palm, and Hooded Warblers; both of us considered the Hermit Thrush and Summer Tanager below normal.

Statistical comparisons for each month in any year are invalid for some species because they are normally so rare that their occurrence in less than about 50 hours afield is unlikely. For such species (and a few others) I have compared my cumulative data from 1946 to 1960 or 1965 with corresponding data through 1972 (i.e., individuals prior to 1960 or 1965 are included in both sets), thus greatly increasing the size of the sample. This approach adds several more species that were considered low by Edscom: Peregrine Falcon, Pigeon Hawk, Yellow-throated Vireo, and the following warblers: Magnolia, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Ovenbird, N. Waterthrush, and Am. Redstart. Parenthetically, it should be mentioned that a number of additional species (e.g., vultures) considered reduced in my previous reports continue to show the same trend. It is not clear whether other observers agree or simply failed to comment on them.

LOONS, GREBES, SHEARWATERS, BOBBIES—The earliest Red-throated Loon of record for the Florida Region was near the mouth of the St. Johns R. Nov. 11 (NOW), and a Horned Grebe off St. Marks Light Oct. 8 (VSP) was also early. A trip off Boynton Inlet Sept. 17 yielded 27 Cory's and 2 Audubon's Shearwaters (HPL, PWS *et al.*). An injured Brown Booby was found at Venice Sept. 26 (Mrs. G. R. Collett & the O. W. Letsons; also in *Fla. Nat.*).

WADING BIRDS—Cattle Egrets continued their migratory habit of recent years, peaking in their migration through c. Florida in September and October; nearly all had left n. Florida by November. A Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Lakeland Oct. 29 (GJH & PJF), and a Roseate Spoonbill at Tampa Nov. 21 (JJD), were the latest for the N. Peninsula. An Am. Bittern photographed at Lakeland Aug. 15 (HBH) was remarkably early unless it had summered. Two Am. Flamingos at Sanibel I. during the period attracted much attention, as well as speculation regarding their point of origin, because of their deep red color.

WATERFOWL—A White-fronted Goose remained at Paynes Prairie Oct 30-Nov 21, where it was seen by many, and photographed (JBE). The usual good numbers of Fulvous Tree Ducks were reported in s. Florida, few in n. Florida, and 40-50 reached the Keys by Nov. 25 (Plantation Key—SRR). Rarities included a Cinnamon Teal at Merritt I., Nov 29 (JJ), the ♂ Eur. Widgeon returning to Wakulla Springs for its fourth winter by Oct. 28 (HMS), and single Com. Eiders (same bird?) at Melbourne Nov 23 (Terry Moore), and Cocoa Dec. 4 (RDB). Early records included an Am. Widgeon in Alachua Co., Sept 19 (SAN); 2 Ring-necked Ducks at Lakeland Oct. 15 (JBE); and a Canvasback at Tampa Sept. 22 (JJD)—so early as to suggest nearby summering. Scoter records were few, but included an early Com. Scoter at the mouth of the Fenholloway R., Oct. 22 (CEW), and a Surf Scoter near Cocoa Nov. 18 (RDB & PWS).

DIURNAL RAPTORS—A Mississippi Kite was late at Tallahassee Sept. 5 (JMS), and 5 Everglade Kites were present in an impoundment of the St. Johns R. west of Vero Beach Nov. 18, then disappeared (HWK). Goshawks visited Florida for the first time in 45 years; satisfactory descriptions were given for single immatures seen at Little Talbot I., Duval Co., Nov. 4 (VMM & MJW), and near Guano L., St. Johns Co., Nov. 24 (Fred Wetzel). There was some evidence of an increase of Sharp-shinned Hawks; about 50 were migrating past Daytona Beach Oct. 7 (Eric Tabb), and 10 near Miami the same day (Jane Behr). Again the Keys were unique in their numbers of migrating Broad-winged Hawks, with hundreds at Sugarloaf Key, Oct 6 & 7 (TN, GP, DLR). Two near Homestead Sept 11 (JCO) were early. Although the Bald Eagle is now rare in Leon County, it was seen at 3 places there in November. As usual, there were few reports of Pigeon Hawks and Peregrine Falcons.

CRANES, RAILS, AND GALLINULES—Sandhill Cranes from the North (*G. c. tabida*) reached Paynes Prairie (near Gainesville) Oct. 21—a flight of 72 (SAN). A Black Rail without cover was closely approached at Tavernier Nov. 9 (John O'Reilly & SS). Single Yellow Rails struck television towers near Orlando, Oct. 4 (WKT & BHA), and Tallahassee, Nov 6 (WWB & RLC). Small downy Com. Gallinules were at L. Miccosukee (Leon Co.) as late as Sept. 7 (HMS).

SHOREBIRDS—Although man's activities too often have a detrimental effect on bird populations, they occasionally prove beneficial. Thus the flooding and draining of agricultural fields at Zellwood each year, and the controversial lowering of the water level in Rodman Reservoir (Putnam Co.) this year, made these spots a mecca for shorebirds. Most notably, the numbers of Pectoral Sandpipers reached 500 at Rodman in late August (JHH & JRG) and even more at Zellwood in August and September. These 2 areas also produced unprecedented numbers (40-50) of Buff-breasted Sandpipers, Rodman on Aug. 23 (JHH) and Zellwood, Aug. 19-Sept. 2 (JBE, PJF, *et al.*). Four early Am. Golden Plovers had reached Zellwood by Sept. 2 (JBE, WB *et al.*); another was rather late near

St. Marks Light Nov. 18 (VSP) Ruddy Turnstones, added to the Leon County list in 1971, repeated at the same location Sept. 24 (2, L. Jackson—HMS). Because of its tendency to take up residence, it is difficult to obtain migration dates for the Long-billed Curlew, but one was seen migrating past Alligator Pt. (Franklin Co.) Aug. 22 (HMS). Another Pectoral Sandpiper was seen on the Dry Tortugas, where rare, Sept. 19 (WBR). Inexplicably rare in fall, the White-rumped Sandpiper was seen near Jacksonville, Aug. 22-Sept. 4, associating with a Baird's Sandpiper on the 28th (VMM, NOW, MCD). Large numbers of Short-billed Dowitchers were seen at inland Zellwood and Rodman Reservoir, and smaller numbers at L. Jackson. Other Buff-breasted Sandpipers were found at Jacksonville, 1-2, Aug. 22-Sept. 6 (NOW & MCD), and L. Jackson, one on Aug. 17 and 6 on Sept. 24 (HMS). Also unusual were inland records of 2 Marbled Godwits at Rodman Reservoir Aug. 23 (JHH), another at Zellwood Sept. 9 (JBE, PJF & HMS), and a Sanderling at Zellwood Sept. 2 & 9 (JBE, PJF *et al.*). Possibly the rarest shorebird was a Hudsonian Godwit on Virginia Key (Miami), Oct. 1—Nov. 18 (JA, MAG *et al.*) Continuing its increase, the Am. Avocet occurred at several points in Florida, where it is quite uncommon. Records of Wilson's Phalarope came from Rodman Reservoir, Aug. 29, 5 (JHH & JRG); Zellwood, Aug. 19 ff., up to 15 (JBE *et al.*) and near St. Marks Light, Sept. 22 (Rob de Meijer). Several competent observers saw N. & Red Phalaropes aggregating 100 to 150 individuals off Cocoa Aug. 26; 4 Northern were seen off Boynton Inlet Oct. 28 (CYB & PWS).

GULLS AND TERNS — Only recently removed from Florida's Hypothetical List, the Lesser Black-backed Gull returned to Key West by Oct. 31 (FTH) and to Cape Canaveral by Nov. 23 (RDB & JJ). The unusually high number of 60-70 Roseate Terns was reported off Molasses Reef (Keys) Sept. 13 (SS). Numbers of Sooty and Bridled Terns (6 or more each) were seen off Cocoa Aug. 26 (JBE, PWS *et al.*). The latter species remained until Sept. 9 and was also seen 30 mi off Jacksonville Aug. 20 (JBE, WB *et al.*) and at Molasses Reef Sept. 13 (SS). Sandwich Terns apparently migrated partly across the Dry Tortugas, where their number had reached 125 by Sept. 19, then declined to 2 by Dec. 8 (WBR). "Thousands" of Black Terns in Tampa Bay Aug. 24 (JJD) represented unusual numbers for Florida. About 250 Brown Noddies remained on the Dry Tortugas until Sept. 19 (WBR).

DOVES, PIGEONS, CUCKOOS, AND ANIS — An early White-winged Dove on Sugarloaf Key, Oct. 7 (TN, GP, DLR), suggests a possible origin from a breeding population in Cuba or s. Florida. A Mourning Dove seen off Mayport Aug. 20 (JBE & D.C.A.S.) was flying toward land. White-crowned Pigeons strayed slightly north of their breeding grounds to near Miami at Key Biscayne Sept. 23 (PWS), and Elliott Key Nov. 26 (Jas. M. King); other late ones were at Key West Nov. 28 (FTH), and on the n. side of Florida Bay Nov. 11 (JCO & SRR). In the Tallahassee

Division the Black-billed Cuckoo was early at the WCTV tower Aug. 22 (WWB & RLC) and late on St. George I., Nov. 5 (JMS). A new colony of Smooth-billed Anis may be forming at Winter Haven, where numbers up to 14 were seen Oct. 14-Dec. 9 (W. Chapman). As the breeding population of this species moves northward, the winter penetrations of the Groove-billed Ani move toward it; this year the Tallahassee Division got its fourth record when 2 were seen near St. Marks Light Oct. 28 (CSG).

OWLS, NIGHTJARS, SWIFTS, AND HUMMINGBIRDS — The hitchhiking Burrowing Owl that arrived at Cape Canaveral last summer was still there at the end of the period (RDB *et al.*). A Short-eared Owl at L. Jackson Nov. 5 (HMS) may be the second of record for Leon County. Three late Com. Nighthawks were seen near Tallahassee Oct. 19 (VSP), and very late Chimney Swifts were reported at Gainesville Nov. 5 (JEH), and L. Iamonia, n. Leon Co., Nov. 25 (PJF & JBE) — the latest for the Florida Region by 13 days. (The latter observers, however, did not consider at the time the possibility of Vaux' Swift.) One to 2 Rufous Hummingbirds were again early at Rockledge, Oct. 7-Nov. 2 (ADC, HGC *et al.*).

WOODPECKERS AND FLYCATCHERS — A Red-headed Woodpecker at the Loxahatchee Refuge Oct. 9 (PWS) was out of place, and Edscom reported seeing them in *northward* flight this fall. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was early at the WCTV tower Oct. 2 (WWB & RLC). W. Kingbirds were reported from at least 4 localities in north Florida, and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers from 3, both being more frequent southward; a Scissor-tailed was early near Homestead Oct. 13 (JCO). A very late Great Crested Flycatcher was seen at Gainesville Oct. 17 (JEH), and an Acadian Flycatcher was mist-netted at Homestead Oct. 7 (EJF & JCO). A Traill's Flycatcher was seen and heard at Key Biscayne Sept. 23 (PWS).

LARKS, SWALLOWS, JAYS, AND CROWS — A Horned Lark near Jacksonville Nov. 11 & 24 (RWL, NOW *et al.*) was thought to represent the race *alpestris*, not known to occur in Florida. An early Cliff Swallow was found by a boat party 20 mi. off Mayport Aug. 20 (JBE & D.C.A.S.). The migration of Blue Jays was conspicuous in parts of n. Florida, and a few even reached the Upper Keys by Oct. 17 (SS). Key West also had one on Nov. 26, but the same observer (PWS) reported a *young* one there Aug. 16. There is no other evidence of their nesting or summering on the Keys. A Com. Crow was also unusual on Plantation Key Oct. 15 (SS).

NUTHATCHES THROUGH THRUSHES — A White-breasted Nuthatch near St. Marks Light Oct. 8 (CSG), is the first record south of Tallahassee in several years. The first Red-breasted Nuthatch of fall was mist-netted at Tallahassee Oct. 21 (Peter Homann); before the end of the period they were scattered through n. Leon County and present on the Gulf islands. A House Wren on the Dry Tortugas Oct. 10

(WBR) proved the earliest of record for the Lower Keys. The Catbird migration seemed to be the best ever at Homestead, where 769 were mist-netted and banded Sept. 22-Nov. 3 (EJF). A Robin was early on Alligator Pt. Oct. 10 (CHW). A Gainesville observer (JEH) reported 50 Wood Thrushes there Oct. 8, and one was very late, if not wintering, at Homestead Nov. 25 (EJF). Despite numerous records of transient species of thrushes on Christmas Bird Counts, the first shred of substantiation came this year when a Swainson's Thrush was collected at Vero Beach Dec. 1 (HWK; *to U.F.). The fact that it was in a "weakened and emaciated condition . . . on a doorstep" indicated that it may not have made the local Count in any case. A Veery at Bartow Sept. 3 (WB) was the earliest for the N. Peninsula, but a Gray-cheeked Thrush near Palm Beach Sept. 2 (PWS) was the earliest known to Florida.

KINGLETS THROUGH VIREOS — A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was early at the WCTV tower Oct. 2 (WWB & RLC), and one on the Dry Tortugas Oct. 10 (WBR) was the earliest for the Lower Keys. The earliest Water Pipit of record in s. Florida was found at the n. boundary of the Everglades National Park Oct. 17 (JCO). Although the Cedar Waxwing usually does not appear until December, the N. Peninsula got its third late-September record when 7 appeared at Merritt I. Sept. 26 (HGC). A Bell's Vireo at the Loxahatchee Refuge Oct. 9 (PWS) was said to be the first record for Palm Beach County. Single Philadelphia Vireos were recorded at Lakeland Sept. 18 (PJF), and at the WDBO-TV tower Oct. 3 (WKT & BHA).

WARBLERS — Late Prothonotary Warblers appeared at Eau Gallie Oct. 12 (ADC), and Florida Bay Nov. 11 (JCO, SRR, & Les Line). A Swainson's Warbler in the Everglades Aug. 6 (WB & DG) was very early. A Worm-eating Warbler at Homestead Nov. 13 (EJF), considered a "transient" (JCO), would therefore be late. Of the 8 records each of Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers, a record of the latter at Orange L. Oct. 31 (JHH), is late. Some observers considered the Tennessee Warbler more common than usual; one at Winter Haven Aug. 31 (PJF) was 7 days earlier than any other Florida record. Comparatively early was one at Rockledge Sept. 15 (ADC), and 3 at Stock I., Nov. 15 (FTH) were quite late. An Orange-crowned Warbler at Tallahassee Oct. 4 (HMS), equalled the earliest record for that division. The rare Nashville Warbler was seen by ADC and many others at Lakeland Oct. 14. The Cape May and Black-throated Blue Warblers, both rare in fall in the Tallahassee area, occurred in the WCTV kill Oct. 20 (WWB & RLC), and the latter on Alligator Pt. that day (CHW). Three Myrtle Warblers on the Dry Tortugas Oct. 10 (WBR), were the earliest known to the Lower Keys. Late Cerulean Warblers were listed at Key Biscayne Sept. 23 (JMK), and at Lakeland Sept. 27 (PJF); surprisingly, c Florida had 5 additional records. The earliest record for the Blackburnian Warbler in the S. Peninsula was equaled by one near Palm Beach Sept. 9 (PWS). A Yellow-throated Warbler on St. George I., Oct. 21 (HMS & NOW; *to F.S.U.), is one of the

few Florida specimens of *albiflora*. The N. Peninsula had late records of the Blackpoll Warbler at the WDBO tower, Nov. 7 (WKT & BHA), and the N. Waterthrush at Lakeland Oct. 29 (JBE & PJF). Rare in fall, the Conn. Warbler was encountered at Key Biscayne Sept. 10 (JMK); a Mourning Warbler at Rockledge Oct. 27 (ADC); and a Canada Warbler at Homestead Oct. 3 (JCO). Yellow-breasted Chats appeared at Lakeland Sept. 16 (JBE), and Sept. 24 (GJH); on Alligator Pt., Oct. 21 (HMS & NOW); and at St. Marks Light Nov. 25 (JBE & Kirs Edscorn; wintering?). Wilson's Warblers occurred widely: Dry Tortugas Sept. 19 (WBR); Lakeland Oct. 14 (ADC *et al.*); Rockledge Oct. 15 (ADC); and Jacksonville Nov. 10-19 (MCD & VMM)

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, AND TANAGERS — Records of Yellow-headed Blackbirds came from the Dry Tortugas Sept. 19 (WBR), and near Cocoa Nov. 26 (Maggie C. Bowman). Lakeland had single Orchard Orioles Sept. 9 (JBE, PJF, & HMS) and Nov. 4 (PJF; very late). There was a genuinely early movement of Rusty Blackbirds; Jacksonville had 2 on Oct. 20 (SAG), n. Leon County 3 on Oct. 23 (HMS, *1 to F.S.U.), the upper Wakulla R. one on Oct. 28 (HMS), and Rockledge one on Nov. 1 (ADC & HGC). A W. Tanager was netted and banded at Homestead Oct. 26 (EJF).

FINCHES AND SPARROWS — A Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Homestead, Nov. 13-15 (JCO), was later than previous records in the S. Peninsula. Single Blue Grosbeaks were found at Sarasota Aug. 29 (Donald & Grace Mace, Edith Miller; earliest in S. Peninsula), and at Rockledge Sept. 15 (ADC), 10 were seen in the e. Everglades National Park Sept. 24 (JCO). A new arrival date was set for the Indigo Bunting in the N. Peninsula with a record at Lakeland Sept. 19 (JBE). The Painted Bunting, rare in the n w parts of the Florida Region in fall, appeared at Carabelle Sept. 29 (HMS), near Trenton Oct. 21 (DJW), and near St. Marks Light Nov. 5 (NOW; latest for division). Single Dickcissels occurred on St. George I., Oct. 21 (HMS & NOW), and in n.e. St. Johns County, Oct. 29 (SAG). A Purple Finch was early at Jacksonville Nov. 18 (VMM, PCP, & MJW). Early Am. Goldfinches reached Tallahassee by Oct. 21 (VSP) and Rockledge by Nov. 1 (ADC). Additional records of the Rufous-sided Towhee on the Keys came from Plantation Key Nov. 19 & 30 (Richard T. Paul). An Ipswich Sparrow was added to the Florida list near the mouth of the St. Johns R. Nov. 22 & 23 (NOW, JMS, & HMS; *to F.S.U.). One of the few inland records of the Sharp-tailed Sparrow occurred at the WCTV tower Oct. 20 (WWB & RLC). Lark Sparrow records came from Lakeland, the Everglades area, Key West, and the Dry Tortugas. A Slate-colored Junco was remarkably early near Winter Beach Oct. 1-9 (Mabel Michael *et al.*); it was live-trapped, examined in hand, and released. More normally early was one at Gainesville Oct. 19 (Caroline Coleman). A Clay-colored Sparrow was found on Dog I., Sept. 30 (HMS; *to F.S.U.), and another at Key West Nov. 26 & 28 (PWS, FTH *et al.*). Single White-crowned Sparrows were reported from Jacksonville Oct. 20-29

(VMM & Julie Cocke); Homestead Nov. 13 (EJF); Tallahassee Nov. 24 (HMS); and Key West Nov. 20-28 (FTH & PWS). A Fox Sparrow at the WCTV tower Nov. 6 (WWB & RLC) was the earliest known to Florida; unfortunately, the specimen was badly damaged and not preserved. The only Lincoln's Sparrow was recorded on St. George I., Oct. 21 (NOW & HMS). A single Snow Bunting was seen at close range near the mouth of the St. John R., Nov. 23 (JMS).

SONG — Three species rarely, if ever before, known to sing here in fall, sang briefly at times this year: Yellow-throated Warbler, Tallahassee, Sept. 7 (HMS), and Mullet Key, Sept. 10 (HMS); Ovenbird, Lakeland, early September (JBE); Baltimore Oriole, Tallahassee, Sept. 29 ff. (HMS).

EXOTICS — Widely dispersed nesting records of the Monk Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*) on the east coast presage its early establishment here, an event that has already occurred locally farther north. At Jacksonville 2 were seen building a roost nest Oct. 6 (SAG & PCP); in Brevard County 2 localities had attracted a total of 11-15 birds, in one case with 3 nests (ADC, HGC, RDB *et al.*); and at Key Biscayne some of 6 birds were constructing 2 nests in November (Bert Murray, JMK *et al.*).

INITIALED OBSERVERS, area editors in bold-face — B. H. Anderson, I. J. Abramson, C. Y. Byrd, R. D. Barber, Wesley Biggs, W. W. Baker, A. D. Cruickshank, Helen G. Cruickshank, R. L. Crawford, Eva S. Dickie, J. J. Dinsmore, Mary C. Davidson, J. B. Edscorn, Erma J. Fisk, P. J. Fellers, C. S. Gidden, Dave Goodman, J. R. Gilliland, M. A. Gasche, S. A. Grimes, Frances T. Hames, G. J. Horel, H. B. Herbert, J. E. Horner, J. H. Hintermister, D. W. Johnston, Johnnie Johnson, H. W. Kale, J. M. King, H. P. Langridge, R. W. Loftin, Va. M. Markgraf, S. A. Nesbitt, Tom Neill, J. C. Ogden, Greg Price, Veronica S. Pantelidis, D. L. Roselle, S. R. Robins, W. B. Robertson, H. M. Stevenson, J. M. Stevenson, P. W. Sykes, Sandy Sprunt, W. K. Taylor, C. E. Weiser, C. H. Watt, M. Joyce Williams, N. O. Wamer. Other abbreviations and symbols: D.C.A.S., Duval Co. Audubon Soc.; F.S.U., Fla. State Univ., U.S., Univ. of Florida; *, collected specimen. — **HENRY M. STEVENSON**, Dept. of Biol. Science, Tallahassee, Fla., 32306.

ONTARIO-WESTERN NEW YORK REGION

/ Clive E. Goodwin and Richard C. Rosche

ONTARIO — Cold, wet and cloudy with nothing much around was the verdict of many observers on much of the fall. This was one of those deceptive seasons when generally poor weather and a lack of widespread, strong, weather-linked movements concealed one of the most fascinating migrations on record. Last year there was no question on the exceptional character of the fall migration, but this year events were more



isolated; weather-related phenomena there were, but the associated weather was mainly elsewhere. To a greater extent than usual observers themselves generated interesting material. Normally northern Ontario — that great observer void north of Lake Superior — provides few observations; hence reports from there tend to be of potentially greater value. This year several visits were made as far north as Moosonee, and in the summary that follows the reports from these trips are given considerable attention. It was a fall of invasions: Boreal Chickadees and Black-billed Magpies capture the most interest, but the sheer range of incursive species that moved this year was remarkable and probably unprecedented. Gray Jays, Bohemian Waxwings and Northern Shrikes, winter finches generally, smaller movements of owls and woodpeckers; almost every species known to stage incursions selected fall 1972 to do so. Some answers to the enigma may lie in reports that the phenomenally late frosts in the more southerly areas of the boreal forest killed off both new growth and this year's crop of cones, and it has also been suggested that the very damp weather may have rotted the stores of species such as Gray Jays.

In spite of the opening statement the autumn was not wholly without grounded migrants. The Kingston area was not fortunate in this regard, and it also acquired a new migrational hazard along the lakeshore with the chimney of the Lennox Power Plant, which Ontario Hydro insisted on floodlighting. Particularly serious kills were on the nights of Sept. 12, with 1145 birds, and Sept. 19, with 1531, including 361 Yellowthroats (*vide* RDW). With two more buildings in the 1000-foot range proposed for Toronto, the cumulative effect of tall structures along migration routes must be an increasingly significant factor in the mortality of migrants.

The cool weather in August stimulated early movement and the host of early dates in the last report are supplemented here; much warbler migration was better in August than September. In contradiction to

the general trend, however, were a number of remarkably late reports, perhaps late breeding birds following the inhospitable summer. Hawk migration was again very good, with a fine flight of Blue-Listed species.

The most intriguing event of the fall was an influx of western species. The magpie flight was probably part of this phenomenon: the dates were "right" But it certainly did not stop at magpies, and the reports would strain the credulity if it were not that there was good evidence for some of them, and that they roughly coincide. A Rock Wren and 3 Clark's Nutcrackers in northwestern Ontario, and a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in the Bruce Peninsula are the most outstanding — and best supported — sightings. But to these must be added three suggestive reports from further south: on Oct. 27 a bird answering to the description of a Lewis' Woodpecker was seen in a flock of Blue Jays at Point Pelee (DR); on Oct. 10 a flock of sparrows in a field had 3 birds associating with them that the observer could only ascribe to Smith's Longspurs (AD); and on Nov. 18 a bird identified as a Townsend's Solitaire was seen at Hamilton (MJ). For various reasons these three reports all contain elements which may individually make them questionable to the Ontario Records Committee, but they also all have elements that make them worth serious consideration; they are more than the vague random rarity reports of every fall. Did something happen in the west that diverted a number of birds eastward in October? Certainly the weather maps for late September provide the kind of patterns that could divert migrants.

On Sept. 19 a low pressure system which was centred in Montana began to strengthen and move rapidly northwest into Manitoba, with high winds and rain. On the 20th it was in central Manitoba, where it swung back briefly before moving off over Hudson Bay on the 22nd. It was followed almost at once by another strong system which moved from Washington State on the 22nd across the Prairie Provinces to northern Ontario. To the south another storm system moved across Montana and South Dakota on the 24th, and by the 25th had swept up into north-western Ontario and out across James Bay. Still another system moved along roughly the same route on Sept. 28-29, so birds through this area were buffeted by four successive storm systems, all with strong winds and a north-easterly direction.

Having provided a facile explanation it is necessary to point out that there is other evidence which does not fit this story. Western Sandpipers appeared in unusual numbers, an Am. Avocet was seen and there were four Western Kingbirds, all prior to the storms just discussed, most of them being around the end of August. At the same time these other sightings are less striking and more in keeping with the recent patterns of western appearances. One also must wonder about wheatear migration routes, and note that Scissor-tailed Flycatcher distribution is mainly south of the storm systems just reviewed. But migration is rarely neat; we can only speculate on these intriguing events.

LOONS GREBES, CORMORANTS — High counts of Com. Loons were at Kettle Pt. with 305 on Oct. 29 (DR), and at Ottawa with 35 on Nov. 19

(MM) The Ottawa groups included Red-throated Loons Oct. 14-Nov. 18, with 2 on Oct. 22 (FM, RT *et al.*); and other sightings of this species included 6 in Lambton Co. over the period (*vide* DR), and single birds at Prince Edward Point (P.E.Pt.) Oct. 28, the earliest for Kingston (RDW, AEH) and Nov. 12 (RDW, PEL). Red-necked Grebes were also in good numbers at Ottawa, with an early bird Sept. 3 (JW) and a high of 9 on Oct. 25 (MB, DB); possibly the record and near-record counts of these and other species in this locality is more a reflection of far more extensive coverage in recent seasons, than any actual increase in numbers. A summer Red-necked Grebe was in Algonquin Provincial Park Aug. 14-15 (PP) and there were 8 on Amherst I. Nov. 12 (MM *et al.*) Good counts of Horned Grebes were 100, Cobourg, Oct. 22-Nov. 8 (ERM); and 300, Rondeau, Oct. 16-25 (PDP). On Oct. 25 Rondeau also yielded an Eared Grebe (PDP, TP), and there was one at Hamilton throughout the summer and to Nov. 12 (m.ob.). The Double-crested Cormorant picture seems rather better, but this may be only a result of observers providing more details on sightings of this species: a report of nesting was from Peter Rock, off Port Hope, where 5 nests were counted with at least 4 containing eggs, and 11 adults nearby June 20 (ERM); 15 birds were also seen on Scotch Bonnet I. June 19 (RH). Fall reports included an unprecedented 27 at Ottawa Sept. 23 (SO, RP) with up to 4 birds there throughout the period; and s.w. Ontario highs were 24 on Sept. 27 and 43 on Sept. 28, both on Pelee I. (PDP, DB) Elsewhere there were 4 reports of up to 2 birds, with 1, Fanshawe L., London, Nov. 9 (WGD) being most notable.

HERONS — The 61 Great Blue Herons at Mountsberg Reservoir Aug. 6 (RC *et al.*) were a good number. Cattle Egrets were seen at Hamilton (*vide* RC) and Long Pt. (L.P.B.O.) in July, and the 2 at South Bay, Prince Edward Co. Oct. 28 were the latest ever in the Kingston area (RDW, AEH). A correction from the summer report was that the nest of Cattle Egrets reported from Pigeon I. was later thought to belong to another species. Inland waters in the Kitchener-Waterloo-Guelph regions had up to 5 Com Egrets at a time between July 31 and Sept. 16 (CAC, OW, *et al.*), very good numbers for these areas; and to the east there were single birds at Squaw Pt., Kingston Aug. 5 (RR) and the first ever at Ottawa Aug. 20 (DBo). Night herons of any kind are outside their range on Manitoulin I., so the one at Gore Bay Sept. 3 (JN *et al.*) is worthy of note even if unidentified Range makes a Black-crowned far the most likely possibility, as this species occurs regularly on the Bruce Peninsula. A late Am. Bittern was seen Nov. 13 at Thunder Bay, Niagara region (JK).

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — Three Mute Swans at Camden L. Oct. 3 (EH) were the first in autumn for the Kingston area. There was a good movement of Whistling Swans following isolated summer records along the lower Great Lakes: most outstanding counts 22 at Wolfe I., Kingston Oct. 7 (WT), the earliest and

largest numbers ever there (*vide* RDW), and the Kent Co maximum of 550 on Nov. 10 (DR) The Canada Goose movement was less pronounced than usual, although there were unconfirmed reports that the movement that traditionally crosses the Peterborough-Cobourg area was unusually far west this year; in any event, only relatively small numbers were reported from the North Bay region (*vide* HP), the Wolfe flight was "fair" with the only big numbers on Oct. 3 (RCL), and the only high count from the Sudbury region was 3000 geese mostly of this species at Ramsay Oct. 17 (TW, *vide* JN). To the north the major goose flights occurred at Virginiatown Sept. 25-26 & Oct. 17 (PWR, JNK), and at Thunder Bay—the Lakehead, in following references to this locality—from Oct. 6 to 12 (*vide* KD). The flight was typically heavy in the east 5000 an hour during Oct. 7 at Ottawa (*vide* RAF); "tremendous" flocks, into some thousands at Wolfe and Amherst Is., Oct. 6-7 (*vide* RDW), where a flock of 2000 had an exceptionally large bird thought to be a *maxima*. This race, which is being released elsewhere in Ontario, reared young for the first time in Waterloo Co at Laurel Res. (*vide* CAC, PKB). There were scattered small flocks of Brant along the lower Lakes; elsewhere Manitoulin I. had its first ever Nov. 4 (CB) and there were 2 at Barrie Nov. 5 (SM, CJM). Similarly only small numbers of Snow and Blue Geese were seen, 130 in Broder Twp. Oct. 17 (CBI) and 400 at Ipperwash Oct. 15 (JAG) were the largest flocks reported. Some noteworthy summer records arrived late Pintail at Long Pt., July 6-7 (L.P.B.O.); 4 Am. Widgeon at Laurel Res. in Waterloo Co., June 24 (CAC *et al.*), and a ♂ Shoveler on Shipsands I., Moosonee, July 3 (RC, GB). The latter species was also seen on Nov. 12 at Kingston (TH, BM, AW), the latest ever there. Ottawa had a late Blue-winged Teal Nov. 5 (BM), and there were some record high numbers seen of this species: 500, Gore Bay, late August (*vide* JN); and 300, Strathroy, early September (*vide* WRJ). When are birds wild? At least one waterfowl collection on Ontario has free-flying birds, and possibly the increases in some dabbling duck in the region originate from this and similar sources, at least initially. However, the question is prompted in this account by more obviously exotic waterfowl, as both Muscovy Ducks and barnyard ducks - euphemistically called Pekin Ducks - have now been reported as rearing feral broods in the Toronto area (*vide* GBe). The birds have been around (and carefully ignored by local birders) for two or three years now, but if this sort of thing keeps up one day they will be posing problems to the A.O U. Check-List Committee. What is the scientific name for a Pekin Duck anyway? [derived from *Anas platyrhynchos*, the Mallard—Ed.] Diving ducks continue to show in high numbers: 1000 Canvasback on Wolfe I. Nov. 12 (MMCl *et al.*) were the largest numbers around Kingston in 13 years, and the smaller counts at Ottawa of 13 on Oct. 28 and 34 on Nov. 5 (BM, RP *et al.*) were no less remarkable for that area. Other high counts at Kingston were 50,000 scaup on Oct. 14 at P.E. Pt. (AEH, RDW) and over 450 Bufflehead Nov. 12 (K.F.N.). A Barrow's Goldeneye appeared at Oakville again from Nov. 11-12 (JGK, AE, WS), and there were birds at Ottawa on Oct.

28 (RAF, RPo) and Nov. 12 (BD, JH), Presqu'île on Nov. 10 (AW), and the first record for Cobourg Nov. 5 (DR, RJ). Oakville's Harlequin Duck reappeared Nov. 5 (PE) and the Niagara R. bird Nov. 19 (RFA *et al.*). There were also up to 5 King Eiders on the Niagara R., Nov. 18-25 (PMB, RFA *et al.*) Scoters continued in good but perhaps smaller numbers than recent years: the 30 White-winged at Fanshawe Nov. 5 (JT) are noteworthy, as was a record-early Surf Scoter in the Thousand Is. Sept. 30 (AG, JAW) and a high count of 350 Com. Scoters at Kettle Pt in October (*vide* AHK). There were many counts of up to 12 birds of the rarer scoters along the lower Lakes. Ruddy Ducks are rare in the east of the Province: reports were from P.E. Pt. one on Nov. 12 (RDW, PEL) and Ottawa, one from Oct. 29 (HNM) and on Nov. 11 (BM *et al.*) Further west there were 9 at Wilcox L. Nov. 20 (RAD), 4 at Lavigne Oct. 19 (LR) and a Provincial high of 330 at Rondeau in November (*vide* AHK). The southwest also provided the high merganser counts: 70 Hooded Merganser and 20,000 Red-breasted Merganser, Nov. 19 (JW); and 30,000 mixed Red-breasted and Com., Oct. 26 (JPK), all at Pt. Pelee (Pelee).

VULTURES, EAGLES, HAWKS—Hawk migration, in terms of massed Buteo flights, was poor although there was some late movement - a Red-tailed Hawk flight at Kingston Nov. 12 and in s.w. Ontario on Nov. 12-13. The totals seen, however, were encouraging and Accipiters staged a good but typically unspectacular movement throughout. Turkey Vultures were also moving in small numbers in the southwest over the period, and in late September the movement became heavy with up to 42 seen (*vide* AH). Kingston had a high of this successful species of 15 on Oct. 25 (RDW) and there was a late bird at Hamilton Nov. 6 (JC).

S.A.

The most outstanding movement was of Goshawks, particularly in late October and early November, when there was a good flight at Hawk Cliff (MHF). Reports were more numerous to the south and west, with 5 in Manitoulin-Sudbury, 6 at Hamilton, and 11 in the southwest with a multitude of reports of smaller numbers: this is a difficult species upon which to gather reliable statistics, but this seems to represent one of the heaviest flights on record.

Two Cooper's Hawks at L. Nipigon Aug. 23 (WRL) and a Red-shouldered Hawk at Wolfe Sept. 16 (RCL) were near the edge of their ranges. An extremely late Broad-winged Hawk was reported from Halifax Twp., Sudbury region, Oct. 27 (LR). Rough-legged Hawks appeared in small numbers in early October, although some regions failed to record one and an early bird was seen in Blezard Valley Sept. 25 (JN). There was a remarkable movement of Golden Eagles for the second year in succession: some 8 birds were reported Oct. 14-Nov. 23, and from Terrace Bay south to Pickering and Pelee. There were 19 reports of single Bald Eagles, plus late summer records of up to 4 on

Manitoulin I in August (*vide* JN), 2 adults and an immature at Long Pt. in July (L P B O), and 5 eagles at Hawk Cliff Sept. 19, at least 3 of this species (JS, WM). There were 28 Osprey reports from the southwest (*vide* AHK), Hawk Cliff "highs" of 30 on Sept. 18 and 15 on Sept. 19 (JS, WM) and 10 reports from Kingston (*vide* RDW), with many smaller totals recorded elsewhere. Against this rather optimistic account of these two species must be placed the report that two independent aerial surveys of the Manitoulin-Sudbury region last summer failed to record any successful nestings for either Bald Eagles or Ospreys (*vide* JN). A Gyrfalcon was seen in Bertie Twp. Nov. 29 (RFA, RB) and 5 gray-phase birds were seen on Shippans I., Moosonee, Oct. 9 (AW, MJ, PM). Pelee again led the Peregrine Falcon records with 21 over the period; and there were 14 other reports ranging from Abitibi Canyon in the north to Ottawa in the east, but none from L. Superior areas. The movement of Pigeon Hawks was also good, with birds widespread in small numbers, and the latest fall record from Kingston was a bird at P.E. Pt. Nov. 12 (TH, BM, AW).

GROUSE, CRANES, RAILS — Sharp-tailed Grouse sightings from Fort Frances (IP) and Auden (DHE) suggest a good year for this species. Fort Frances also had a Sandhill Crane Nov. 3 (IP); there were 6 at Dryden Sept. 25 (CG) and 8 at Shippans I., Moosonee Aug. 3 (TH, AW); the latter locality is one in which summer records of the species are to be expected. A Virginia Rail at Cochrane on July 1 (RC, GB) is one of few records from the Clay Belt. A Yellow Rail at Tiny Marsh July 23 (CJM, DS) was Simcoe County's first record in some years.

SHOREBIRDS — In spite of high lake levels Piping Plover nested at Long Pt., the first recent report from there: there were 2 pairs, and a nest was located (RC *et al.*). Other records from species at the limits of their ranges were Am. Woodcock at Cochrane July 1 (RC, GB) and Virginiatown Oct. 11 (PWR, JNK), and Upland Plover at Fort Frances, where there were 8 into September (IP). This species also provided a noteworthy high count of 30 at Ottawa Sept. 3 (SO, DM). Shorebird migration was unusual; high lake levels again curtailed habitat, but movement began early and ended early in many species, although some good numbers and late records were also noted. Am. Golden Plover provided all these conditions: the Kingston record of Aug. 13 was the earliest ever there (RDW); there was a good Ottawa total of 375 on Sept. 3 (SO, DM) and the bird there Nov. 5 (RP, BD) was late. A Spotted Sandpiper at Ottawa Nov. 12 (VH, MBo) was also late, and another was at Bronte Dec. 1-3 (MJ, AW). Whimbrel and Knot are less common in fall than in spring: noteworthy reports of the latter include 2, North Bay, Aug. 9 (JMG, TCM), and one, Chelmsford, Sept. 25-28 (CB, JL); and the former species was seen at Pelee Sept. 2 (DR, AR), and 2 at P.E. Pt. on August 20 (K.F.N.). July gatherings of Whimbrel have been recorded along James Bay, and this year there were 90 at Shippans I. July 3 (RC, GB); the 2 Marbled Godwits there Aug. 5 (AW, TH) fall into a similar category. Purple Sandpipers appeared

in good but not exceptional numbers 13 were reported along the lower Lakes Oct. 14-Nov. 22, including 3 at Hamilton and 4 at P.E. Pt. (AW, K.F.N.). The host of early records noted in the last report were supplemented by well substantiated records of turnstone, White-rumped Sandpiper and Dunlin summering on Long Pt. (L.P.B.O.), and Dunlin also appeared exceptionally early in a number of localities: one, Toronto, Aug. 6 (GWN, JO, RC); one, Rockhouse Pt., Aug. 10 (RFA, DA); one, Manitoulin I., Aug. 31 (FC), and 6, Thousand Is., Sept. 6 (K.F.N.). A Baird's Sandpiper at Hamilton, July 26-29, was also early, but a bird Oct. 22 at Kingston (K.F.N.) was the latest there, and there were good numbers generally of this species. The same is true of White-rumped Sandpipers, which were especially numerous in the east, with up to 61 at Ottawa, Oct. 21 (RP, BM *et al.*); and 46 records at Kingston Oct. 20-Nov. 12, their latest date ever Ottawa and Hamilton each reported 4 Long-billed Dowitchers, with the necessary field characteristics apparently in place; the Ottawa area birds were between Oct. 1 & 14 (RP *et al.*) but the 4 at Hamilton stayed around Aug. 20-Oct. 14 (m.ob.). Ten Stilt Sandpipers at Chelmsford Sept. 17 was a good number for the area (JN). The following three species appeared in exceptionally high numbers, although not out of keeping with the counts of the last two falls; and provided an interesting contrast in distribution, with W Sandpipers and Buff-breasted Sandpipers appearing in heaviest numbers in the southwest and Hudsonian Godwits, (and the White-rumped Sandpipers above) in the east. Western Sandpipers were most numerous at Pelee, with 13 birds in all in the southwest, good numbers also at Hamilton, and Cobourg's first Oct. 16-22 (RHc); Pelee had some 17 Buff-breasted Sandpipers (m. ob.), and there were birds at Lowbanks Aug. 26 (HHA), Hamilton's earliest Aug. 13 (RC), and at Azilda, Sept. 10-27 (JN). The Hudsonian Godwits were again at Ottawa, with highs of 11 on Oct. 7 (SO, BM) 5 at Morrisburg Oct. 1 (BM), and elsewhere singles at Toronto, Sept. 17 (JGK), Mountsberg, Oct. 29 (OW); Vaughan Twp., Oct. 22 (GBe); and an early bird at Hamilton Aug. 20 (RC, AW). The Sudbury region recorded its first Ruff at Chelmsford, Sept. 12-17 (JN *et al.*), and other rarities were an Am. Avocet at Pelee Aug. 27 (DR, AR) and Middlesex County's second Red Phalarope at Strathroy Oct. 24 (JWL, EL), with another bird of this species at Ottawa Nov. 9 (BM). Seven N Phalaropes at Amherstview sewage lagoons Sept. 16 (RDW) were the most ever for Kingston, and this species was widespread with four other counts of 3-6 birds.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — A Parasitic Jaeger was seen at Sarnia Oct. 23 and 2 jaegers were off Kettle Pt. Oct. 29 (DR), with the usual reports of these birds from w. L. Ontario. Glaucous Gulls began to appear early: birds were at Queenston Oct. 24 (HHA), Sudbury Nov. 11 (JN); and Sarnia Nov. 26 (DR). Summer records of white gulls were a bird of this species at Long Pt. to June 14 (L.P.B.O.); an Iceland Gull on Nicholson I., Prince Edward Co., June 19 (RH), and another at Moosonee Aug. 8 (AW). Great Black-

backed Gulls are scarce in the southwest, so the Sept 28 counts of 55 on Pelee I. and 23 at Rondeau and Erieau were exceptional. On L. Huron there was one at Manitoulin I. Nov. 19 (CB, JN). Following last fall's two Lesser Black-backed Gull sightings reports of this species have been rife, but at least one bird seems to have been present in the Cobourg-Oakville-Toronto area from Oct. 28 (RJ *et al.*) to the end of the period (m.ob.). Two Black-headed Gulls were seen: one at Hamilton July 5-23 (GWN *et al.*) and one at Niagara Falls Nov. 5 (PMB). The Niagara R. continued to be the best locality in the Region in which to find gulls, and there were up to 3 Little Gulls there in October and November (B.O.S.), but southwestern Ontario led the field with Franklin's Gulls, with 9 reports over the period. One at Snow L., Manitoulin I., Aug. 9 (FC) was the first record for the Sudbury area, which also had its second Sabine's Gull record Sept. 12 with a bird at L. Penage (WRL). Black-legged Kittiwakes have become another usual constituent of the Niagara River populations, and one was seen there Nov. 24 (RFA). A boat trip off Hamilton Nov. 4 yielded another, but 3 at Clarkson Nov. 6 were more remarkable, as they were seen from shore there (RC *et al.*). On Aug. 27 a major movement of Com Terns was watched at Pelee: Some 24,000 birds were estimated flying towards the point from Wheatley, and there were a further 100,000 birds in two immense flocks on the fields at Marantette Beach, with some 60,000 Herring and Ring-billed Gulls (DR, AR). Late Com Terns included 6 at Wolfe I. Oct. 22 (K.F.N.) and 3 at Kelly L. Sept. 21 (JN). An outstanding movement seen on June 11—and under animated discussion since—was of some 40 Arctic Terns at Ottawa (RP *et al.*). Arctic Tern sightings in s. Ontario have traditionally turned out to be Com. Terns seen by imaginative observers, although there have been occasional thought-provoking reports. This group was seen by a small army of observers, and very well documented. Roger Foxall notes the interesting correlation with weather: "The appearance of the flock after the passage of a cold front and their disappearance after the passage of a warm front (on June 13-14) does . . . indicate a grounding of migrants rather than a displacement." People will be looking at tern flocks more carefully henceforward! A Caspian Tern on the Columbia Res. Aug. 8 (RBr) was one of few records for Waterloo County.

PARROTS, CUCKOOS, OWLS — In fall 1971 there were about 100 Black-hooded Parakeets reported in the Windsor area. Apparently at least 2 survived the winter and were possibly nesting. The birds were identified from photographs (KK, NC) taken during the summer. On Nov. 4 late Yellow-billed Cuckoos were seen both at London (MT) and Pelee (JW), the latter bird dropping into the lake and being "speedily dispatched" by gulls. Snowy Owls appeared in scattered numbers from the end of October, and the north had a movement of both Hawk and Great Gray Owls: Hawk Owls were sighted at Ottawa Oct. 27 (Mr. & Mrs. H. Munro); in the Gogama area Oct. 9 (CW), Oct. 22 (WRL, JN) and Nov. 13 (CB, JL); at Chapleau Nov. 23 (AJR); and in Sibley Provincial

Park Nov 14 (AM), and 2 adults and a young bird were watched at Fraserdale July 2 (RC, GB). The Great Gray Owls were all in November: along the C.N.R. Line from Nakina (*vide* DHE, JBM); and at Terrace Bay Nov. 9, Quetico Nov. 15 (AQ), Packenham Nov. 16 & 18 (ER, MR), and Martin Nov. 26 (JKU). There was also a Boreal Owl at Hymers Nov. 11 (AEG). Other owl reports relate mainly to summer records: a Long-eared Owl at Preston Aug. 22 (RCH) and another at Long Pt. July 13, which also recorded an imm. Saw-whet Owl two days earlier (L.P.B.O.).

WHIP-POOR-WILL, SWIFT, HUMMING-BIRD, WOODPECKERS — A Whip-poor-will at Long Pt. on July 7 was the second in summer there (L.P.B.O.). Late Chimney Swifts were widely reported: notably 100 on Oct. 22, and one on Nov. 10 at London (WRJ), possibly the latest ever recorded in the Province, and one at Kingston Nov. 5 (NM, PMcP). A Ruby-throated Hummingbird at Port Hope Oct. 3 (ERM) was also late. A small three-toed woodpecker movement developed in November: Northern Three-toeds were at Mallorytown Nov. 19 (JWd) and Killarney Nov. 22 (WRL).

FLYCATCHERS — Western Kingbirds appeared in unusual numbers: birds were at Poplar, Aug. 29 (FC); L. Chemung, Aug. 19 (SAY); Wainfleet, Aug. 28 (RFA); and Long Pt., June 26 (L.P.B.O.). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Eastnor Nov. 5-6 was photographed (MG *et al.*); there are over a dozen previous records for the Province. Other flycatcher records were late birds: an *Empidonax*, probably a Traill's Flycatcher, at Moose Factory Oct. 6 (AW *et al.*); E. Phoebe at Kingston Nov. 12 (K.F.N.), Hamilton Nov. 18 (AW) and Rondeau Nov. 23 (*vide* AHK); and Olive-sided Flycatchers at Kingston Sept. 9 (JAW, RDW), and Guelph Sept. 20 (JCA).

SWALLOWS, CROWS — Again, most swallow observations were of late dates, although there were some high counts: 1000 Bank Swallows at Port Hope Aug. 6 (ERM) and 3000 Tree Swallows at Dunnville on the late date of Oct. 1 (ARC, WSc). Other late sightings of this species were 35, Pelee, Nov. 12 (*vide* AHK); one, Ottawa, Nov. 18 (BD, dH); and one, Kingston, Nov. 23 (HM). Late Rough-winged Swallow reports were 3, London, Nov. 1 (WRJ); and over 50, Ottawa, to Nov. 12 (m.ob.) with 5 to Nov. 19 (HNM). Ottawa also had late Purple Martins Oct. 22, with 2 seen (BD, GH) and 4 at Kingston Oct. 2 were the latest there (GW); most other comments on this species were on its great scarcity on migration. Gray Jays staged an invasion in e. Ontario, with birds at Ottawa from Sept. 28 (*vide* RAF) and 36 sightings in the Wolfe area from Sept. 17-Nov. 30 (RCL). At Sault Ste. Marie there was a "small" invasion in October (WNG), and Sudbury and North Bay areas had birds from late October, with evidence of "considerable movement continuing further south" (*vide* HP). In the south single birds were seen at Baltimore Nov. 19 (ERM), Thousand Is. Nat'l Park Oct. 21 (JWd); Kingston Nov. 5 (RN); and 2 at Pelee Oct. 11 (JW, *et al.*), only the

second record for the Detroit survey. The other invasion was of **Black-billed Magpies**, with some 40 reports from Quibell, Sioux Lookout and Nakina in the north, south to Atikokan and Terrace Bay, all in the period Oct. 10-Dec. 14. There were no sightings south of L. Superior, but this invasion was the greatest in 50 years (*vide* KD). Perhaps by no coincidence, there were also 3 **Clark's Nutcrackers** sighted: 2 in Aubrey Twp., Nov. 14 - 24 (CG *et al.*) and one in Paipooonge Twp., Nov. 9 - Dec. 16 (EO *et al.*). One of these birds was photographed, and if the print is satisfactory it will provide the first Ontario record. There have only been unsatisfactory sight reports of the species previously.

— S.A. —

CHICKADEES — The Province had its heaviest invasion of **Boreal Chickadees** ever recorded. This species last moved in large numbers in 1951, and the movement at that time was wholly unprecedented. Although some reporting areas—Toronto, for example (*vide* AD)—had a heavier movement then, the flight this year was more widespread, and the Niagara Peninsula was the only part of the south that failed to report numbers. This has been typical pattern in chickadee movements, the birds apparently by-passing the Peninsula. Some hints of what was to follow came in mid-September, when isolated birds were seen: at Ottawa on Sept. 10, Lively on Sept. 12, and Hawk Cliff on Sept. 19. The main influx came, dramatically, at the beginning of October. Suddenly one became aware that this migrant flock contained not just one Boreal, but two or more; a chickadee flying over a busy intersection in downtown Toronto called the distinctive nasal notes; they were everywhere! For a month they continued to be seen and to move, and some remained to embellish Christmas Bird Counts and the next seasonal report. Where did they come from? There were three clues: a bird killed at Kingston was of the *hudsonicus* race (*vide* WEG), then some areas of the Province did not record any very pronounced movement, and there was some sequence to their arrivals. The North Bay area often has a few Boreals, and it did this year; the Madawaska Highlands sometimes has them, but this year there were none. Yet Sault Ste. Marie had them, and Lively was one of the first places to report them, followed by Barrie Sept. 24 and then to Hamilton and Toronto. From there the arrival dates move east and west along the shores of the two lower Lakes. The lakeshore numbers are also more imposing than those further inland: at Pelee 69 banded between Oct. 11 and 28, with Boreals some 8-10% of an estimated 1000 chickadees on the Point over this period (DR). At least 130 birds at Toronto, Oct. 2 - Nov. 12 (*vide* AD); 80 sightings at Hamilton, Oct. 1 - Nov. 19 (RC); 111 at Kingston, Oct. 15 - Nov. 12 (RDW). So from dates and reports a picture emerges of a flight originating somewhere north of L. Huron, and moving south along the east shores of Georgian Bay, and perhaps in smaller numbers through the Bruce, and then south to L. Ontario at Hamilton and Toronto, thence along the lake shore west, and also east. All of this neat construction ignores Ottawa, which had birds first, and had one of the heaviest flights. Were these Quebec

birds, coming from points north, and unrelated to the rest of the Ontario flight? There has been some suggestion that the movement was first detected in Hull, and the isolated pattern of the Ottawa invasion does suggest a different population. It would be instructive to know which race these birds belonged to. There was a heavy movement of **Black-capped Chickadees** at the same time as this flight, as the Pelee data above will have suggested, although many observers noted that the Boreals were mainly moving by themselves in small flocks of 5-10 birds. Although the **Black-capped** flight was heavy along the lower lakes, and "tremendous" in the southwest, it does not seem to have been an exceptional flight year. Perhaps everyone was too preoccupied with Boreals!

NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS, WRENS — The first summer record for the Waterloo area of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** was a pair with a juvenal in N.E. Woolwich Twp., Aug. 4-13 (CAC, PKB). This species provides some interesting geographical contrasts across the region, with exceptionally heavy numbers at Kingston and very few in the southwest, whilst with **Winter Wrens** the reverse held true, with a huge movement at Pelee Sept. 30 (JPK) and exceptionally poor numbers in the east. **Brown Creepers**, by contrast, were in poor numbers almost everywhere. A **Carolina Wren** was at Kingston Sept. 24 (RDW). The wren news was a **Rock Wren**, the second for the Province, at Ear Falls in October; the bird died after 3 weeks *(RG).

MIMIDS, THRUSHES — A **Mockingbird** was at Moosonee July 3 (RC, GB), and the first nesting at Guelph was a pair with 2 young Aug. 19-21 (TE). Birds were recorded in the Sudbury - Manitoulin area to Nov. 12 (CB) but the Ottawa birds disappeared in August (*vide* RAF); one was at Kingston, Nov. 9-19 (FC). An early **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was at Lively Aug. 22 (JL). A pair of **E. Bluebirds** were seen at Moosonee, July 4 (RC, GB); farther south there were 68, a high count, on Manitoulin I., Sept. 20 (WRL), and 5 at Kingston Nov. 12 were the latest ever (K.F.N.). A



Wheatear, Abitibi Canyon, northern Ontario, October 6, 1972. Photo/Alan Wormington.

Wheatear was photographed in the Abitibi Canyon Oct. 6 (AW, PM, MJ). There were 2 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers at Presqu'île Aug. 14 (ERM), and Kingston had the most ever in fall, with 8 records Aug. 13-Sept. 24, and a late bird Oct. 29 (AEH). The same area had its earliest Ruby-crowned Kinglet record Aug. 20 (HQ, AEH) and this species had a nest at Bronte June 9 (AW, MJ).

WAXWINGS, SHRIKES, VIREOS — Bohemian Waxwings moved into Ottawa Sept. 28 and through October, with up to 12 birds in a flock (RAF); there were birds in the Sudbury area, with 6 in the city itself Nov. 9 (DH) and 12 on Darch I., Oct. 28 (CW *et al.*), and sightings elsewhere at Mattawa with 2 on Nov. 27 (AR); and at North Bay, Nov. 24 (JNe) and Warton, Nov. 11 (JJ). Northern Shrikes were also widespread for a period, appearing between Oct. 14 and Oct. 21 across the Province, but disappearing in November. An early sighting was a bird at Hearst Aug. 26 (WRL). White-eyed Vireos are even less frequent in fall than in spring, but a bird was seen in Pickering Oct. 25 (RAD, TD). Long Pt. had its first summer Yellow-throated Vireo June 23 (L.P.B.O.), and there was a late bird at London Nov. 19 (RPk, ML). Another late report was a Solitary Vireo at Kingston Nov. 12 (K.F.N.). The Lennox chimney killed 46 Philadelphia Vireos Sept. 19 (*vide* RDW).

WARBLERS — Northern warbler records from the breeding season were 2 male Nashville Warblers at Moosonee in early July (RC, GB) and a Parula Warbler there Aug. 8 (AW); both of these species were at the limits of their ranges. There were also 2 Black-throated Blue Warblers and 3 Connecticut Warblers singing at Smoky Falls July 5 (RC, GB), both uncommon throughout this area. As noted in the last report, warbler migration commenced very early: further early records included an Orange-crowned Warbler at Wolfe Aug. 18 (RCL); a Magnolia Warbler July 1, a Bay-breasted Warbler July 16, a Blackpoll Warbler July 4 and a Connecticut Warbler July 11, all at Long Pt. (L.P.B.O.); and other early Connecticut reports were 2 from Wasi Falls, Aug. 27 (HP) and P.E. Pt. Sept. 3 (HQ, AEH, RDW). The most outstanding movement among this group was of Myrtle Warblers, traditionally late migrants which in 1972 began to appear in August and moved in sometimes huge numbers. In Kingston, for example, the passage was three weeks earlier than average and three times heavier than in the past two years (*vide* RDW). Interestingly but perhaps only coincidentally, in 1951 Myrtle Warblers also staged a very heavy, early and prolonged passage: this was the year of the last Boreal Chickadee movement (*vide* GBe). There is a formidable list of late warbler records: *Myrtle*, Manitoulin I., Nov. 5 (CB); *Orange-crowned*, Kingston Oct. 28 (RDW), and Ottawa Nov. 19 (BM); *Nashville*, Manitoulin I., Nov. 5 (CB); Ottawa Nov. 10 (HNM); *Yellow*, Manitoulin I., Sept. 20 (WRL); Bradley's Marsh, Essex Co. (RE) and Pelee (AW) both Sept. 24; and one killed at Lennox Sept. 19 (RDW). *Chestnut-sided*, Aldershot Oct. 28 (DKP, AW). *Palm*, Ottawa Nov. 5 (RP *et al.*); *Ovenbird*, Ottawa Nov. 19 (BM); and *Am. Redstart*, Sibley Park

Oct. 11 (TDy) Space does not permit listing the many good warbler counts reported, but some species are noteworthy: a Prothonotary Warbler at Campbellville July 8 (AW); A Golden-winged Warbler at Kingston Aug. 15 (HQ, AEH); a Prairie Warbler at Ottawa, the third there, on the same day (BM); and finally, and the outstanding warbler sighting of the fall, a **Yellow-throated Warbler** at Port Britain Oct. 30-31 (AKS, *vide* RJ, ERM), the second successive fall this species has been sighted.

BLACKBIRDS, TANAGERS — A Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen at Tiny Marsh Nov. 5 (DM, CJM). A Bobolink in the Lennox kill Sept. 19 (RDW) and a Baltimore Oriole at Cobourg Nov. 18 (AEW) were both late. Rusty Blackbirds were in good numbers; there were over 1000 at Kingston Sept. 25 (AEH), and enormous concentrations of blackbirds continue to be a feature of the fall in s.w. Ontario: some estimates were 50,000 at Rondeau (PDP), 100,000 at Pelee Nov. 5 (JPK), and 10,000 Brown-headed Cowbirds there Nov. 10 (AJR). A Scarlet Tanager at Moosonee Aug. 8 (AW), was well north of its normal range.

FINCHES, SPARROWS — Ottawa had 5 Cardinals reported from feeders after more than a year with no reports (*vide* RAF), and there was a Dickcissel there Oct. 7-14 (MY). An imm. Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Moosonee Aug. 8 (AW), like the tanager, was over 200 mi. north of its range, although this is a locality where wandering birds inexplicably seem to turn up. There was a widespread movement of winter finches, all the species were represented but Evening Grosbeaks predominated, and some huge numbers were reported: 300 at Pelee Nov. 10 (*vide* AHK), 250 at P.E. Pt. Oct. 28 (AEH, RDW), 2800 at Burlington Oct. 24 (AW, RF) and 1000 on Nov. 5 (AE, WS). Pine Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins were also common, with Com. Redpolls, Purple Finches and the two species of crossbill more spottily distributed. Some movement commenced in early October, with passage general by late October and continuing to the end of the period. Red Crossbills provided early interest by being seen from late summer on: earlier records were at Ancaster July 16 (RC); Manitoulin I., 2 on Aug. 27 (CB); Galt, one dead Sept. 1 (FB); and Thunder Bay Sept. 9 (DA). The first Simcoe County breeding of Evening Grosbeaks came on July 18 at Midland, when a juvenal was sighted (FW). A pale, streaked finch at P.E. Pt. Aug. 27 was identified as a ♀ **House Finch** by experienced observers, (HQ, RDW, AEH), the sighting would represent the first record for the Province, but is much less unlikely than this suggests, as the bird is now established in neighbouring New York State. A Rufous-sided Towhee was seen at Fort Frances in early September (IP). Further north there were a series of interesting sparrow sightings: 8 Savannah Sparrows Oct. 6 and a Le Conte's Sparrow Oct. 9 at Moosonee (AW *et al.*) seemed late; and there were 2 singing ♂♂ of the latter species at Smoky Falls July 4-5 (RC, GB) where a White-crowned Sparrow was also singing, south of its given range. A Fox Sparrow singing at Fraserdale July 2 (RC, GB) is further evidence of this species' distribution south to the Clay

Belt Lapland Longspurs were also moving on Ship-sands I. Oct. 7 and 1500 were seen (AW *et al.*). Reports of sparrows infrequently sighted in fall were from the Lennox kill, with a Grasshopper Sparrow Sept. 19 (RDW); a Le Conte's Sparrow at London Oct. 21 (MT, JT, RM); and a Sharp-tailed Sparrow at P.E. Pt. Oct. 28 (RDW). Early Slate-colored Juncos appeared at Ancaster Aug. 16 (SW) and P.E. Pt. Aug. 13 (AEH, HQ); by contrast a Lincoln's Sparrow at Komoka Nov. 19 was late (TNH). A visit to Darch I. Oct. 28 yielded the Sudbury area's northernmost record of a Field Sparrow.

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WESTERN NEW YORK AND NORTH-WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA. — The fall season began by being about normal weatherwise. However, from mid-October through November there were many rapidly moving weather systems with many

periods of unsettled, cloudy, and windy weather. The first major snowfall came on Nov. 14-15 and some parts of the Region were continuously covered thereafter. By the end of the period water levels were high owing to above-average precipitation, and wintry conditions were prevalent.

At Erie, Pa., "there were no days of really large bird concentrations; migration appeared to be compressed into several periods of fairly intense movement, and to be essentially concluded by mid-November, in contrast to last year's uniform and extended pattern" (RB). This was the rule in many parts of the Region. Major movements were detectable on Aug. 27, early September, the last few days of September and the first few days of October but especially Sept. 26-27, mid-October, and early November.

Tower Casualties — An investigation of avian mortality at television towers during September in the westernmost part of the Region indicated generally light kills. It was thought that this was because most weather fronts passed through that area during daylight hours, thereby allowing nocturnal passerines to fly on clear nights with little cloud cover (AC, *vide* JT).

At the tower atop Hawley Hill at Elmira, N. Y., a regular trap each year, the lowest kill number since 1965, 140 individuals of 30 species, was found from Aug. 15 through Oct. 22. This year's list, which again showed Magnolia and Bay-breasted Warblers to be the most common, also included an Evening Grosbeak (WH).

Banding Activities — During 16 days of operation, 1426 individuals of 73 species were banded at Presque Isle, Pa. Highest counts included 171 Swanson's Thrushes, 174 Golden-crowned Kinglets, 174 Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and 217 White-throated Sparrows. The highest number of individuals were banded on Sept. 10 & 28, and Oct. 1 & 15, thereby indicating peak migration days (RL *et al.*).

Some 165 warblers, with the Magnolia being the most common, were banded at Penn Yan, N. Y. Aug. 6-Oct. 21 (ML). Several noteworthy records as a result of this activity are outlined below. (Records listed below are all N. Y. State except where otherwise noted.)

LOONS, GREBES, GANNET, CORMORANT — A few Red-throated Loons appeared on the Great Lakes where they are regular in varying numbers during late October and November every year; however, one on Nov. 13 at Elmira (WH), and one on Nov. 16 on Chautauqua L. (RS) were unusual for inland localities in the hilly southern tier. Pied-billed Grebe numbers were generally down from a year ago and very few immatures were among those seen; this was probably owing to Tropical Storm Agnes. An imm. **Gannet**, always very rare on any of the Great Lakes, was at Sodus Bay, Wayne Co. on the south shore of L. Ontario Oct. 7 (TT). Double-crested Cormorants were reported on five occasions during Oct. on L. Erie at Presque Isle, Pa. (*vide* RB) and several were on L.

Ontario in the Rochester area during September and October (*fide* TT); while never common, this bird appears to be holding its own in the Region.

HERONS, FLAMINGO — The first Erie County, Pa report of a Cattle Egret since 1968 was one near Lake City from late October through Nov. 12 (P I A.S.); 2 remained near Himrod, Yates Co. Nov. 5-12 (FG *et al.*). The seasonal high count of Com. Egrets at Montezuma Nat'l Wildlife Refuge was 17; Black-crowned Night Herons peaked at about 50 at the same place (RG). A melanistic Least Bittern was grounded Sept. 6-7 at Fredonia, Chautauqua Co. (DC *et al.*). Reminiscent of fall 1970, an Am. Flamingo was studied Aug. 26 near Savannah, Wayne Co. (TT *et al.*); it was unreported subsequently and should be placed in that category which includes many recent reports of exotics whose origin will never be known.

SWANS, GEESE — Few Whistling Swans were reported from anywhere except Chautauqua L., where the maximum of 133 was noted Nov. 30. The outstanding day for Canada Goose movement throughout the Region was Sept. 27; the peak of about 12,000 was reached in early October at Montezuma Refuge where many moved out Oct. 13 (RG); peak concentrations in general were less than in some years because many geese were thought to have moved straight south without stopping (WB). The early November L. Ontario Brant flight was very poor (TT); however, single birds at Montezuma Refuge Nov. 12 & 30 (WB) and at Presque Isle, Pa. Nov. 12 (RB *et al.*) were of interest. About 200 Snow Geese and 2 Blue Geese were at Montezuma Refuge in early October (RG); one Snow Goose in a flock of Canada Geese flew over Erie, Pa., where it is rare and irregular, Oct. 18 (JS).

DUCKS — Maximum seasonal counts of dabbling ducks at Montezuma Refuge were as follows: 7000 Mallards, 2100 Black Ducks, 600 Gadwall, 700 Pintails, 3000 Green-winged Teal, 900 Blue-winged Teal, 7200 Am. Widgeon, 200 Shovelers, and 900 Wood Ducks; all of these counts were for late October with the exception of the Blue-winged Teal that peaked in late September (RG). Very early were 13 Redheads in the harbor at Buffalo Sept. 11 (H & RA); they were scarce elsewhere except for 400 at Montezuma Refuge in late October (RG) and about 1000 at the north end of Keuka L in November (FG). Canvasbacks, too, were scarce save for two concentrations as follows: 450 on Chautauqua L. at Mayville, Chautauqua Co. Nov. 5 (DC) and 1500 on L. Erie at Presque Isle, Pa., Nov. 12 (*fide* RB). The very rare **Harlequin Duck** occurred on the Niagara R. at Buffalo Nov. 9 (RAN *et al.*). A single Com. Eider was on Braddock Bay, Monroe Co. Nov. 24-26 (WL); this species has become almost regular in the Rochester area each fall. At Elmira 2 Com. Scoters Oct. 31 and one on Nov. 10 were only the third and fourth records for that area (WH). A large concentration of 4450 Red-breasted Mergansers was on L. Ontario west of Rochester Nov. 5 (*fide* TT).

HAWKS — All Accipiters continued to be scarce, but as has been so often the case recently, more Goshawks, 12, were reported than of either the Sharp-

shinned or Cooper's Hawks; there were six of each of the latter. Red-tailed Hawks continued to hold their own; at the Seneca Army Depot at Romulus, Seneca Co. about 30 per cent of those seen during September were immatures (MJ). The Rough-legged Hawk flight was very poor; only 4 migrants were reported from the Rochester area where there were no wintering birds (*fide* TT); few were reported elsewhere. An ad. and an imm. Bald Eagle frequented Montezuma Refuge in late August and early September (WB *et al.*); an ad. was at Hemlock L. Sept. 16 where it has nested in recent years (TT); another ad. was at Mayville Nov. 24 (RS). Marsh Hawks were scarce compared with recent years. Moderate numbers of Ospreys were reported including one at Amity L. near Belmont, Allegany Co. that was noted regularly all summer through Oct. 9 (VP); this bird is not known to nest anywhere in the Region. Among the falcons, only 5 Peregrine Falcons and 3 Pigeon Hawks were reported, Sparrow Hawks continued to hold their own.

RAILS — Maxima during the period at Montezuma Refuge included 30 Soras, 80 Com. Gallinules, and 1500 Am. Coots (RG). Another Am. Coot concentration consisted of a maximum of 2950 birds on Chautauqua L. at Mayville Nov. 9 (DC *et al.*).

SHOREBIRDS — Suspected renesting after Tropical Storm Agnes was thought responsible for a week old brood of 4 Killdeer at Romulus on the very late date of Aug. 29 (MJ). The Am. Golden Plover flight was better than a year ago but spotty, depending upon suitable habitat; the maximum count was 143 on the flats at Savannah Sept. 17 (WB); a very late one was at Presque Isle, Pa. Nov. 17 (RB). Always uncommon in autumn is the Whimbrel; this season 2 were on the L. Erie shore at Evans, Erie Co. Aug. 18 (TB), one was at Romulus, Sept. 3 (MJ), and another was at Presque Isle, Pa. Sept. 4 (RB). High counts of Pectoral Sandpipers included 100 on Sept. 3 at Montezuma Refuge (WB) and 70 on Sept. 27 at the Iroquois Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (JM). A single Long-billed Dowitcher was carefully studied Sept. 24 at Montezuma Refuge where it has been regular in recent years (WB). The fifth Regional Marbled Godwit record since 1966 was of one that occurred at Wilson, Niagara Co. Aug. 20 (AM, WM *et al.*). Hudsonian Godwits appeared again at Montezuma Refuge where they have been found yearly since at least 1965; 14 were noted there Aug. 27 (WL) but a maximum of 40 was reported just prior to that (*fide* WB); a high count of 40 was also noted there in 1967; elsewhere 3 were at Waterloo, Seneca Co., Oct. 25 (WB) and one was still there on Nov. 5 (JW).

At the harbor in Buffalo 5 Am. Avocets were found Aug. 22; excellent color slides, the first substantiating the occurrence of this species in the Region and leaving no doubt as to the identification, were submitted and can be found in the Nat'l Photoduplicate File (PB), this constituted the seventh Regional report since 1965, and the first since 1970. All species of phalaropes were reported. One Wilson's Phalarope was at Montezuma Refuge Sept. 27 (WB). Up to 4 N. Phalaropes fre-

quented Montezuma Refuge Sept 3-19 (WB *et al.*), other singles were at Eden, Erie Co. Sept. 3 (AM & WM); and at Wilson Sept. 11 (H & RA). The only Red Phalarope reported was one at Dewittville, Chautauqua Co. Oct. 29 (RS).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — Single Parasitic Jaegers, rare but regular every fall, were noted on L. Erie at Buffalo Aug. 25 (HA, RA *et al.*), and Bayview, Erie Co. Sept. 12 (TB). Great Black-backed Gulls continued to show signs of marked and rapid increase; maximum concentrations included 54 at Dunkirk Nov. 24 (FR) and 34 along the L. Ontario shore west of Rochester Nov. 26 (TT). The Niagara River held its usual fall assortment of the uncommon small gulls. The rare but increasingly regular Black-headed Gull was observed opposite Lewiston, Niagara Co. Nov. 5 (PB). Single Franklin's Gulls were at Buffalo Sept. 12 (RAn) and opposite Lewiston Nov. 25 (JG). Little Gulls were present Aug. 25-Nov. 25 in the Buffalo harbor-Niagara R. area; the maximum count was 8 on Sept. 14 at Niagara Falls (H & RA); from 1 to 2 were also present on Irondequoit Bay, Monroe Co. Nov. 16-29 (AK). Single Black-legged Kittiwakes appeared at Niagara Falls Sept. 14 (H & RA) and Nov. 24 (RAn). There are few records of Forster's Terns away from the Great Lakes where they are regular in small numbers every fall; therefore, one on Chautauqua L. at Bemis P. Sept. 7 & Oct. 19 was noteworthy (RS).

ALCIDS — A **Razorbill** that was found adjacent to Montezuma Refuge in early Nov. eventually died and the specimen will be placed in the refuge collection (*vide* WB); this is one of a very few Regional reports.

S.A.

MONK PARAKEET — Not surprising were the first Regional reports of the rapidly spreading **Monk Parakeet**. One appeared in mid-July near Elmira where it made a nest under the eaves of a building and was seen eating sunflower seeds; it was trapped in mid-October and now is a cage bird (WH). A second individual was present from Sept. 16 through at least the end of October at Webster, Monroe Co. where it was seen eating grapes (DW). A third occurred at Waterloo in late October and early November where it, too, built a nest under eaves and was seen at various neighborhood feeders (JW, WB).

OWLS — After the good flight of Snowy Owls last year, only 3 were reported this year; these were, as usual, on the Lake Plains between Buffalo and Rochester. There were no reported wintering concentrations of owls, but single individuals were reported from areas that seldom produce owl records. Long-eared Owls were at Chestnut Ridge Park, Erie Co. Sept. 20 (TB) and at Scio, Allegany Co. Nov. 12 (VP). Single Saw-whet Owls were at Frewsburg, Chautauqua Co. Oct. 3 (AR) and at Presque Isle, Pa. Oct. 16 (EBr).

NIGHTHAWK — Com. Nighthawks were scarce in many areas, but some excellent migratory movements were observed as follows: over Belmont 23 were

noted Aug. 28 (VP); over the Buffalo area 60 were noted Aug. 29 (GW), 185 on Aug. 30, and 50 were seen Aug. 31 (AM & WM). At least five observers (JS, DS *et al.*) systematically estimated between 5000 and 10,000 as they moved southwestward over s Erie County, Pa. on a broad front Sept. 1. The latest movement occurred over Elmira Sept. 7 when 50 were counted (MW).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS — A Red-bellied Woodpecker was at Presque Isle, where it is irregular and rare Sept 23 (DF); this species still remains very uncommon in the w. part of the Region. A W. Kingbird, a very rare fall migrant, was studied well at Hamburg, Erie Co. Sept. 12 (TB). Many observers commented on the scarcity of all swallows. Much more data than was available for the Nesting Season report was received that outlined severe Tree Swallow mortality caused by Tropical Storm Agnes (VP & EB). However, nesting success elsewhere apparently was good as shown by counts of 3000 along the L. Ontario shore west of Rochester and 2000 at Sodus Bay Oct. 1 (TT *et al.*). An unusually large movement of 9000 Bank Swallows was estimated along the L. Ontario shore west of Rochester Aug. 6 (*vide* TT). Only 40 Purple Martins were at the Jamestown roost Aug. 26, where tens of thousands gathered in the early 1960s (CB).

NUTHATCHES, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES — Migrant Red-breasted Nuthatches appeared in mid-August and the flight was characterized as fair-to-good compared with other recent years. Cedar Waxwings were unusually abundant in the southern tier counties of New York but almost unreported elsewhere. Of some 12 N. Shrike reports, only one came from a L. Ontario plains locality where it is usually most common and frequently seen; all the rest were in the hilly areas to the south.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Young Red-eyed Vireos were being fed at Presque Isle on the very late date of Sept. 11 (RB). Extremely little warbler data was received; did this indicate a poor season or just disinterest in reporting? A very early Tennessee Warbler was banded Aug. 6 at Penn Yan (ML). During October, 5 Orange-crowned Warblers were banded and 2 additional ones were observed during the season at Presque Isle (RL *et al.*), a good total for anywhere in the Region, 2 were also banded at Penn Yan Oct. 11 (ML). Very late was a Nashville Warbler at Leroy, Genesee Co. Nov. 16 (*vide* TT). Myrtle Warblers were found in the Allegany County breeding areas during Aug (EB), early was a migrant at Pt. Breeze, Orleans Co. Aug 5 (WL). A Cerulean Warbler, always rare after the song season ends, was banded at Penn Yan Aug. 6 (ML). The rare Pine Warbler occurred at the Iroquois Refuge Aug. 29 (HM *et al.*) and at Hamburg Sept 18 (TB). A Kentucky Warbler, for which there are few fall records, was studied at Presque Isle Sept 2 (JS). During September, 2 Connecticut Warblers were banded at Presque Isle, (RL *et al.*) and one at Penn Yan (ML); several occurred elsewhere.

FRINGILLIDS— A Dickcissel was at a Fillmore, Allegany Co. feeder Nov. 16-17 (KP *et al.*). A large invasion of Evening Grosbeaks began in the Rochester area Oct. 21 and on Oct. 27 elsewhere; maximum counts included 200 on Nov. 6 along the L. Ontario shore west of Rochester (JM *et al.*) with 300 on Nov. 16 and 400 on Nov. 18 at Carrollton, Cattaraugus Co. (JG); numbers decreased toward the end of the period. Purple Finches moved southward, too, in moderate numbers during October. House Finches were thought to be increasing at Elmira where they first appeared in the Region in 1965; up to 12 fed at one feeder all fall (WH); at the other regular Regional location, at Eggertsville, Erie Co., up to 4 were present during September and October and 10 were there in November (*vide* B.O.S.). Several isolated Pine Grosbeaks were reported during early November, but it was the last week of the month before a fair flight developed; maximum counts included 25 at Hamlin Beach State Park Nov. 23 (WL) and 28 at Allegany State Park Nov. 25 (*vide* B.O.S.). The Com. Redpoll was unreported. Pine Siskins were reasonably numerous in some localities during the last half of October, but as is so often true, many had left the Region by late November. Presaging a fair Red Crossbill flight, there were a number of early records; up to 50 were present in the Alfred, Allegany Co. area Aug. 10-Nov. 30 (EB & CK); from Aug. 10-27 from one to 40 were observed at Canadice L., Ontario Co. (*vide* TT); singles occurred at Manitou, Monroe Co. Aug. 12 (WL); and at Stow, Chautauqua Co. Aug. 14 (RS); most other records, that began in early November came from the hilly southern tier areas. A few White-winged Crossbills appeared in early November and there was a noticeable movement of small numbers on Nov. 24 & 25; the maximum count was 14 at Charlotte, Chautauqua Co. Nov. 25 (FR). A reliably identified Oregon Junco was studied at Webster Oct. 30 (JM *et al.*). Tree Sparrow numbers were lower than usual. Late October brought a noticeable movement of Lapland Longspurs with 150 at Carlton, Orleans Co. (JF *et al.*) and 10 at Presque Isle (DS) indicating the peak. Snow Buntings were very scarce, there being only a few reports of small numbers.

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APPALACHIAN REGION / George A. Hall

The wet, mild summer was followed by a wet mild autumn. The migration was good, and produced more than the usual number of interesting records. September was unusually warm. October and November were cooler than normal but still ranked as rather mild. Rainfall was slightly deficient (greatly in c. Virginia) until late September. Throughout the rest of the period there was more than the normal amount of rain. At Morgantown, at least, the usual bright sunny fall days were missing and the whole season was drearily cloudy and rainy. There were only two minor snowfalls, in late November.



Southward movement of small birds began somewhat earlier than usual, and the following report will take note of many very early arrival dates. There was one pronounced wave of migrants in the last week of August, another Sept. 14-17, and a very good wave Sept. 25-27. This movement was partially interrupted by rain and fog and the first week in October saw perhaps the heaviest movement of early fall. Through October there was a steady movement which seemed to reach its peak in the last week of the month. Much migration was still going on in November, and there were many late sightings reported.

As usual much of the quantitative data that follows comes from the two large banding stations in the n. part of the Region, the Powdermill Nature Reserve (P.N.R.) near Ligonier, Pa. and the Allegheny Front Migration Observatory (A.F.M.O.) near Petersburg, W. Va. The two relatively new impoundments in w. Pennsylvania, L. Arthur in Butler Co. and Sayers Reservoir in Centre Co. continue to produce many of the interesting waterbird records. Sayers Reservoir is now officially known as Bald Eagle State Park, and will henceforth be so called.

There was little follow-up to the consequences of the heavy rains and flooding associated with Hurricane *Agnes* in June, but some species were thought to have been markedly affected. Of course the Purple Martins were nearly wiped out, the other swallows were in low numbers, and some flycatchers were greatly reduced in numbers, but most other species seemed little affected. Perhaps most of our migrants come from areas out of the storm's path.

There was only one report of a major tower kill of migrants. On the night of Sept. 30, following the passage of a cold front, but in clear skies, many birds were killed at the complex of TV towers on Holston Mountain, near Elizabethton, Tenn. The next morning 1801 birds of 44 species were collected there (GDE). Some details follow in the body of the report.

LOONS AND HERONS — The Com. Loon flight was about normal, with some rather early arrivals at Bald Eagle State Park (PWS). An unusual number of Red-throated Loons was reported: 2 at Donegal, Pa., Nov. 9 (RCL); 2 in Westmoreland Co., Pa., Nov. 11-12 (SR & PDH); 1 in Crawford County, Pa., Nov. 12 (SF, *vide* RFL); and 2 at L. Arthur, Nov. 18 (DBF).

The Little Blue Heron is now seldom reported from this Region, thus one seen at Dalton, Ga. Sept. 10 (APH) is worth noting. A Cattle Egret was seen near Sherando, Va. Oct. 16 (RSS). There were many more reports of Black-crowned Night Herons than usual, and a Yellow-crowned Night Heron was late near Elizabethton, Tenn. Nov. 10 (GOW, *vide* GDE).

WATERFOWL — Good flights of waterfowl were reported only from L. Arthur and Bald Eagle S. P., while southward the movement was only moderate, possibly because of the mild weather. Shoveler and Canvasback were two species that most reporters thought had exceptionally good years. The Whistling Swan flight was much more protracted than usual, with 25 seen at P.N.R. Oct. 19 (RCL), the peak of the flight in mid-November, and a few stragglers still present at the end of the period. Swans were also seen at more locations than usual, indicating some deviation from the usual narrow flight path. Oddly, the report of largest numbers came from Morgantown, where over 300 were seen Nov. 19 (GAH). The Canada Goose flight was good and unusually early with flocks seen at State College, Pa. (WSC) and Lock Haven, Pa. (PWS) Sept. 27 and Indiana, Pa. Sept. 28 (CDW). At Pymatuning, Pa. the population peaked at about 12,000 in early October (RFL). A blue-phased Snow Goose was seen at McClintic Wildlife Station, W. Va. Oct. 28 (GFH), while the white-phase was seen at Waynesboro, Va. Oct. 2 (RSS) and at Pymatuning (RFL), and both phases were at Dalton Nov. 29 (APH).

With the increase in artificial impoundments the "sea-ducks" such as the scoters and the Oldsquaw have become more common in the region, as they stop off on their flight from the Great Lakes to the coast. The White-winged Scoter is now regular each fall, in W. Pennsylvania, and n. West Virginia. This year reports came from Bald Eagle S.P. (PWS), Donegal,

Pa. Oct. 19 (RCL), L. Arthur Oct. 29 (WOR & SR), Sugar L., Pa., Nov. 5 (JJ, *vide* RFL); and Morgantown, Nov. 12 (GAH). The only report of a Surf Scoter was from Black Moshannon S.P., Pa. Nov. 12 (WRS). The Com. Scoter is usually the rarest of the three here but this year reports came from Westmoreland Co., Pa. Nov. 18 (WOR & SR), from Pymatuning Nov. 29 (RCL), a most remarkable flock of 52 at Lock Haven Oct. 19 and another flock of 29 there Oct. 31 (PWS). Oldsquaws at Donegal, Pa. Oct. 19 were early (RCL).

HAWKS AND EAGLES — There were a number of intensive hawk migration studies carried out this year. Some totals reported are: Tennessee Ornithological Society statewide project, about 14,000 Broad-winged counted with 1700 in one day at Falls Creek S.P., and 1624 Sept. 24 at Mendota Fire Tower, at Milepost 92 on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Peaks of Otter, Va. about 3800 Broad-winged in three days with 3393 on Sept. 23 (MPM); at Hanging Rock, Monroe Co., W. Va. 3700 birds in 9 days with 867 Broad-winged Sept. 19 (GFH); Cumberland Gap N.P., Ky. 210 in 3 days (ALS & FWS); Allegheny Front, W. Va., 480 in 9 days (HOH); and Tuscarora Mt., Pa., 3060 birds for the fall (JKG). Most observers thought that Red-shouldered Hawks were declining but the others were holding their own. Sharp-shinned Hawks were thought to be more common than last year along the Blue Ridge Parkway in s. Virginia (RK). Goshawks were reported from Tuscarora Mt., Pa (JKG); near State College (MW), and Kyles Ford Fire Tower, Tenn. (FJA & TWF). A very early Rough-legged Hawk was seen at L. Arthur Sept. 5 (DBF). There were six reports of 22 individual Golden Eagles (Bald Eagle Mt., Pa. (KS), Blacksburg, Va. (VL, *vide* JWM), Kingsport, Tenn. (TWF), Roan Mt., Tenn., where 5 were seen Oct. 17 (TS & MS, *vide* GDE), and 12 during the fall at Tuscarora Mt. (JKG). There were also 8 reports of 11 individual Bald Eagles (Bald Eagle S.P. (PWS), Tuscarora Mt. (JKG), Hanging Rock, W. Va. (NG), Blacksburg, Va. (GD, *vide* JWM), Marietta, O. (JS), Roan Mt. (TS & MS) and Mendota Tower, Tenn. (TWF). Peregrine reports came only from Allegheny Front, W. Va. (2 on Sept. 19 — HOH), and Tuscarora Mt. (JKG). There was an interesting report of Sparrow Hawks and a few Pigeon Hawks gathering around the tall city buildings in downtown Pittsburgh on overcast days. Presumably they were feeding on butterflies and small birds attracted by the building lights (DBF).

CRANES, AND SHOREBIRDS — The only report of Sandhill Cranes came from Chattanooga, Tenn. where a count of 476 was made (*vide* KHD). The wet season was not exactly conducive to good shorebirding but an amazing number of unusual species turned up at various places. Among these were: Piping Plover near Chattanooga Aug. 19 (CH, *vide* KHD); Golden Plover, 30 at Bald Eagle S.P. Sept. 26 (MC, *vide* MW); and 3-10 at Pymatuning Sept. 24-Oct. 27 (RFL); Ruddy Turnstone near Elizabethton, Tenn. Sept. 10 (KHD) and Pittsburgh Nov. 6 (DBF); Baird's Sandpiper near Wise, Va. Aug. 2 (DEP & RHP); Chat-

tanooga, Tenn Sept 16 (KHD), and near Elizabethton Oct 20-Nov. 3 (LRH, *vide* GDE), White-rumped Sandpiper near Elizabethton, Sept. 9 (KHD) and Nov 2 (MD, HD & SG) and at Mercer, Pa. (another new impoundment that promises good birding) Sept. 4 (RS, *vide* RFL); Buff-breasted Sandpiper, near Mercer Sept. 4 (RS); Marbled Godwit, Butler Co., Pa. Aug. 27 (MG, *vide* FWP); and Hudsonian Godwit, Bald Eagle S P. Sept. 9 (MW). There were more reports of Dunlin than usual.

PARAKEETS AND OWLS — The Monk Parakeets at Pittsburgh mentioned in the last report apparently raised at least 3 young (3, possibly 4 nests). This exotic turned up at Asheville, N.C. in the late summer (*vide* RRu), and one was coming to a feeder at Meadville, Pa. through the end of the period (RRo, *vide* RFL). The individuals which have penetrated the mountains are probably from new liberations rather than the result of spreading from the coastal locations. There were several reports of the usually overlooked Barn Owl, and a pair nested at Rote, Pa. in late November, but the young soon died (PWS). A Short-eared Owl at Lewisburg, W.Va. Nov. 18 was one of the rather few recent records in the state (COH).

NIGHTHAWKS AND WOODPECKERS — The flight of Com. Nighthawks was good except in the e panhandle of West Virginia (CM). Some counts that were reported at Pittsburgh were 800 in 2½ hours; 400 in one hour and 715 in two hours (*vide* DBF) [dates?—Ed.]. The very scarce Red-headed Woodpecker was seen at Warren, in November (RRi, *vide* WLH), and was thought to be more common than usual at Lewisburg, (COH). Most remarkable were the counts of Red-headed reported at two hawk-watching stations: 30-40 at Allegheny Front, Sept. 15 (HOH) and 46 at Mendota Tower, Oct. 1 (TWF).

FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS — Most of the local flycatcher species apparently were hard hit by the summer hurricane rains. This was especially evident for the E. Kingbird and the E. Wood Pewee. For example, at P.N.R. no kingbirds were banded and the local population was estimated at only 20 per cent of normal, while only 10 pewees were banded compared with an average number of 50 (RCL). On the other hand a normal number of phoebes was banded there. A very late Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was banded at P N R Oct. 28. There were many more than the usual number of reports of Olive-sided Flycatchers from a variety of locations. Swallow populations were much lower than normal. At Lewisburg, for example, a flock of 600 Cliff Swallows was present from Sept 1-24, but this was only about one-third the normal number (COH) Most of the few remaining Purple Martins had departed the Region before the period began.

TITMICE AND NUTHATCHES — There was no southward movement of Black-capped Chickadees this fall, and local numbers were low. At Powdermill Reserve only 30 (average 180) were banded, and only 3 were banded at Morgantown (GAH). Tufted Titmice were also scarce in n. West Virginia, and at Morgan-

town the White-breasted Nuthatch was almost completely absent (GAH). For the first time in several years the Red-breasted Nuthatch staged a major southward flight. Only 18 were banded at A.F.M.O. but on Oct. 2 very large numbers flew by that station (FP) By the end of the period they were in unusually good numbers throughout the Region, although somewhat locally distributed.

THRUSHES AND KINGLETS — The Wood Thrush migration was good at P.N.R. (RCL) but poor at A.F.M.O. and Morgantown (GAH) while the Hermit Thrush migration was very good at P.N.R. and Morgantown. At Wise, Va. the flight of Swainson Thrushes was considered to be heavy (RHP) but at P.N.R. (125 banded with average 160—RCL) and at A.F.M.O. (only 144 banded) the flight was a little below normal. The flight of Gray-cheeked Thrushes was poor at most places. Almost all areas reported exceptionally heavy flights of both kinglets. The Ruby-crowned came very early — Aug. 26 at A.F.M.O — and at the end of the period well-above-normal numbers remained in the northern part of the Region. The peak of this flight was in the last week of October.

PIPITS, SHRIKES, AND VIREOS — The only reports of Water Pipits came from Donegal, Pa. Oct 19 (RCL) and Seneca L., O. Oct. 22 (JS). A N. Shrike was carefully identified at Beverly, O. Nov. 12 (MSi & JSi), the first local record. The Red-eyed Vireo population had been thought to be below normal in the summer, but at P.N.R. 99 were banded (average 81) and a rather late one was handled Oct. 14 (RCL). On the other hand at A.F.M.O. numbers were only about half of average (GAH). The Solitary Vireo flight was good with some rather late dates: Nov. 11 at Raccoon Creek S.P., Pa. (NK); Nov. 13 at Morgantown (GAH); and Nov. 17 at P.N.R. (ACL). More unusual were the late dates for the White-eyed Vireo: Oct. 8 at McClintic Wildlife Station, W.Va. (JSt.); Oct. 18 at Morgantown (GAH), and Nov. 4 at Shippensburg, Pa (DV).

WARBLERS — The fall warbler flight was generally quite good, but of course presented the usual picture of some species being common at some places and scarce at others. The flight started early with some of the more remarkable early dates being: Tennessee Aug. 20, Pittsburgh (DBF); Magnolia: Aug. 19, Pittsburgh (DBF); Bay-breasted: Aug. 20 Pittsburgh, (DBF); and Blackpoll: Aug. 20, Pittsburgh (BVC) There was also a rash of very late dates: Cape May Nov. 21, Morgantown (GAH); Magnolia: Nov. 7, Morgantown (GAH); and Black-throated Blue: Nov 7 P.N.R. (ACL). Many other species remained until late October. At P.N.R. 15 species were banded in more-than-average numbers, 3 in less-than-average, and 2 in average numbers (RCL). At A.F.M.O. a similar analysis showed 7 above average, 3 below and 4 about average (GAH). The one species that all observers reported in good numbers was the Bay-breasted, and at A.F.M.O. a record total of 366 (average 92) was banded, and at P.N.R. the number was 97 (average 23). The Tennessee Warbler also staged a heavy flight

729 banded at P.N.R. (average 151), 371 banded at A.F.M.O. (average 167) and 325 killed in one night at the Holston Mt. Tower (GDE). There were many more reports of Blackpoll Warblers in the southern part of the Region than usual. Neither of the two conflicting theories about the fall migration of this species would predict many of these birds s. of West Virginia, and none were killed at Holston Mt. Some of the other big kills at Holston Mt. were 303 Ovenbirds, 169 Bay-breasteds, and 140 Am. Redstarts (GDE). Myrtle Warblers were apparently not common: at P.N.R. only 124 (average 291) were banded (RCL) and at Morgantown only 124 (average 180) were banded (GAH). Some big counts for binocular birders were: 300 birds of 20 species in Allegheny Co., Pa. Sept. 4 (PDH) and very remarkably over 200 Palm Warblers in one field in Lincoln Co., W.Va. (NL) Sept. 16.

Of the rarer species 9 Swainson's Warblers were found in the Holston Mt. tower kill, Sept. 30 (GDE), and Orange-crowneds were reported from w. Pennsylvania (4 records — DBF) A.F.M.O., one (Oct. 9, Morgantown, one Oct. 20 (GAH); and 5 banded at P.N.R. As usual the only reports of Connecticut Warblers came from the banding stations: 29 at P.N.R. with a very early Aug. 25 (RCL); one at A.F.M.O. (Sept. 2) and two at Morgantown, Sept. 14-15 (GAH). The best bird of the fall was the **Black-throated Gray Warbler**. One was accidentally killed in a banding trap at State College, Sept. 28 (MW), and one was picked up at the Holston Mt. tower kill Sept. 30 (GDE).

BLACKBIRDS AND TANAGERS — Bobolinks are not common in w. Pennsylvania, so a count of 500 at L. Arthur Aug. 14 (SR) was noteworthy. Two late dates for this species were Oct. 19 at Shippensburg, Pa. (DV) and late October at Elizabethton, Tenn. (GDE). Brewer's Blackbird was seen at Elizabethton Nov. 26 (GDE). At the end of the period a Baltimore Oriole was coming to a feeder at Wheeling, W.Va., the second year in a row for that station (CLC) Late reports of Summer Tanager came from Morgantown Oct. 15 (GAH) and Knoxville Oct. 25 (JBO).

NORTHERN FINCHES — The invader of the year seems to be the Red Crossbill, which may not have come from the north but from the far west. Large flocks appeared in many places by mid-August, and by the end of the period there were reports from all parts of the Region. On the other hand White-winged Crossbills were reported only from Irvine, Pa. (RRi, *vide* WLH). Another early and abundant northern bird was the Pine Siskin which was reported as early as Sept. 25 near Pittsburgh (JAG, *vide* DBF). It became extremely common as far south as s. Virginia in October, but numbers dropped off in November. Most unusual was a report of a pair of Evening Grosbeaks at State College, in mid-August (MM, *vide* WSC). Evening Grosbeaks arrived at a few places in late October, but general arrival was in the first week in November, and by the middle of the month they had reached all parts of the Region, even in the extreme south. There did not seem to be any great concentrations at any one place, and at some places, for example Morgantown. (GAH) most of them were seen flying

over At State College, however, Wood had banded 150 by the end of November. Pine Grosbeaks were reported only from n. Pennsylvania: Warren, Nov. 8-25 (WLH, HJ); Meadville region, Nov. 18 (BL) and Nov. 22 (RCL); McKean Co., Nov. 27-28 (RKB); and State College (WSC).

Purple Finches staged a fair flight. **House Finches** were reported from Marietta, O. on Oct. 29 (PM — first Ohio sighting); Greeneville, Tenn. Nov. 25 (first verified Tennessee record, although it is believed the bird was present last year — FJA); Waynesboro, Va. (now common — RSS); and Lock Haven (PWS), as well as Indiana, Pa. where they are firmly established (CDW). Redpolls were reported only from near Chambersburg, Pa. Nov. 24 (DV), and the e. panhandle of West Virginia (CM).

OTHER FRINGILLIDS — There was a large movement of Cardinals through Morgantown where 84 were banded in October and November at one backyard station (GAH). Practically all were birds of the year. The fall migration of most of the sparrow species was very good. At Morgantown, for example, 110 White-throated Sparrows were banded, about twice the normal number (GAH). This species, however, was in poor numbers at nearby Clarksville, Pa. (RKB) Slate-colored Juncos arrived on about the normal schedule, or possibly a little early, and were in good numbers. On the other hand Tree Sparrows were late in arriving, and distribution was spotty. The Fox Sparrow migration seemed to be better than normal. Snow Buntings were reported from Pymatuning Nov. 5 (SF), from Charleston, W. Va. Nov. 10 & 13 (AS); Marienville, Pa., Nov. 11 (TG); and Seneca Lake, O. Nov. 12 (ME & MC).

A singing Bachman's Sparrow was found at Rock Spring, Ga. Oct. 3, the first local record for some years (RW, *vide* KHD), and the Henslow's Sparrow found near Blacksburg, Va. Sept. 9 was only the third local record (VL, *vide* JWM). At P.N.R. a White-crowned Sparrow of the race *gambelii* was banded Nov. 4 (RCL) and on Oct. 3 a Sharp-tailed Sparrow of the race *altera* was collected there, the first s.w. Pennsylvania record (RCL).

CORRIGENDUM — The White-eyed Vireo reported for the Ohio side of Pymatuning L. in *Am. Birds*, 26:762, 1972 should have been listed for the Pennsylvania side.

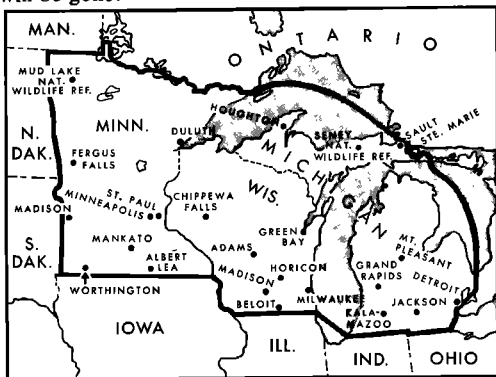
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WESTERN GREAT LAKES REGION

/ Al Maley

Always of interest to birders in the fall is the question of what birds, if any, will come down from the north for the winter. Some day someone will figure out exactly when each species will appear where and why. When they do some of the magic of the fall migration will be gone.



This fall there was still plenty of magic. In celebration of the opening of the Duluth Audubon's new Hawk Ridge Sanctuary, over 5000 Goshawks visited the ridge, in the greatest invasion of this species ever documented. Boreal Chickadees came down as well, promising to add special interest to the winter. From the west came Clark's Nutcrackers and Black-billed Magpies. In the finch division, the summer influx of Red Crossbills continued into the fall. Evening Grosbeaks appeared early and in good numbers, as did Pine Siskins.

The rarest bird for the region was a White-winged Junco collected in Michigan.

The weather for the fall can be described in two words: cold and wet. Cold fronts moved through the Region early in September and the usual Indian summer did not occur. The passerine migration was about ten days earlier than normal, according to several observers. The wet conditions prevented many farmers in the Region from harvesting their crops, leaving a bonus for the sparrows and higher meat prices for the sparrow watchers.

LOONS, PELICANS, CORMORANTS, HERONS — One thousand Com. Loons at Mille Lacs L., Mille Lacs Co., Minn. Oct. 20 was as large a group as is noted in the Region. An Arctic Loon at Duluth, Sept. 17 (RJ *et al.*) was the second state record. Red-throated Loons appeared at Duluth, Mille Lacs L., Loon Bluff, Ozaukee Co., Wis. and at Port Sheldon, Ottawa Co., Mich. in late October and early November, with a total of 19 individuals noted. The White Pelican is one bird that occurs regularly in the western part of the Region and rarely in the eastern part. A flock of 3000 on Aug. 24 on Heron L., Jackson Co., Minn. was noteworthy, as (LF, *vide* JG) were four in Madison Oct. 1 and two at Cedar Grove, Sheboygan Co., Wis. Oct. 17. Double-crested Cormorants are almost extinct as breeders on the Great Lakes. More hopeful was the presence of 125 inland at the Grand River Marsh in Wisconsin Aug. 27 (DT). A notable concentration of Little Blue Herons occurred in Pope and Kandiyoni Cos., Minn. in August and early September, with 35 adults and immatures present. Cattle Egrets are building up faster in the western part of the Region, as shown by reports of 90 birds in Minnesota and Wisconsin in August. There were two successful nestings of Yellow-crowned Night Herons in Wisconsin this summer, one in Racine (WP) and one in La Crosse Co (JR).

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — Whistling Swans were much in evidence this fall, arriving early and staying longer than normal. Several flocks of over 1000 birds were reported in the last three weeks of November from Minnesota, Wisconsin and to a lesser degree, Michigan. A Brant at Grand Haven, Ottawa Co. Mich. Nov. 20 was displaced, but not nearly as much as an imm. Black Brant photographed at the Agassiz N.W.R., Marshall Co., Minn., the second state record. To see Canada Geese, go to the Horicon Marsh in Wisconsin; 210,000 were counted there Oct. 16, slightly less than last year's record. The Blue/Snow Goose flight through the Region was termed only fair, with a peak of 1000 at Duluth on Nov. 12, and several thousand at Horicon. Noteworthy was a count of 63,000+ Canvasbacks on the Mississippi R., Wis. (*vide* JM). A Barrow's Goldeneye was described from Beaver Dam L., Dodge Co., Wis. Nov. 14 while Harlequin Ducks appeared at Duluth on Nov. 2 and at Muskegon, Muskegon Co., Mich. Nov. 26. All the scoters were reported from all three states in small numbers, as more people use telescopes to look for them.

— S.A. —

GOSHAWKS, GOLDEN EAGLE, PERRINE FALCON — Goshawks were reported from the entire Region, but the most spectacular numbers were recorded at Hawk Ridge, Duluth. Over 5100 individuals were noted, mostly in October, with peaks of 984 on Oct. 14 and 600+ birds on five days between Oct. 8 & Oct. 16. About 400 were banded. Lesser numbers were noted in Wisconsin on Oct. 14, 16 & 17 at Cedar Grove and in Oconto Co. A reported crash in the snowshoe hare population to the north of L. Superior may be an ingredient in this historic flight.

Four Swanson's Hawks were reported from Wisconsin, with three of them seen on Sept. 16. A total of 40,100 Broad-winged Hawks were counted on the Region's flyways, with 25,900 at Duluth the largest single count. A record total of 52 Golden Eagles was reported, with the largest number, 35, being recorded at Duluth; five or six is the usual total there. Unfortunately no observers submitted age breakdowns on these birds. With everyone reporting Blue List species, 28 Peregrine Falcons were reported; however, the total of seven at Cedar Grove was the lowest ever recorded.

SANDHILL CRANES — A remarkable occurrence was the report of 500+ cranes leaving a famous gathering spot at Rudyard, Chippewa Co. in Michigan's Upper Peninsula on Sept. 22, and the sighting of over 200 birds migrating over Muskegon Co. in the Lower Peninsula the next day by Larry Walkinshaw. These birds were presumably heading for the Jasper Pulaski refuge in Indiana. Unfortunately very few young were noted at Rudyard, possibly consequence of the very late and wet spring experienced in the Region.

SHOREBIRDS — High water levels continued to plague the Region, with most shorebird activity being reported from sod farms and the Grand River and Horicon Marshes, which had been drained for restocking with game fish. Numbers peaked at 900 at Horicon Sept. 10 and at 1500 at Grand River Marsh on Sept. 4. The 1000-acre sod farm in Ottawa Co., Mich. attracted a high of 420 Killdeers Oct. 1. Two Whimbrels were seen, one in s.e. Michigan Sept. 4 (TW, RD) and one in Cook Co., Minn. Sept. 22 (HW). Three Willets

stopped briefly, two at the sod farm in Ottawa Co. Aug. 20 and one on a fly ash settling basin at Erie, Monroe Co., Mich. Aug. 27. Up to five Purple Sandpipers appeared on the e. shore of L. Michigan, with two at Muskegon Nov. 24, one at Holland, Ottawa Co. Nov. 5 and two at St. Joseph's, Berrien Co. Nov. 5-23. Several groups of Baird's Sandpipers were noted, with 10 at Horicon Sept. 10 and 9 at Erie Sept. 21. Stilt Sandpipers are not often noted in great numbers in the Region; counts of 100 at Grand River Marsh Sept. 4 and 75 at Horicon Sept. 10 are noteworthy. Buff-breasted Sandpipers were not seen as commonly as last year, despite considerable attention paid to sod farms; only four birds were reported. Three Marbled Godwits were reported: one at the sod farm in Ottawa Co. Aug. 30, one in Ozaukee Co., Wis. Aug. 26 and one which stayed for a week by a gas station in the exotic town of Luna Pier, Monroe Co., Mich. Aug. 19-25. Hudsonian Godwits were reported from only two localities: one at Horicon Sept. 14 (MD) and 3 in Monroe Co., Mich. between Sept. 16 & Oct. 28 (AM, RD). Five Am. Avocets appeared, 4 in August in Minnesota and Michigan and the fifth, obviously a bewildered bird, at the end of October in a cattle feedlot in s.w. Michigan. Red Phalaropes appeared only on L. Michigan: one was at Racine on Nov. 13 and 3 were in Muskegon and Ottawa Cos. in Michigan on Nov. 11. Observers in the Region found 23 N. Phalaropes, the peak being 11 at Horicon Sept. 10.

JAEGERS, GULLS — Eight Parasitic Jaegers were noted, once again all on L. Michigan: the earliest on Sept. 3 from a boat, the last, Nov. 4. A Long-tailed Jaeger was described from Rush Lake, Ottertail Co., Minn. in late August. (Jack Casper, *vide* SR).



View of Hawk Ridge Nature Reserve, Duluth, Minn. Photo/Janet C. Green.

A few Glaucous Gulls showed up in the Region, the earliest being one on the Fox R., Wis. Sept. 18, where an Iceland Gull was also noted Oct. 16. Black-legged Kittiwakes were reported from Ozaukee Co., Wis on Nov. 11 and Muskegon Nov. 21. Six Little Gulls were noted on L. Michigan between Aug. 6 and Nov. 4. One effect of the breadth of the Region is the varying abundance of Franklin's Gulls: 1000 birds in Nobles Co., Minn. Oct. 10 contrasts with 15 seen in various parts of Michigan during the period.

OWLS — Reports of invasions of northern populations of birds that are also present as residents are difficult to prove. Reports of an influx of Great Horned Owls in Minnesota however are backed up by a report of 17 trapped at a game farm near Duluth and 12 banded at Hawk Ridge. A small echo flight of Snowy Owls materialized this fall after last year's influx; 23 individuals were reported from the northern half of the Region during the period. Hawk Owls appeared in three spots in Minnesota in the first part of November in Itasca Co (OT, *fide* JB), St. Louis Co. (*fide* VB), and Mille Lacs Co. (MI), as did two Great Gray Owls (RO; DDe) One fact to emerge from owl banding operations in the spring at Whitefish Pt., Chippewa Co., Mich. is the close tie between the number of chickadees that come south in the winter and the number of Boreal Owls that follow. In light of the chickadee invasion this year an early report of a Boreal Owl south to Pine Co., Minn. Nov. 9 is not unexpected (BT).

MAGPIES, NUTCRACKERS, BOREAL CHICKADEES — Black-billed Magpies wandered east and south of their normal winter range in Minnesota to Duluth and Cottonwood Co., with 75 birds reported. Clark's Nutcrackers, perhaps motivated by a reported pine cone crop failure in the Rockies, strayed east to five localities in Minnesota during November.

S.A.

It isn't often that we are visited by the numbers of Boreal Chickadees as that have appeared in the Region this fall. Individuals first arrived at Hawk Ridge Sept 9, with birds drifting down into c. Minnesota after that. Larger numbers were reported from s.e. Michigan, with many reports of a dozen or more birds. These may have spilled over from s. Ontario, where unheard-of-numbers were being banded at nearby Pt. Pelee By the end of the period it was not unusual to find one or more Boreal Chickadees in any conifer plantation of any size in s.e. Michigan.

NUTHATCH, WAXWING, PIPIT, SHRIKES — Red-breasted Nuthatches appeared early in Wisconsin and Michigan as is often their custom. A lone Bohemian Waxwing was noted at Neenah, Winnebago Co., Wis. Oct. 28. The only Varied Thrushes reported were noted in Clearwater Co., Minn. Nov. 25 (RCD, *fide* JG) 28 (*fide* JG). A Sprague's Pipit was identified in Clay Co., Minn. Oct. 9 (EJ). Northern Shrikes appeared

in good numbers in Minnesota and Wisconsin, with scattered birds reported in Michigan. Loggerhead Shrikes, ever scarcer these days, were noted north to Duluth Oct. 15 and in Allegan Co., Mich. Oct 29.

WARBLERS — Tennessee Warblers were among the migrants noted early, with individuals migrating in July and early August in Minnesota. The largest numbers appeared in Michigan after Aug. 13; Walkinshaw banded 663 in the two weeks after that date, with peaks of 99 on Aug. 19 and 94 on Aug. 23.

GROSBEAKS, CROSSBILLS, JUNCOS — A ♂ Black-headed Grosbeak was described from St. Paul Aug. 4 (BH). Evening Grosbeaks appeared early and in good numbers in Wisconsin and Michigan and large movements were reported along the lakeshore flyways in late October and early November. Typical were counts of 2000 on Nov. 6 and 1500 on Nov. 9 in Berrien Co., Mich. A ♂ **Gray-crowned Rosy Finch** that spent the day of Oct. 28 at a feeder in Grand Rapids, Itasca Co., Minn. (GH) provided the fourth state record. Pine Siskins were widely reported, though not in as large numbers as last year. Am. Goldfinches were noted migrating along both shores of L. Michigan, with 1000 per hour passing Loon Bluff Nov. 9 and counts of 5000 and 3000 being made in Berrien Co. Nov 9 & 12. Red Crossbills continued their presence from late summer into the fall, with numbers present throughout the Region at the end of the period A few White-winged Crossbills were reported. Slate-colored Juncos were also among the early migrants noted, with birds migrating the last week in August in Alpena, Mich. and appearing in s. Michigan and s. Wisconsin Sept. 5. The best find of the season was a **White-winged Junco**, collected in Presque Isle Co., Michigan on Sept. 18 (T&KP specimen to U.M.M Z) Reportedly there is no previous record of this species from east of the Great Plains.

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MIDDLEWESTERN PRAIRIE REGION / Vernon M. Kleen and Lee Bush

There were more unusual fall records this year than one would expect. Goshawks appeared in invasion numbers; four Red Phalaropes were reported; there were two records of Groove-billed Anis and Purple



Sandpipers; three Clark's Nutcrackers were photographed at Kansas City, Mo.; a House Finch was found in Chicago; and Monk Parakeets were documented in the Region. Along with these properly documented reports came records of other unusual observations; although some of them may have been accurate, they could not be included in this report because they were not substantially documented. Special documentation forms are available from the subregional editors; these forms must be filled out and the records then approved before unusual observations can be accepted for publication.

An important contribution to this report came from Lee Johnson, a bander in northern Illinois. He banded nearly 5000 birds this fall and was able to document the earliest arrival, peak abundance and latest departure for nearly every species. He was able to note the migration waves that did occur and was able to make comments on this year's migration as it compared to previous year's through his accumulative banding records. He noted that "Migration throughout the period was two to three weeks early. Many early records were established. The total number of birds banded was down even though more days were spent banding. A larger percentage of birds banded were adults." He was also able to detect the migration of hawks which "... was good in September and very poor in October and November. . . . Many of the Broad-winged were so high they could only be seen with binoculars." He noted that the number of Tree, Field and Swamp sparrows as well as Black-capped Chickadees was way down.

Other useful information came from L. Barrie Hunt of Charleston, Ill. and David Bohlen of Springfield, Ill. who took time to check local TV towers for birds killed during night-time migration through the area. Many documentary and study specimens were collected from these towers; noteworthy records were two Yellow Rails, five Black-throated Blue Warblers and three Connecticut Warblers from the Springfield tower. The deadliest night at both towers was the night of Sept. 1-2; at Springfield, 735 birds of 35 species were found the next morning; at Charleston, 137 birds were found.

Bob Montgomery reported that a special hawk-trapping program was carried out at the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation near Dundee, Ill. this fall. Two Cooper's Hawks, 18 Goshawks, 23 Red-tailed Hawks and one Red-shouldered Hawk were trapped and transported varying distances from the Wildlife Foundation area in order to determine the minimum distance necessary to move them so they do not return to a poultry farm. This was done as an alternative to shooting the birds. The primary movements noted this fall were "hawk flights, everywhere," especially Broad-winged Hawks, and swans in northern Ohio. There were no distinct songbird waves observed, however, casualties at the TV towers indicate a good passage the night of Sept. 1-2. Another front the night of Nov. 10-11 apparently brought the Goshawks down to northern Illinois, the Purple Sandpipers to Indiana and Ohio, the loons and grebes to Ohio, Kentucky and central Illinois, and the Evening Grosbeaks into all the Region.

The season was exceptionally wet; even Missouri nearly made up its 8 in. rainfall deficit for the year. This fall was so wet, in fact, that many farmers were not able to harvest their crops — leaving plenty of food for the wildlife this winter. August was practically normal, only slightly wetter and warmer than average. September temperatures averaged about normal but precipitation was again above average. The first frosts occurred in mid-October and the entire month averaged cooler than normal; it was the coldest October in over 60 years at Charleston, Ill.; snow and record low temperatures came to Ohio and Kentucky Oct. 18-20; total precipitation was about normal for the month. November was noted for its coolness and darkness. Out of a possible 304 hours of sunlight available in Kentucky, only 68 occurred for a record low by more than 14 hours; there were only 2 cloud-free days during the month. In w. Missouri, "only 4-5 days could have been called fair." (L). November was also wetter than average. At the end of the period L. Michigan was within 8 in. of its all time high level.

Introductions — Two Mute Swans were present for only one day (Nov. 6) at Sterling, Ill. (HS); 20 more immatures were introduced into Illinois (10 each at Baldwin Reservoir, Randolph Co. and Sangchris L., Sangamon and Christian by the Ill. Dept. of Conservation. **Monk Parakeets** have been discovered in our Region; two were identified Nov. 17 just north of Columbus, Ohio; apparently they had been there for over a month (HGS).

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS, CORMORANTS — Com. Loons were much more common throughout the inland portions of the Region than usual, however, fewer were found in L. Michigan than last year. Fall migrants first arrived at Council Bluffs, Ia., Oct. 15 (LP) and had generally appeared throughout the north by late October. A heavy influx occurred in the lakefront area of Ohio Nov. 4-11 (M) and as far south as Hoover Reservoir just north of Columbus, Ohio, where 97 were counted Nov. 12 (TT); by Nov. 18 at least 30 were present in the Ohio R. near Louisville, Ky. (BM); 67 were found at Springfield, Ill., Nov. 12 (H); other maxima of 17, 16, 10

and 5 were reported at the Mark Twain Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Ill. (V); Springfield, Mo. (NF); Hudson L., LaPorte Co., Ind. (NR *et al.*); and Rockford, Ill. (JD) respectively; at St. Joseph, Mo. only one (usually several) was located this fall (L); many singles were reported throughout the Region. Three Red-throated Loons, 2 with red throats, had arrived in Des Moines, Ia by Sept. 2 (SB); one was present in the Mississippi R. St. Charles Co., Mo. in October (mob); 4 were found at L. Manawa (Council Bluffs), Ia. Oct. 23 (CKi, *fide* LP); another was observed at Hoover Reservoir, Ohio, Nov. 19 (TT). Four Red-necked Grebes were seen flying up the Ohio R. near Louisville, Ky. Nov. 18 (BM). Horned Grebes were common this fall. In Kentucky there were over twice as many as ever before, their previous high was 200 in 1953; at least 400 were present in the Ohio R. near Louisville Nov. 18 (JP *et al.*); the first ones appeared there Oct. 21 (S, LCB); the earliest arrival in the Region was found at Michigan City, Ind. Oct. 16 and 20 were present on nearby L. Hudson Nov. 19 (SR, RL); highs of 35, 24, 16 and 10 were tallied at Springfield, Ill. Nov. 12 (H), Hoover Reservoir, Ohio, Nov. 12 (TT), Maryville, Mo. Nov. 15 (E), and Mark Twain N.W.R. Nov. 2 (V), respectively. Six Eared Grebes were counted at Maryville between Oct. 1 and Nov. 19 (E); 2 were found at Independence, Mo. Oct. 2 (KH); one arrived at L. Chautauqua, Ill. by Sept. 23 (H, JD); 3 others were found in Illinois between Oct. 5 and Nov. 5 (mob); one was identified near Louisville Nov. 17 (AGS, *fide* BM). Two W. Grebes were reported: one in the Chicago area Oct. 27-Nov. 1 (B, mob), and one at Louisville, Ky. Nov. 1 & 2 (CR, mob). Large aggregations of Pied-billed Grebes were reported this fall: 164, 160 and 85 at L. Pewee, Madisonville, Ky. Oct. 26, Nov. 2 & Nov. 21 respectively (JaH) 76 at Springfield, Ill. Nov. 4 (H); in the Cleveland area they were "abundant" on inland waters throughout the period (M) and there were "large numbers everywhere" at Independence, Mo. (KH); at Magee Marsh, Ohio, a downy young with primaries just sprouting was found Nov. 1 (LV). White Pelicans were estimated at 2700 at Swan Lake N.W.R., Mo. Sept. 18, but only 3 remained Oct. 22 (JRa); at Squaw Creek N.W.R., Mo. they were common throughout the period with maximum of 700 recorded Sept. 24 (L). Although reported widely throughout the Region, large concentrations of Double-crested Cormorants were lacking except in w. Missouri where 112 were counted at St. Joseph Oct. 16 (L); other high counts included: 41 at Mark Twain N.W.R. Oct. 24 (V), 26 at Thomas Hill Res., Macon and Randolph Cos., Mo. Oct. 8 (JRa), 20 at Schell-Osage, s.w. Mo. Oct. 9 (NF), and 20 at L. Chautauqua, Ill. Oct. 14 (H); others, from 1 to 9 individuals, were found at 3 Ohio, 3 Indiana, one Kentucky, 3 Missouri, and 7 Illinois locations.

HERONS, IBIS — An imm. Little Blue Heron was present in Brown Co., Ind. as late as Sept. 24 (SG) and at L. Chautauqua, Ill. Sept. 9 (VH). The last Cattle Egret of the season was reported from Pere Marquette Park, Ill. Oct. 7 (V); at least 45 were still present at L. Renwick (Chicago area) Sept. 24 (MG); one in ad plumage was found at Magee Marsh, Ohio, Aug.

27 (LV) A Com Egret was reported from Eagle Creek Res., Ind. as late as Nov. 21 (EH). Black-crowned Night Herons were reported fairly common in the Chicago region, 40 seen in scattered areas Aug. 19 and 3 at the Skokie Lagoons Sept. 30 (C *et al.*); single immatures were found at Columbia and Maryville, Mo. Nov. 25 (BG) & Nov. 17 (E) respectively; 2 immatures were present at Bartonville, Ill. Sept. 9 (VH). An imm glossy ibis, sp., was observed at the Crab Orchard N.W.R., Ill. Oct. 23 (GC). Several Am. Bitterns have been reported later than usual this fall.

WATERFOWL — Again, there are several records of Whistling Swans. In n.w. Ohio, there are "... usually not more than 25 swans seen in the area during the fall migration. This year all through November swans were reported and seen in this area" 150 were counted there Nov. 15 (LV). "Whistling Swans moved through the e. portion of the Cleveland area in remarkable numbers generally in an ESE to S direction over inland areas ... The occurrence of swans on water or in flight at other inland locations ... was noted Nov. 13-16 & 19. Movements on the L. Erie shoreline were detected by Charles Hoyer only on Oct. 28 at White City when two flights involving 27 passed to the east" (M). Observations at Waite Hill by Annette Flanigan included 28 flights totalling nearly 2000 birds Oct. 14-Nov. 29 (*fide* M) Other flights less than 400 ft. overhead included 143 in Ashtabula Co., Ohio, Nov. 15 & 27 and in Lake Co., Ohio, Nov. 19 (SK). The following observations were reported from Illinois: 7 at L. Carlyle, Fayette Co. Nov. 13-15 (FK), 55 flying along L. Michigan Nov. 14 (B,C,JR), 11 (7 ad., 4 imm.) on Nov. 19 and 29 on Nov. 26 in the Chicago area (C,B *et al.*), 4 and 9 at Savanna, Carroll Co. Oct. 24 & Nov. 24 respectively and 3 at Sterling, Whiteside Co. Nov. 9 (HS), in Missouri: 4 (3 ad., 1 imm.) in Callaway Co. Nov. 15 (JRa), and one & 3 at Squaw Creek N.W.R. Oct. 28 & Nov. 19 (L). The big flocks of Canada Geese had not been forced down into the Region by the end of the report period. However, statistics available through much of the December hunting period in s. Illinois showed that the kill ratio is only 1 imm./1 ad., the normal ratio is 4/1; this would suggest a poor nesting season. The total number of geese killed was far below the 24,000 limit set for the 300,000+ geese wintering in the s. Illinois area. Only 2 Ross' Geese were identified this fall, both in n.w. Missouri: at Maryville Nov. 14 (E) and at Squaw Creek Refuge Nov. 19 (L). At least 31 Greater Scaup were identified from a flock of 2000 scaup at Maryville Nov. 8-Dec. 1 (E). Inland records of Oldsquaws included: one ♀ at Maryville, Nov. 4 (E), 2 birds at Springfield, Ill. Nov. 9 and a single ♂ there Nov. 21-23 (H), one ♂ at Thomson, Ill. (Mississippi R.) Nov. 13-24 (HS) and 2 at Hoover Reservoir, Ohio, Nov. 19 (TT). One Harlequin Duck was found in L. Michigan (Chicago) Oct. 15 (B,C *et al.*), 2 were there Oct. 22 (B,JR,JS), a ♀ was collected at Maryville, Mo. Nov. 3 (E). Three King Eiders were identified along the Chicago lake-front Oct. 11 (JS). Inland records of White-winged Scoters include: up to 4 at Maryville Oct. 19-Nov. 12 (E,JHi), one in the Mississippi R. at Thomson, Oct.

29 (HS) and one at Pierce L., Winnebago Co., Ill. Nov. 18 (JD). At Maryville 3 Surf Scoters were found Oct. 25 and a different individual was there Nov. 3 (E); one bird was also identified at Pierce L., Nov. 9 (JD). An estimated 7000 Ruddy Ducks were present in L. Erie just beyond Magee Marsh, Ohio, Nov. 12 (LV); 573 were counted in the Cleveland area Nov. 18 (M); 170 was the high total at Madisonville, Ky., Nov. 21 (JaH). An estimate of 100 Hooded Mergansers (high) was present at Squaw Creek Refuge Nov. 19 (L). Massive rafts of Red-breasted Mergansers were in the Cleveland area after Nov. 4; the highest estimate of 2500 birds occurred Nov. 5 (M); 1500 were estimated in the Ohio R. near Louisville, Ky., Nov. 18 (JP *et al.*); 35 were also observed at Springfield, Mo. Nov. 18 (NF).

HAWKS, EAGLES — Illinois observers made the following comments on this year's Goshawk invasion: "Unprecedented! Absolutely remarkable! I have 3 previous records in 43 years." (C); "There is an invasion of this species in unprecedented numbers." (H); "The number of Goshawks seen this fall was truly staggering, especially considering the rarity of the bird in this area. Almost anywhere you went that was appropriate you could find a Goshawk. What apparently were migrations occurred Nov. 11 & 20." (B). Up to 15 were seen in the Chicago area, especially Illinois Beach S. P. from Oct. 29 to the end of the period, a at least 8 were counted Nov. 11 (C,B, mob); at least 18 were banded at the Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation at Dundee, Ill. from Oct. 31 on; at least one adult was present at L. Chautauqua, Ill. Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 18 & 24, and an immature was also present there the latter date (H); one bird was killed when it crashed into a window chasing a dove at Danville, Ill. Nov. 22 (MCa); another was shot (now a specimen in the Illinois State Museum) by a farmer near L. Carlyle, Fayette Co., Ill. (*vide* FK, K); one was also seen just n. of Sparta, Randolph Co., Ill. Dec. 1 (K); the only Ohio report was of an adult at Winous Pt. Marsh, Ottawa Co., Mo. Oct. 20 (JRa) and another in St. Charles Co., Mo. Nov. 9 (GB). A Turkey Vulture was found stuck in the mud at Tiffen, Ohio, Nov. 24-28 and was finally retrieved by a game warden; by Dec. 11 it was still recovering; at least 150 vultures were present at Table Rock Park, Mo. Oct. 17 (JC). Reliable records of Red-shouldered Hawks in the north include: one at New Haven, Ind. Oct. 7 (Haw), 2 at Illinois Beach State Park Nov. 11 (C *et al.*), and one banded at the McGraw Wildlife Foundation. Rough-legged Hawks were scarce throughout the Region this fall. A Golden Eagle was "milling around" in the air with Sandhill Cranes at the Jasper-Pulaski State Game and Fish Area, Ind. Oct. 30 (SR, RL); an adult was present in Winnebago Co., Ill. Oct. 15 (LJ). Osprey records included: no Ohio reports, 4 in Indiana Sept. 17-Oct. 8, 5+ in Kentucky Aug. 20-Sept. 30, 26+ in Illinois Aug. 27-Oct. 27, 8 in Missouri Sept. 16-Nov. 4, and no Iowa reports. Eight Peregrine Falcons were reported in the Region; 5 in Illinois (VH, MM, JA, C, B, JR) Sept. 18-Nov. 18, one in Missouri (BG) Sept. 24, one in Kentucky (CN, *vide* S) and one in Indiana (DBr) Oct. 5. Pigeon

Hawks were "fairly common" in the St. Louis area this fall; singles were also reported from Illinois Sept. 24 (VH) Oct. 15 (B *et al.*), and Nov. 24 (C, B, JR).

RAILS, SHOREBIRDS — A Virginia Rail was reported at Maryville as late as Nov. 15 (E). At least 2 Yellow Rails hit the Springfield, Ill. TV tower, one each night: Sept. 27 & 29; these two birds are now in the Illinois State Museum (H). On Oct. 29, rather late, a Semipalmated Plover was still present at Waukegan, Ill. (C, B, JR). A Piping Plover was discovered as late as Sept. 28 at Springfield, Ill. (H). Several Golden and Black-bellied plovers were reported; the most noteworthy observation was of a single Black-bellied at Squaw Creek Refuge Nov. 19 (L). Two Knots were reported: at the Fairfax Recreation Area, Monroe Co., Ind. Sept. 17-19 (SG, DW) and White City (Cleveland) Aug. 27-Sept. 2 (M). During an apparent cold front passage on the night of Nov. 10-11, Purple Sandpipers came into the Region; one bird was found at Michigan City, Ind. Nov. 11 (SR, RL); some were found along the rocky coastline at Marblehead, Ohio, Nov. 12 (mob, *vide* LV). The latest departure date for the Stilt Sandpiper in Kentucky was extended over two weeks when one was seen near Louisville Oct. 28 (S, LCB). At least 3 W. Sandpipers were present in Springfield, Ill. Sept. 2 (H) and 3 others in the Chicago area Sept. 16 (C *et al.*); 5 were found at Squaw Creek Refuge as late as Nov. 5 (L). A Ruff was identified at Squaw Creek Refuge Aug. 26 (SP, *vide* A).



Red Phalarope, Lake Chautauqua, Ill., Nov. 18. Photo/Lawrence Balch.

The pelagic Red Phalarope "invaded" our Region this fall; the first was discovered at Springfield, Ill. Sept. 11 (H); another appeared at Michigan City, Ind. Nov. 3 (SR, RL); one was present (photograph) at L. Chautauqua, Ill. Nov. 18 (H, B); still another was found and photographed at Waukegan, Ill. Nov. 19-24 (CP, B, mob). At least 13 N. Phalaropes were reported between early August and Oct. 12 from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — Parasitic Jaegers appeared as early as Sept. 9 off the Chicago lake front (RR); 2 adults were seen there Oct. 15 (B, C *et al.*);

a dark phase bird was recognized at Michigan City, Ind. Oct. 1 (SR, RL); a jaeger, probably Parasitic, was seen at Browning L. near St. Joseph, Mo. Nov. 3 (L). A near-adult Great Black-backed Gull was found at Waukegan, Ill. Sept. 9 (C, B, mob). An inland Ohio record of the Franklin's Gull at Hoover Reservoir was considered unusual. One ad. Laughing Gull was identified this fall at Chicago on the late date of Nov. 18 (B, JR). Only two Little Gulls were reported, one at Cleveland Oct. 1 (M) and one at Chicago, an adult, Sept. 23-Nov. 15 (B, C, JS). Two Com. Terns Sept. 3 at Frankfurt, Ky. were considered unusual for that area (DC).

CUCKOOS, OWLS, NIGHTHAWKS — **Groove-billed Ani** were reported from Ohio and Missouri. The Ohio bird (photograph) was first seen near Nashville, Holmes Co., Ohio, Oct. 15 and remained there until hand-caught and taken to the Cleveland Zoo Nov. 17 (VK). The bird fed primarily on grasshoppers and as the season progressed, these insects became more difficult for the bird to locate. After coaxing, using grasshoppers as bait, the ani tamed and fed from the observers' hands. From the hand it ate about 30 grasshoppers and 100 mealworms daily. The Missouri bird was seen only on Nov. 9&11 in Columbia (DR, BG). A Black-billed Cuckoo was found at Brazil, Ind. as late as Nov. 6 (LS). Barn Owls continue to be scarce, none were reported anywhere. Seven Saw-whet Owls were banded at Shirland, Winnebago Co., Ill. this fall, the highest number since 1968 (LJ). Common Nighthawks were found in large groups as they migrated southward in late August and early September. The largest estimate in a single evening was about 1200 Aug. 20 in Chicago (JS); groups of 600 & 400 were estimated at Rockford, Ill. Sept. 11 & 17 respectively



Groove-billed Ani, Nashville, Ohio, Photo/Thomas Thomson.

(JD), a "spectacular" flight occurred at Charleston, Ill. Sept. 5 (LBH); birds were still passing through Tiffin, Ohio, Sept. 25 (JK) and Rockford, Ill. Sept. 26 (JD).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, NUTCRACKERS — One W. Kingbird was present in Sangamon Co., Ill. Sept. 3 (H). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher remained at Springfield, Mo. as late as Nov. 3 (NF). An E. Wood Pewee lingered at Springfield, Ill. until Nov. 8 (H). Observers were surprised at the Busch Wildlife Area (St. Louis) when they found a ♂ **Vermilion Flycatcher** Sept. 28 (mob). Late records of Tree Swallows included 4 at L. Chautauqua, Ill. Nov. 24 (H), and one at Squaw Creek Refuge Nov. 24 (SP). A lone Rough-winged Swallow remained at Magee Marsh, Ohio, until Nov. 15 (LV). Up to 1500 Purple Martins were still present at St. Joseph, Mo. Sept. 2; the last ones disappeared from there Sept. 17 (L); one was seen in Chicago Sept. 30 (C, B, JR). Photographs were taken (*vide A*) of the three **Clark's Nutcrackers** at Kansas City, Mo. to properly document the occurrence of this species in the state; two were first observed Nov. 5, a third joined them Nov. 6 but later disappeared (WR, mob).

NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS, THRUSHES, PIPITS, SHRIKES — Red-breasted Nuthatches returned again in good numbers by early September; the earliest record was of one at Rocky River Metropolitan Park (Cleveland) Aug. 20 (D); these birds were seen commonly throughout the Region for the remainder of the report period. Brown Creepers appeared Aug. 20 at Shirland, Ill. (LJ) and Cumberland Falls State Park, Ky. (DC); another was found at Cedar Creek Wildlife Area, Allen Co., Ind. Sept. 3 (Haw). Winter Wrens were reported in good numbers from several locations during late September and early October; on Oct. 1, at least 10 were concentrated within a few feet of favorable habitat along the shoreline of L. Erie (Cleveland) (M). A **Rock Wren** was an apparent TV tower casualty at Maryville Oct. 5, constituting the second state record for this species (E). As banding operations were begun at Shirland, Ill. July 29, Swainson's Thrushes were already enroute south (LJ). From one to 160 Water Pipits were present at Maryville Sept. 30-Nov. 18 (E); a flock of 75 was reported at Rockford, Ill. Oct. 28 (JD); the group of 12 at Chicago Nov. 19 was considered unusual for that area (B, C *et al.*). A few N. Shrikes appeared this fall; one immature in Chicago Nov. 19 (C, JR, JS); another, an adult, there Nov. 26 (JS, mob); and one at Metzger Marsh, Lucas Co., Ohio, Nov. 26 (RC, *vide LV*).

VIREO, WARBLERS, WEAVER, GRACKLE — The Solitary Vireo at Springfield, Ill. Nov. 3 was rather late (H). The Swainson's Warbler at Busch Wildlife Area Sept. 16 was quite unusual (JNS). A Nashville Warbler was found at Charleston, Ill. Nov. 24-26 (LBH). Several Black-throated Blue Warblers were reported; 5 were killed at the Springfield, Ill. TV tower Sept. 27-Oct. 10 (H). A Black-throated Green Warbler was still present at Maryville Nov. 16 (E). One Yellow-throated Warbler was found at Carbondale, Ill. Oct.

7 (K), another was present nearby Oct. 1 (K *et al.*). Connecticut Warblers may be increasing in the Region as fall migrants; one was found at Brazil, Ind. Aug. 31 (LS), another at Louisville, Ky. Oct. 1 (LCB), 3 were found dead at the base of the Springfield, Ill. TV tower Sept. 2 (H). A Eur. Tree Sparrow was caught, banded and photographed at Macomb, Ill. Oct. 17, slightly north of its known range (EF *et al.*). A single **Boat-tailed Grackle** was identified at Springfield L., Springfield, Mo. Oct. 22 (NF).

FRINGILLIDS — Evening Grosbeaks returned in fair numbers by mid-November. The earliest report was Oct. 31 at Pigeon River State Park, LaGrange Co., Ind. (LeC); most other first records throughout the Region were from Nov. 11-20 with flocks ranging upwards to 75 or more birds. The early return of Purple Finches was noted at Shirland, Ill. Aug. 26 (LJ) and Springfield, Ill. Aug. 30 (H). A ♀-plumaged **House Finch** was observed and described very well at Lincoln Park Sanctuary, Chicago, Oct. 1 (C). The only Pine Grosbeak, a ♂, was found in a St. Joseph, Mo. cemetery Nov. 19 (L). Pine Siskins were very common this fall. Red Crossbills continued to cause excitement throughout the Region; the number of birds in the St. Louis area continued to increase from July into September; 5-6 birds were found in Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 27 (*vide* TT); in n.w. Missouri they appeared in "invasion numbers" since mid-August (L); many other northern areas reported them by at least early October; they had not yet reached the extreme southern areas by the end of the period. The only White-winged Crossbills reported were at Brazil, Ind. Oct. 9 (LS) and in Stone Co., Mo. Oct. 17 (JC). Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings had also returned in fair numbers by late October or early November.

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CENTRAL SOUTHERN REGION

/ **Robert D. Purrington**

It was an unusual fall, one which arrived late, particularly in the southern part of the Region where no important frontal passages occurred until late October, but one which was characterized, especially



in November, by depressed temperatures and persistent rainfall. The season was neither remarkable for concentrations of transients or in numbers of accidental or displaced species. Exceptions to this general picture were a remarkable flight of Blue Jays in the first two weeks of October, noticed throughout the Region, and early indications of an influx of all of the classic boreal invasion species as the period drew to a close.

Summer persisted into mid-October in the lower part of the Region, leading to mostly uneventful birding during the normal peak migration period. Migration peaks were given as Sept. 9, 23, and 30, and Oct. 8 in the Nashville area, coinciding in each case with a frontal passage; each of those fronts reached the Gulf Coast region, but in much weakened form. Along

the coast best results were had with the fronts of Oct 7-8, 15-16, and 21, the latter characterized by the arrival of many of the typical late October wintering species. This front brought the first really cool weather into the coastal areas. When cold northern air began to push across the Region in late October and early November the transition was abrupt, but rather than the anticipated pattern of strong frontal passages producing large movements of late migrants and winter resident species, followed by clearing weather, observers were treated to a fairly dismal succession of cold and damp days as fronts stalled, were overrun by cloudiness, or developed wave structure. A spectacular consequence of the cool, but hardly cold fall, was a display of autumn foliage rarely experienced in the lower coastal plain. Temperatures averaged near normal in October as late cool fronts made up for the earlier unseasonably warm weather; November, on the other hand, was distinctly cool and wet. At New Orleans, temperatures were more than five degrees below normal for the month while the rainfall total of 8.4 inches was almost 5 inches above normal.

Invasion of Boreal Species — Following a generally undistinguished showing last year, when only Purple Finches were abundant, and a truly dismal year in 1970-71, this fall showed signs of a movement of the irruptive boreal species which might rival the winter of 1969-70. Presumably as a result of mast failure in the northern forests, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, Evening Grosbeak, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, and Red Crossbill all exhibited significant movement into the region, albeit in varying degrees. It is to be noted that as has often been true in past years, for example 1969-70, 1968-69, 1965-66, 1963-64, and 1961-62, the cone-feeding species, particularly the Red-breasted Nuthatch and Red Crossbill, and those feeding primarily on seeds of deciduous trees, the Evening Grosbeak and Purple Finch, moved southward together.

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS, CORMORANTS, BITTERN — Common Loons were early and reached unprecedented numbers in several areas; one at Nashville's Percy Priest L. Sept. 30 (MB) was the earliest ever for that area, and another Oct. 17 at L. Oliver, Ala. (LAW) was the earliest for the Piedmont area of the state. High counts on Nov. 21 of 426 in Baldwin Co., Ala. (TI & JP) and 92 at Gallatin, Tenn. (PC & DC) represented the greatest number ever encountered in Alabama and middle Tennessee, respectively. A Horned Grebe on L. Pontchartrain Oct. 14 (WW) was the earliest ever for s.e. Louisiana, while two at L. Jackson, Florida, Ala. Nov. 18 (CLK *et al*) were the earliest for the lower coastal plain of Alabama. Eight Brown Pelicans seen on Calcasieu L., Cameron Par., La. Oct. 31 (JV & JW) were the first observed in that area in several years. Evidently they were not tagged birds from the introduced colony at Grand Terre I. in s.e. Louisiana. There was increased observation of the species in the Florida section this fall, with a maximum of 48 between Port St. Joe and Mexico Beach Nov. 16 (*vide* CLK). On the other hand, fewer than usual were seen on the Alabama coast (TI). First records of the **Great Cormorant** for Alabama and n w Florida were provided by single immatures seen

Oct 29 at Pensacola Bay (RD) and Nov 21 at Alabama Pt., Ala. (TI & JP). One is of course tempted to suggest that a single bird was responsible for the two sightings some 50 mi. apart on the Gulf coast. A Least Bittern found dead at Little Rock Dec. 4 (JSt) was the first record for Arkansas between Oct. 7 and Apr. 10

SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS — Five ad. Whistling Swans at Wheeler Wildlife Refuge Oct. 25 (JG) established the earliest fall record for Alabama. Following trends of recent years, all species of geese were reported below normal, with "short-stopping" apparently at least partly responsible. Numbers were the lowest in 20 years at Wheeler Wildlife Refuge, Ala (TA). Canada Geese, which formerly were abundant in coastal Louisiana, were entirely absent this fall (RN). The first record for Louisiana of the **Black Brant** was obtained Oct. 21 (MW, RJS & RN) when one flew past East Jetty in Cameron, giving the experienced observers an excellent look at close range. Two ad White-fronted Geese at Sardis L., Miss. Nov 23 (WMD) were unexpected at that locality. Although the early arrival of one or a few individuals is not necessarily representative of the movement of an entire population or species, a Region-wide pattern of early appearance such as was exhibited this fall in many species of ducks is surely indicative of a generally early southward movement. Unprecedentedly early arrival was noted for the Mallard on the Alabama coast at Gulf Shores Sept. 30 (CLK, mob) and for the Black Duck at Cross Creek Wildlife Refuge, Tenn. Sept. 27 (SB & RS), while 5 at Ft. Pickens, Fla. Oct. 7 (LG, GG, NB & CB) were the earliest ever by 8 days for n w Florida. An early Gadwall was seen in Cameron Par., La. Sept. 2 (RN *et al.*) while a Shoveler at Gallatin, Tenn. Aug. 26 (PC & DC) was 18 days earlier than any previous Nashville area records. An early Redhead was in Cameron Par. Sept. 2 (RN *et al.*), while earliest by 9 days was a Ring-necked Duck at Panama City, Fla. Oct. 1 (DC). Also early for the Florida section was a Canvasback Oct. 14 at Marianna 22 days earlier than previous records, and an Oldsquaw at Radnor L., Nashville, Nov. 3 (AT & MB) was by 7 days the earliest in fall for that area. Six White-winged Scoters at the same locality Oct. 30-31 (PC, DC & MB) were the earliest ever for a species whose occurrence is irregular there. A single bird at L. Shelby, Oct. 15-22 (JFH, TI, mob) was the earliest ever for Alabama. Hooded Mergansers were present in good numbers at Woods Reservoir, Tenn., where 270 were counted Nov. 27 (KD & LD); one at Elberta, Ala. Nov. 4 (CLK, mob) was the earliest for the Gulf coast of Alabama. Red-breasted Mergansers were also present at Woods Res. in greater than usual numbers, with a high count of 600 on Nov. 21 & 27 (KD & LD). A total of 360 at Old Hickory L., Nashville, Nov. 22 (MB *et al.*) more than doubled the previous high for that area.

HAWKS, EAGLES, OSPREY, FALCONS — A Mississippi Kite at Fairhope, Ala. Oct. 1 (AN & MN) was latest Alabama fall record of a species which has normally departed by about Sept. 1. Even later was one in Calhoun Co., Ark. Oct. 18 (KLS & JN), the

latest for Arkansas by 8 days. A Swallow-tailed Kite reported from near Pontchatoula, La. Aug. 31 (BP & TJ) is of interest because of the scarcity of fall records of the species. Recent interest in the status of the endangered Accipiters has led to increased reports of their occurrence in the Region, but few if any observers would argue that there has been any reversal of the decline in numbers. Here we take note of 7 Sharp-shinned Hawks reported by the Nashville section of the T.O.S. Sept. 10-Oct. 8 and a total of 7 Cooper's Hawks seen in the Nashville area and at Short Mtn., Tenn. Sept. 23-Oct. 26 (JE, T.O.S.). Although the Harlan's Hawk winters sparingly on the n.w. edge of the Region, it rarely reaches the Gulf coast; a light-phase individual watched feeding a very close range near Holly Beach, Cameron Par., Nov. 26 (RJS & MW) is thus of interest. Because of concern over declining numbers in the north and east, the Red-shouldered Hawk is being more carefully noted than ever before. And while there seems to be as yet little cause for alarm in this Region, its status should be carefully monitored. It is encouraging that the 16 individuals recorded on the Birmingham Fall Count (B.A.S.) Sept. 16 equalled the maximum number for an inland Alabama locality, even though one suspects that increased attention to the species may be involved. Several contributors, mostly in Arkansas and Tennessee, commented on the large numbers of Broad-winged Hawks observed migrating this fall. The largest counts were of 1061 individuals in Union Co., Ark. Sept. 26 (KLS & JN) and 471 on Oct. 1 at Little Rock (WMS). A Swainson's Hawk at Panama City on Oct. 20 (SS) was only the second record for the Florida section. Golden Eagles were reported from middle Tennessee, where one immature was seen Nov. 11 in Cannon Co. (FB), and from Auburntown where 2(1a, 1i) were seen Nov. 26 (FB). Single immatures were noted at Rockefeller Refuge, Cameron Par., Oct. 26 & Nov. 12 (AG); the species is rare anywhere in Louisiana and especially so in the s. part of the state. A single bird Aug. 26 near Ozark, Ala (JK) is so much earlier than any previous fall records that it must be regarded as the first summer record for Alabama. Similarly, a Bald Eagle near Mitchell Dam, Ala. Aug. 29 (JZ) represents the first "summer" record for Alabama's Piedmont region. An immature at Cross Creek Refuge Aug. 22-Nov. 30 (SB & RS) was the earliest ever recorded there. Other reports of Bald Eagles, all adults were: Nov. 16-18 at Nashville (JH), Nov. 23 in Pickett Co., Tenn. (*vide* RH), and Nov. 26 at Pecan Is., La. (RC). Osprey reports were too numerous to list individually, reflecting increased interest in this endangered species, but at the very least giving no new cause for concern. At least 12 were seen in middle Tennessee Sept. 4-Oct. 10 and 4 from Louisiana Sept. 17-Oct. 19. Peregrine Falcons, all single birds, were reported from Tennessee Aug. 4 & Sept. 9 (MLM), Sept. 23 (T.O.S.), and Nov. 28 (GM), Louisiana Oct. 28-29 and Nov. 26 (RBH, RN & RJS). Three seen Oct. 19 in Alabama (JFH & TI) represented high numbers for the species in Alabama in recent years. In n.w. Florida one was seen Sept. 24 (SS) and 3 on Oct. 7 (AF, VF & JS). A report of 5 for the fall without dates, was received from Arkansas observers.

RAILS, SHOREBIRDS, LARIDS — A state maximum of 15 Virginia Rails was counted Oct. 18 at Gulf Shores (TI, mob) while a Black Rail there Oct. 12 (GM) constituted only the fourth record of the secretive species for Alabama. Rarely encountered inland, a Piping Plover at Gallatin, Tenn. Aug. 22-26 (PC & DC) established the fourth Nashville area record. Three Am. Golden Plovers at Lonoke, Ark. Aug. 15 (GRG, DH & BT) were 10 days earlier than previous fall records. The second Arkansas record of the Whimbrel was established by one Sept. 3-4 at Lonoke (HH, EH, GRG, HP & MP). A very late Upland Plover was seen at Destin, Fla. Nov. 1 (RD). Although unrecorded in the Nashville area until last fall, the Willet was again encountered there this autumn, on Aug. 23 (DC & MB). A Pectoral Sandpiper seen at New Orleans Nov. 14 (MMM) was the latest ever for s.e. Louisiana. Single Baird's Sandpipers at Coleman L., Nashville, Sept. 16 & 19 (MLM & MB) were unexpected at that locality. At Lonoke, a late Stilt Sandpiper was found Nov. 5 (GRG & BT). A Buff-breasted Sandpiper at the same locality Sept. 30 (GRG & BT) was 11 days later than previous records. A Sanderling on the New Orleans lakefront Oct. 27 (MMM) was almost unprecedented, even though the species is abundant in the nearby coastal areas. Several in the Nashville area Aug. 20-Sept. 17 (PC, DC & MB) were unusual for a species which is recorded inland only sparingly. Am. Avocets were seen inland, where they too are unusual, at Cross Creek Refuge, Tenn., Sept. 24-Oct. 1 (SB & RS), this a single bird, and at Lafayette, La., where 7 were seen Oct. 7 (RBH & RJN). A total of 113 at Cochrane Causeway Nov. 23 (LMcK) represented the largest concentration recorded in Alabama. A N. Phalarope seen and photographed Sept. 10-15 at L. Purdy, Ala. (HK, AM, mob) was the seventh record for the state, but removed the species from Alabama's hypothetical list. A single individual was noted in Arkansas this fall, that on Sept. 16 at Lonoke (EH, HH, HP & MP). A bird thought to be a Red Phalarope was photographed at Nashville Nov. 8 (MB, PC, DC, MLM), and while it is not clear that the photographs permit definitive identification, if a Red Phalarope, it constitutes the third area record. Only one Franklin's Gull was reported from Louisiana, that an adult in breeding plumage Oct. 7 near Holly Beach, Cameron Par. (RBH). Seven adults at Sardis L., Miss., Nov. 27 (WMD) were even further east of their main migration routes and quite late. Bonaparte's Gulls arrived early, appearing in Birmingham by Sept. 28 (JP & RL), the earliest for Alabama, Oct. 1 at Mobile Bay (AN & MN), and two at Nashville Oct. 22 (MB) were by 5 days the earliest recorded there. Late Forster's Terns lingered at Birmingham until Sept. 30 (GC), the latest for the mountain region of Alabama, and at Nashville until Oct. 29 (MB), the latter 19 days later than any previous records for that area. A group of 20 Com. Terns at Nashville Sept. 30 (ROH & MB) were by 6 days the latest ever recorded there. At the same locality, a Caspian Tern Oct. 18 (MB) exceeded previous fall dates for the Nashville area by 7 days. Quite rare in the coastal areas of the Region after late October, a Black Tern at Cameron, La. Nov. 26 (RJS & MW) may have been wintering

DOVES, ANIS, OWLS, NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS—White-winged Doves were apparently present in something like normal numbers in coastal and near-coastal localities in Louisiana and Alabama. The earliest ever for the state was one seen at Spring Hill, Ala. Aug. 25 (SH & TH). Groove-billed Anis were seen in usual numbers in the Cameron and Venice areas of coastal Louisiana, but were also noted well inland at Saline Wildlife Management Area, Catahoula Par., where 13 were seen Oct. 15 (PC, BB *et al.*), and were also reported from Slidell, La. and Pass Christian, Miss. They were also recorded Oct. 23 & Nov. 12 in Panama City, Fla. (SS *et al.*) where until recently they have been considered casual.

The third record of the Saw-whet Owl for Alabama was of one seen at Birmingham Oct. 22 (HW). Large movements of Com. Nighthawks were noted in middle Tennessee Aug. 24 & Sept. 23 & 26, while a Lesser Nighthawk seen at Peveto Beach Woods, Cameron Par., Sept. 23-Oct. 28 (RBH) may have been wintering there. Chimney Swifts lingered in s. Louisiana, with the latest noted in New Orleans Oct. 29 (WW) but as many as 200 as late as Nov. 3 in Reserve (RJS & MW). A single bird seen Nov. 17 there was the latest ever for Louisiana. In Union Co., Ark. two seen Nov. 2 (KLS & JN) were late for the state by one week.

WOODPECKER, FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS — Red-headed Woodpeckers were noted in unusual numbers (for recent years) in several Louisiana localities; individuals on the coast at Cameron and Grand Isle were unusual and several in New Orleans were the first seen there in 3 years. A W Kingbird at Dauphin I. Aug. 27 (LA & LT) was the earliest ever in fall for Alabama. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were present in numbers in s.e. Louisiana, with a peak of 13 in late October. One seen at Swan Creek, Ala. Nov. 3 (TA *et al.*) provided the first record for the Tennessee Valley area of the state, while a late individual was at Mifflin, Ala. Nov. 11 (CJK). An Acadian Flycatcher killed at the WSM-TV tower in Nashville Oct. 18 (KG) was the latest in for the area by 5 days. A single Vermilion Flycatcher was observed in Santa Rosa Co., Fla. Oct. 7 (LG, GG, NB & CB) where the species is considered casual; at Ft. Jackson, Plaquemines Par., a ♂ apparently returned for the fifth consecutive winter, was first observed Oct. 15 (C B C.) and was present through the end of the period. Late records were obtained for all of the common swallows, owing perhaps to the late and rather mild fall. Eight Tree Swallows seen at Wheeler Refuge Oct. 21 (MB) were the latest for the Tennessee Valley area of Alabama, a Bank Swallow at Navarre Beach Oct. 28 (CLK, mob) was the latest for n.w. Florida by 15 days, and 3 at Gulf Shores Oct. 22 (TI, mob) were the latest for Alabama. Although Rough-winged Swallows winter sparingly along the Gulf coast, 2 at Gulf Shores Nov. 21 (TI & JP) were regarded as the latest records in fall for Alabama. Late Barn Swallows were reported at Wheeler Refuge, where 3 Oct. 21 (MB) were the latest for the Tennessee Valley, and L. Purdy Oct. 28 (HK, mob), the latest inland record for Alabama. Several seen at Rockfeller Refuge, Cameron

Par., Nov. 17 & Dec. 2 (RBH) were decidedly late and possibly wintering. To complete the picture, the latest fall date for Alabama of the Purple Martin was established by 15 at Ft. Morgan Oct. 20 (TI & AJM).

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Killed at the WSM-TV tower, a White-eyed Vireo on Oct. 28 (JR & HR) was by 4 days the latest for the Nashville area. The species winters in the coastal parts of the Region. A count of 65 individuals on the Birmingham Fall Count Sept. 16 (B. A. S.) was the maximum in fall for Alabama. A late Yellow-throated Vireo was at Johnson's Bayou, Cameron Par., Oct. 28 (RBH), while a Solitary Vireo at Dauphin I. Sept. 6 (LT) was the earliest in fall for the state for a species which normally arrives in late October or early November. There were several reports of Swainson's Warblers, a species most often encountered on its breeding grounds, or on the coast in spring; from the Pearl River area of s.w. Mississippi, from Memphis, and from Cameron Par. The latter record was of 2 seen at Peveto Beach Woods Oct. 21 (MW), a late date for the species. By 12 days the latest for the Nashville area was a Worm-eating Warbler Oct. 18 (KG), a casualty at the WSM-TV tower. A Nashville Warbler in Union Co., Ark. Nov. 11 (KLS & JN) was the latest ever in fall for that state by 16 days. An Audubon's Warbler at Ft. Morgan Oct. 20 (TI & AJM) was only the second recorded in fall in Alabama and the only one reported the Region this fall. Bay-breasted Warblers established new extreme arrival and departure dates for Arkansas this fall; two at Wilton Sept. 10 (CM) were two weeks early, while 2 at the same locality Nov. 5 (CM) were 12 days late for the state. Single Blackpoll Warblers banded in the Nashville area Sept. 15 & 16 (KG, JR & HR) were the first records of live birds in fall for that area. Another tower casualty at Nashville was a Connecticut Warbler killed at the WSIX-TV tower Sept. 5 (MB). The species is rare anywhere in the Region. A count of 5 Mourning Warblers near Rosedale, Miss. Oct. 3 (JI) was an unusual number for a species generally rare in fall in the Region. A ♂ Hooded Warbler seen in Lawrence Co., Tenn. Oct. 29 (LCI) was not only late for middle Tennessee but later than all but a handful of coastal records for the Region. A Wilson's Warbler at Gulf Breeze Aug. 29 (RD) was early for n.w. Florida by 17 days. A late record of the species was obtained at Arkadelphia, Ark. Oct. 19 (MP), 12 days late for the state. A late Canada Warbler was seen at Riverton, Ala. Oct. 7 (TI & JMI), the latest ever for the mountain region of the state.

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, TANAGERS — Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported from Alabama, where an early individual seen Sept. 6 at Marion (HK) established the second inland record for the state, and another on Dauphin I. Oct. 13-20 (LT *et al.*) was the latest for the coastal area of the state. One was also seen at Panama City, Fla. Sept. 9 (DS), the seventh record for the Florida section since 1966 of a species previously considered accidental. A very early Rusty Blackbird at Eldorado, Ark. Sept. 26 (KLS & JN) was the earliest ever in fall for the state by 10 days. The latest Orchard Oriole in fall for Alabama

was one at Magnolia Springs on Sept. 27 (PFC). Baltimore Orioles lingered into late November and early December in various s. Louisiana localities, giving every indication of wintering. Unusual because of its inland location was an observation of an individual in Tensas Par., La. Nov. 24 (RBH). Bullock's Orioles were again present in moderate numbers in coastal Louisiana, particularly in the Venice area where they winter regularly in or near the citrus groves. Late Scarlet Tanagers were found Oct. 21 (TI, mob) at Ft. Morgan (banded), the latest record for the Alabama coast, and in Cameron Par. Oct. 29 (RBH & RN).

— S.A. —

JAYS, NUTHATCHES, MIMIDS, THRUSHES — A remarkable Blue Jay flight was noted by many observers, with truly spectacular concentrations occurring in some coastal areas. The earliest indication of a big movement came from Birmingham on Sept. 16 where the B. A. S. Fall Count produced 773 individuals and from the Nashville area Sept. 30 where many migrating flocks were noted (ROH). Newman, in s.w. Louisiana, described the flight as the biggest migration of Blue Jays he had ever seen, noting that the majority of the birds in Cameron Parish were moving westward. For Oct. 7-8 Hamilton and Newman estimated about 5000 birds. Blue Jays also numbered in the thousands at Dauphin I. and Ft. Morgan, with Father Dorn estimating a total of 8000 Oct. 15. There was some "die-off" reported on Dauphin I., but specimens sent to Patuxent showed no evidence of pesticide involvement (fide TI), and it is probable that the casualties were owing to one or several factors relating to the great concentrations of birds.

A moderate influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches was evident, the first records coming from the Nashville area before the middle of September and at least scattered birds on the Louisiana coast by mid-October (JM, RDP *et al.*). A count of 20 between Ft. Morgan and Gulf Shores Nov. 21 (TI&JP) was a maximum for the Gulf coast of Alabama. Participating in the general movement so dramatically highlighted by the Blue Jay flight mentioned above were the common mimids; Brown Thrasher, Mockingbird, and Catbird. On Oct. 7-8 all three were present in large numbers in the coastal woods and marshes of s.w. Louisiana; a heavy Catbird flight was reported by Imhof from the Alabama coast in October, with 154 banded Oct. 16-21 at Gulf Shores and Ft. Morgan. A Swainson's Thrush in East Jetty Woods, Cameron, Nov. 25 (RJS&MW) was late for a species known to have wintered only once in Louisiana.

FRINGILLIDS — Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were plentiful in early October as exhibited by a total of 251 reported in Cannon Co., Tenn. Oct. 5 (MCW&VH) and "many" at New Orleans Oct. 8 (RDP). A ♂ at Cameron Nov. 25 (RJS&MW) was considerably late. Five Indigo Buntings in Union Co. Nov. 2 (KLS&JN) were a week late for Arkansas. Similarly tardy was a Dickcissel observed in Memphis Nov. 3 (QD&FD). As indicated above, Evening Grosbeaks

forged deep into the region in an invasion which brought to mind the great influx of 1969-70, particularly in the s. part of the Region and all of Louisiana, where the species had been recorded in only two previous winters. The earliest reports came from the Nashville area, where 10-15 were seen Nov. 7-8 (fide MB). Evening Grosbeaks appeared in Memphis Nov. 12 (JM), for the second Shelby Co. record, in Alabama Nov. 18 in Bibb Co. (HW, mob), and were first noted in Louisiana Nov. 26, at Baton Rouge (fide RN), the earliest ever for the state. As part of the general movement of boreal finches, Purple Finches appeared early and showed signs of at least a moderate invasion, though certainly not on the scale of last year's **The House Finch**, after appearing in the Region for the first time last winter, was again found at Birmingham, this a single bird noted at the Birmingham airport Sept. 16 (GC). Pine Siskins, on the basis of somewhat sketchy reports, seemed to be staging a significant push into the region. Numbers were good in middle Tennessee and the species was described as "plentiful" in parts of Alabama (TI). The first report in the Region was from Mt. Magazine, Ark. where 19 were seen Sept. 30 (WMS), the earliest ever for Arkansas. Red Crossbills were seen in scattered localities across the n. half of the Region, perhaps foreshadowing the first real invasion since 1969-70. They were first seen in the Region Sept. 6 in Arkansas, the earliest ever for the state, and were thought to be present in the greatest numbers ever. The first record from Tennessee was of a flock of 18 in Pickett State Park, Oct. 28 (RH), the third middle Tennessee record, while the first reported in Alabama, at Adamsville Nov. 29 (TI & AI), was the earliest for the state, except for an anomalous Aug. 1957 arrival. Lark Sparrows were reported later than usual in several areas, including Wilson Co., Tenn. where 4 were seen Oct. 20 (WS&JDV), and Cameron Par. where 2 were found Nov. 26 (RJS&MW). The species occasionally winters in s. Louisiana. Three Rufous-crowned Sparrows seen on Oct. 1 at Mt. Magazine, Ark. (DJ, DH, GRG&BT) were at the same spot where the first Arkansas record of the species was obtained in July 1972. The first September record of the Slate-colored Junco in the Nashville area was provided by 2 on Sept. 30 at Fernvale (JE *et al.*) and one seen the following day at Mt. Magazine, Ark. (DJ&GRG) was by a week the earliest ever for Arkansas. Oregon Juncos were seen Oct. 15 at Ft. Jackson, La. (RDP), the third record for s. e. Louisiana and early for any junco on the coast, and in Nashville Nov. 10-28 (AL, KG), involving at least 2 individuals, one of which was a banded bird. A Clay-colored Sparrow at Foley, Ala. Sept. 13 (PFC) was the earliest record ever for the state of a species which while still rare, is becoming regular in fall in coastal Alabama. An ad. Harris' Sparrow near Creole, La. Nov. 25 (RJS) was noteworthy, as was a White-throated Sparrow at Memphis Sept. 30 (LC&BC), the earliest ever for that locality.

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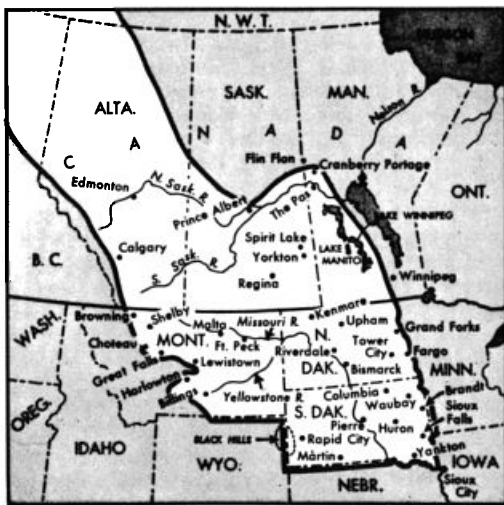
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OTHER ABBREVIATIONS — Birmingham Audubon Society (B.A.S.), Crescent Bird Club (C.B.C.), Tennessee Ornithological Society (T.O.S.) — **ROBERT D. PURRINGTON**, Department of Physics, Tulane University, New Orleans, La. 70118.

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS

/ C. Stuart Houston

The last two weeks of August were the nicest of the summer, but frost occurred early on September 4 at Saskatoon, where it was cooler than average



through the end of October. A low pressure area with rain, heavy snow and very low temperatures across western Canada on September 20-22, forced snow geese south from northern Manitoba. Another burst of cold polar air on October 16 spread rapidly over Manitoba, e. Saskatchewan and North Dakota, with even the larger marshes freezing in the 11°F. cold in Manitoba. Most of the waterfowl left at this time, and the remainder left the Canadian prairies with further cold and strong north winds, October 26-27. In contrast, Montana reported a generally warm, mild fall.

The extremely cold summer in arctic and subarctic Canada was evident in fall migration further south. The spring was the latest on record at Southampton and Baffin Islands, preventing nesting attempts in these major Snow and Blue Goose areas. (R. H. Kerbes). These unfavorable conditions must have extended further west, because the Ross' Geese from Perry R. which migrate through the Unity-Eston area of w. Saskatchewan, had only 9 broods among 18,000 birds — a ratio of immatures of only 0.4 per cent compared to the normal 30-50 per cent. Snow Geese flocks, known to originate chiefly from Banks I., contained 7.6 per cent immatures compared to a normal of 30-50 per cent and the mean brood size was only 1.93. White-fronted Geese fared a bit better with 14.8 per cent immatures, compared to a normal range of 20-38 per cent; brood size was 3.08. Whistling Swans had only about 7 per cent young, compared to the normal of 11-15 per cent. Although 1961 and 1965 were nearly as bad in some respects, this was the lowest success ever recorded for the above species. (A. Dzubin). Sandhill Cranes at Last Mountain L., Sask. showed similar evidence of poor reproductive success, with only 3.3 per cent young in their flocks, a third to half the normal figure (WCH). The marked southward incursion of ravens and Goshawks throughout much of this area this fall possibly reflects somewhat similar conditions in the northern forests. The Goshawks at Edmonton were only 15 per cent immatures, compared to 67 per cent immatures encountered in the same area in the 1950s (A. F. Oeming, *Blue Jay* 16: 8-10, 1958).

LOON, GREBES — Two Arctic Loons stopped off at Jasper, Alta. Oct. 9 (SB). W. Grebes peaked Sept. 22 with 2500 at Milo, Alta. (EB), although numbers were low at Bowdoin Refuge, Malta, Mont. and Audubon Refuge, Coleharbor, N.D. Pied-billed Grebes peaked Aug. 21 with 727 at Valley City, N.D. (BWS) and Sept. 7 with 1250 at Waubay Refuge, S.D. (RRJ).

PELICAN — Most White Pelicans left in September, with 250 leaving Sullys Hill Preserve, Fort Totten, N.D. Sept. 2, 120 at Hope Sept. 11, 375 at Arrowwood Refuge, Edmunds, N.D. Sept. 14, 50 at Tewaukon Sept. 15 and up to 100 at LaMoure through Sept. 21. Two remained at Jamestown until Oct. 11.

EGRET, HERONS, IBIS — A Cattle Egret was seen near Kenmare, Aug. 8 & Sept. 20 (JEF, AMG) and 3 near Churchs Ferry, N.D. Aug. 24 (ECP). An imm. Little Blue Heron was noted at Vermillion, S.D. Sept. 13 (Carolyn J. Hoover). A Green Heron was present at Fargo Sept. 3-11 (EGA), with 3 near Yankton Sept. 3 and one at LaCreek Refuge, Martin, S.D. Sept. 11 (WH, CAF). A White-faced Glossy Ibis was photographed Sept. 21 at Highmore, S.D. (JH).

SWANS — Whistling Swans arrived at Laura Sept 15, Spirit L Sept 18, Kenaston Sept 21, Kindersley Sept. 24 and Raymore, Sask. Sept. 27; at Wilder Co. Sept. 19 (537 in 9 groups by Sept. 26), Crosby Sept. 23, and Upper Souris and Tewaukon Refuges Sept. 24 Near Laura, Sask. swans increased to 8000 Oct. 1, even after the third snowstorm Oct. 28 there were 1000 keeping holes open in the ice; at Saskatoon there were 5 on open river Nov. 23. Two swans at Laura Oct. 1 had red neck bands, applied in the N.W. Territories. At Sullys Hill, 500 fed on sago pondweed beds until Nov. 13 and there were still 10 swans at Tewaukon Refuge, Cayuga Nov. 20 and 8 near Tappen, N.D. Nov. 27. Trumpeter Swans at LaCreek Refuge, S.D. Nov. 1 totalled 82 adults and 30 cygnets.

GEESE — Snow Geese arrived at Saskatoon Sept. 2, Kindersley Sept. 9 and Raymore, Sask. Sept. 17; at Stettler, Alta. Sept. 21 and Devil's L., N.D. Sept. 19, where the initial 1400 were greatly augmented Sept. 25 and reached 118,000 by Nov. 12. Ross' Geese totalled over 6000 near Luseland Sept. 24, 65 near Laura Sept. 10, 1 at Regina Sept. 24 and 200 north of Mortlach, Sask. Oct. 12 (KJF, JBG, FWL, EWK). Another Ross' Goose was photographed near Fort Peck, Mont. about Oct. 1 (CC).

DUCKS — Wood Ducks increased again with 24 at Brandon Sept. 17; 25 at Sheyenne all September, 85 at Sullys Hill Sept. 6, 200 at Fargo Sept. 17 and 500 at J. Clark Salyer Refuge, Upham, N.D. Oct. 3 A Greater Scaup was observed carefully near Dundurn, Sask. Nov. 12 (SJS) and at Pierre one was collected Oct. 8 and 3 seen Oct. 21 (BJR). Ten Oldsquaws were seen at Jasper Oct. 9 (SB). Single Surf Scoters were seen at Regina Oct. 16-17 (MB), at Lewistown Sept. 25 and photographed at Fort Peck, Mont. Oct. 1 (WCK, CC) and 35 were present at Benton L. Refuge, Great Falls Oct. 26 (GAH).

VULTURE, ACCIPITERS, BUTEOS — At Ramsey, Alta. 24 Turkey Vultures Aug. 1-7 were an unusual aggregation (A. Carn, E. McCall). Goshawks had a marked southward incursion, although at Saskatoon not comparable to the years 1954-56. At Edmonton 11 adults but only 2 imm. were banded Sept. 11-Oct. 21 (REG). Most Canadian points reported one or more, with 7 at Calgary, 25 at Saskatoon and 12 at Spirit Lake. U.S. reports of Goshawks included Lewistown, Mont., Upham, Sullys Hill, Kenmare, Denbigh, Woodworth, Edmunds and Jamestown, N.D. and 5 counties in S.D. including the first record for LaCreek Refuge Nov. 4. Cooper's Hawks were reported from only 21 points in the region, but there were 8 sightings at Rosetown and 25 at Saskatoon. Harlan's Hawks were identified near Simpson, Sask. Sept. 9 (WCH) and at LaCreek Refuge, S.D. Nov. 19 & 22 (CAF). A Broad-winged Hawk was found dead near Gackle Aug. 22 (HAD), one was feeding on a salamander near Woodworth Aug. 25 (JTL) and as many as 3 per mi. were seen Sept. 7-10 at Sullys Hill. There were 50 Swainson's Hawks at Rockyford, Alta. Sept. 11 (Jean Cammaert, J. Miller) and 138 in a half-mile shelter belt in the snowstorm Sept. 20 at White Bear, Sask.

(SOJ); south of Moose Jaw there was a large movement Sept 26 (LK) Rough-legged Hawks were generally uncommon in Saskatchewan and North Dakota but 35 were seen at Calgary.

EAGLES — Golden Eagles were reported from most points in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Montana and six points in North Dakota, with 17 at the Charles M. Russell Refuge, Mont. Oct. 29 (RS). Bald Eagles were quite common in migration through Saskatchewan, Manitoba and North Dakota, with 9 along the river at Saskatoon Nov. 4, nine in a deserted farmyard near Imperial, Sask. Nov. 11, ten near Oak L., Man Nov. 8, seven at Upham, N.D. Nov. 20 and 21 at Pickstown S.D. Nov. 24.

OSPREY, FALCONS — Ospreys were sighted at 11 localities. One dark Gyrfalcon and one with some white, were seen at Del Bonita, Alta. Oct. 23 (CDB, PH), a gray phase was at Lipton, Sask. Nov. 22 (RDR), another gray at Deuel Co., S.D. Oct. 8 (BKH), and a white bird at Upham, N.D. Oct. 30 (AKT). There were sightings of more than 80 Prairie Falcons at 20 localities and of 34 Peregrine Falcons at 13 localities, including 7 at Saskatoon Sept. 4-Oct. 9. Pigeon Hawks were commoner than for many years at White Bear and Raymore, Sask. with 49 sightings on 32 dates at Saskatoon.

WHOOPIING CRANES — There were as many Whooping Cranes sighted in Saskatchewan and North Dakota as reached Aransas; if some escaped observation, others no doubt were seen at two stops. The following Saskatchewan observations, compiled by Murv. Baker at the Museum of Natural History, are of adults except when specified: one at L. Kutawagan Aug. 18-Sept. 1, one at Chaplin Aug. 18, one at Shellbrook Sept. 5, 6 at Lockwood Sept. 15, 2 at Livelong Sept. 21, 2 at Conquest Sept. 22-25, 3 at Coleville Sept. 24, 4 plus 2 imm. at Dorintosh Sept 30-Oct. 1, 3 near Kindersley Sept. 26-Oct 10, 2 at Bradwell Oct. 1-6, 2 plus 1 imm, at Glaslyn Oct 2, 2 Elbow Oct. 2-8, 2 plus 1 imm. at Froude Oct 2-7, one at Wynyard Oct. 3-11, one plus 1 imm at Bromhead Oct. 5, one at Ibsen Oct. 5, 2 at Khedive Oct. 9, 5 at Macoun Oct. 9, one at Wolseley Oct 11, 2 plus 1 imm. at Langham Oct. 22-25. In North Dakota, single adults were seen at Coleharbor Sept 18-19, at Moffit Sept. 25-Oct. 4, near Garrison Oct 9-10 and 2 near Ambrose Oct. 15 (DCM, RLW, WES)

SANDHILL CRANE, RAILS, COOT — Both in Saskatchewan and at Kidder Co., N.D., Sandhills were accompanied by fewer young than ever before recorded. Yet there were a record 4000 at Hanley Oct 7 and 7000, 20,000 and 8000 at Kutawagan L. Sask. on Aug. 25, Sept. 17 and Oct. 8, as well as 20,000 at the Charles M. Russell Refuge, Mont., Nov 3. An imm. Virginia Rail found in Calgary Sept. 28 was the first record for the area (HP). A Yellow Rail was dead at the Omega Tower, LaMoure, N.D. Oct 3 (MLA). Am. Coots peaked at 40,000 at Benton L. Refuge, Mont. Oct. 1 and 36,121 at Valley City, N D. Sept. 14.

PLOVER, SANDPIPERS — Although many more *Am Golden Plover* are seen in spring migration, fall records included one at Calgary Sept. 16, 2 at Rosetown Oct. 8, one at Saskatoon Sept. 17 & Oct. 7 and at Sheho, Sask. Oct. 1, 300 at Grand Forks Aug. 17, 8 at LaMoire Oct. 18 and 8 observations in S. Dakota, including 350 on a recently harvested alfalfa field at Meckling Oct. 7. A *Curlew Sandpiper*, observed carefully at Benton L. Refuge May 14, was not reported earlier (Jas. K. Brown). An unverified possible sighting of a *Terek Sandpiper* at Churchill, Man. July 13 (Jas. Akers) was enhanced in credibility by a sighting of the same Eurasian species in Washington state (cf. Northern Pacific Coast Region).

GULLS, TERN, OWL — A *Glaucous Gull* was photographed at Calgary Oct. 31-Nov. 9 (BL, RP, HP). A *Mew Gull* was seen at Calgary Sept. 13 and Oct. 4-11 (DVW, VL). On Oct. 6, 3028 *Franklin's Gulls* passed near Yankton in 18 minutes (WH). A *Sabine's Gull* near High River, Alta. Oct. 1 was a furthest south record for that province (C.F.N.S.). A *Caspian Tern* was noted at Nipawin Aug. 27 (SDR). *Short-eared Owls* were absent or in low numbers at all locations, except at Benton L. Refuge, Mont., with 50 all fall (GAH).

POOR-WILL, WOODPECKER, FLYCATCHER — A *Poor-will* was observed near Buffalo, S.D. Sept. 10 (DA). A *Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker* was seen at Regina Sept. 26 (GFL). A *Great Crested Flycatcher* near Carseland Sept. 9 was the first Calgary area record (GA, WB).

CORVIDS — There were a record 50 *Com. Ravens* within Nipawin all fall, and they spread south across the prairies as they may not have done since the buffalo days nearly a hundred years ago. Singles at White Bear Oct. 24 and Spring Valley Oct. 17 were the first ever recorded, while 10 at Rosetown Nov. 17, 15 at Saskatoon Oct. 29, 19 at Sheho Nov. 7, and 15 at Katepwe, Sask. Nov. 1 together with 13 at Oak Lake, Man. Oct. 20, were the largest numbers ever. There were also 2 ravens at Grand Forks Nov. 11 (RLR), one near Pettibone Oct. 22 (RES) and 2 at Embden, N.D. Oct. 18 (PL). A widespread crow migration was underway Sept. 23; 1000 at Stettler, Alta., over 10,000 at Grenfell, Sask. where they covered 160 acres of stubble and were 4 deep along 1½ miles of highway, 400 at Brandon, Man. and 500 at Foxholm, N.D. On Oct. 1, nearly 10,000 gathered just north of Audubon Refuge and on Oct. 5 there were "untold numbers" along 42 mi of highway between Beach and Belfield, N.D. with 1000 counted in 1½ mi. On Oct. 12 a loose flock of 336 flew by in 4 minutes near Yankton, S.D.

Clark's Nutcrackers were seen at Stony Plain, Glenevis and Edmonton, Alta. (RWT), near Saskatoon Nov. 18-23 (SJS) and above usual numbers at Rapid City beginning Oct. 28 (B.H.A.S.).

CHICKADEE, NUTHATCHES — The first *Boreal Chickadees* for S. Dakota were one at Altamont Nov. 2-3 (BKH, K. Husmann) and one photographed

and banded at Brookings Nov. 12 (NH). *White-breasted Nuthatches* are established as a regular fall visitor in Alberta, with 2 at Sylvan Lake Oct. 28 (HSA), one at Carseland Nov. 18 (C.F.N.S.) and 4 in Calgary Oct. 14 (Anna Mazurek). *Red-breasted Nuthatches* were generally common with many at Fargo and the "most ever" in S. Dakota.

WRENS, MOCKINGBIRD, SOLITAIRE — A *Winter Wren* was seen n. of Rosetown, Sask. Aug. 24 (DHR) while a *Carolina Wren* at Hargrave, Man. Nov. 14 was the farthest west record for Canada and the fifth accidental record for Manitoba (RWS). A *Rock Wren* at Sprague Oct. 11 was also a third Manitoba record (KC, DRMH, HWRC). A *Mockingbird* was present at Thornhild, Alta. all fall (Louise Macyk); at Winnipeg, there were 2 from Aug. 3, but one disappeared Oct. 29 (OS) while the other stayed into December; one was at nearby Stonewall Nov. 5-13 (KG) and another at Fargo Nov. 30 (AMB). *Townsend's Solitaires* appeared singly at Rosetown Oct. 6-8, Regina Oct. 14, Fargo Oct. 11 and increased at Rapid City (DHR, RLS, M.D. Moore, B.H.A.S.).

WARBLERS — Warbler migration is particularly unpredictable and seems to depend on the vagaries of the weather. Although Rosetown in largely open farmland had a great migration with 16 species, including 209 *Wilson's*, warblers bypassed Grenfell, both *Tennessees* and *Orange-crowns* were scarce at Kenmare and the migration was the poorest in 10 years at Sioux Falls. Imagine then, a solitary *New Yorker*, completely unfamiliar with the area, stumbling on an unprecedented warbler migration in Assiniboine Park, Winnipeg! In a narrow strip of wooded riverbank, swarming with children and bicycles, Bob Arbib identified over 900 warblers of 23 species in 3 hours, Sept. 4-5. Perhaps we should ascribe this to a combination of skill and colossal luck, but I'd rather use a Canadian explanation: "good, clean living." [?-Ed.].

A ♂ *Golden-winged Warbler* was at Regina Oct. 1 (Ferne Lawrence, GFL) and another was dead at the Omega Tower, LaMoire, N.D. Oct. 3 (MLA). The first *Black-throated Blue Warbler* for Saskatoon was a ♀ Sept. 19 (SJS), with similar firsts at Fort Peck Oct. 4 (CC), Kenmare Sept. 13 (AMG) and Yankton Sept. 26 (WH). A *MacGillivray's Warbler* at Regina Sept. 16 was the second for the city (Betty Binnie).

TANAGER, FRINGILLIDS — A *W. Tanager* photographed Sept. 16-17 was a first fall record for Moose Jaw (EWK). Two *Cardinals* were seen at Max L., Turtle Mtn. Park, Man. Nov. 15 (R. Squires, P. Hale). A *Golden-crowned Sparrow* Oct. 12-13 was the first Calgary record (HP, CR), while another wandered near Kindersley, Sask. Sept. 26 (JMH). There were 200 *Smith's Longspurs* at Alice, N.D. Oct. 10 (PL) and one was dead at Omega Tower, Oct. 13 (MLA).

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Note: The 116 names above are those whose initials accompany unusual observations, those who observed interesting numbers of usual birds mentioned in the report, and those who contributed to the summarized raptor observations. An additional 230 ornithologists contributed, without counting another 32 farmers and sportsmen who reported Whooping Cranes to the museum. Total this season: 378 observers.

Once again I have balked at including observers' initials beside reports of easily identified birds. I pray that Bill Anaka, for example, will forgive me for omitting his initials after his Sept. 18 arrival date for Whistling Swans at Spirit Lake; readers hopefully will bless me, since accounts are infinitely more readable when not cluttered with initials. I am more concerned that this has resulted in a bias in favor of listing raptor observers. It is unfair to those who made equally valuable waterfowl or warbler observations, which were squeezed out by such bias and lack of space. — C. STUART HOUSTON (and Mary I. Houston), 863 University Drive, Saskatoon, Sask. S7N OJ8.

SOUTHERN GREAT PLAINS REGION / Frances Williams

1972 will be remembered for the fall when everything happened: invasions, irruptions, summer residents staying very late, winter residents arriving extremely early, transients arriving early and remaining long after normal departure dates, and the nesting of an exotic species new in the Region. Lynn Willcockson in

Denver noted that there were 53 species with new early arrival dates and 68 species with new late departure dates. Many other contributors also commented on what Keith Arnold called a "weird migration" and Hazel Nichols a "crazy-mixed-up scene." The invasion of plains cities by montane jays, Red Crossbills and other northern and/or mountain species was unparalleled. At all three localities where they appeared, Monk Parakeets could not at first be identified. Experts had to be located and persuaded to come look!

A few periods of peak migration can be discerned: Sept. 19-20, which was cool and rainy in much of the Region; Sept. 30-Oct. 3, another push of cool air; Oct. 19-20, when Warren Pulich reported a kill of 65 birds of 17 species at a TV tower in Dallas; Nov. 18-22, a very remarkable late migration at Hays, Kans., when 650 birds were netted, mostly Tree and Harris' Sparrows.

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS — Com. Loons arrived in the Region Oct. 4 and by the 20th were present on many of the larger reservoirs. An Arctic Loon was sighted at Denver Nov. 10 (D.F.O.). There was an unusual number of W. Grebes in the Region: Lancaster Co., Neb., Sept. 30 (L&BP) & Nov. 19 (MeW); Tulsa, Oct. 16-29 (T.A.S.); Clayton, N. Mex., Oct. 15 (AK); L. Meredith in the Texas panhandle, Nov. 26 (KS); Buffalo L. Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Tex., Sept. 24-Oct. 16 (T.P.A.S.); Dallas Sept. 30 (D.C.A.S.); Tarrant Co., Tex., Oct. 12-16 (L&AB). White Pelicans at Barr L., near Denver, Aug. 26 (D.F.O.) and in the Wichita Mts., Okla., Aug. 13 (JDT) were early. Good flights were noted through the central part of the Region, Sept. 22-Oct. 29. One



remained at Ft Collins until Nov 5 (RS) and one recently dead was found at Midland, Tex., on the late date of Nov. 19 (TJ).

HERONS — Although Green Herons are common in the e. half of the Region, their occurrence in the west is noteworthy: Otero Co., Colo., Aug. 19 (D.F.O.); Big Spring, Tex., Oct. 22 (Paul, SC); Cherry Creek Res., Colo., Oct. 14 (JRe). Little Blue Herons were noted in several areas in the Texas panhandle, Sept 10-14 (JJ, KS) and in Brazos Co., Tex., Oct. 21 (GFC *et al.*). Cattle Egrets continue to increase and extend their range. In Colorado, two were observed Sept. 16 in Adams Co. (TM *et al.*) and two in Pueblo Co., Oct. 23 constituted a second record (DGn) In Tom Green Co., Tex., 176 were counted Sept 2-9 (TCM). A small flock remained in Midland until the late date of Nov. 19 (TJ). Other records include 75 in Parker Co., Tex., Aug. 26 (J&MRL); 60 in Bell Co., Sept. 8 (MaW). Two Com. Egrets in Washington Co., Colo., Sept. 20 were not only unusual but late (VR). A Snowy Egret sighted in Washington Co., Tex., Nov. 5 was late (B.O.S.). A Louisiana Heron remained in Bell Co., Aug. 18-Sept. 4 (MaW). A Black-crowned Night Heron at Hays, Kans., Oct. 13 was a second record there (CAE). Least Bitterns were noted in Tom Green Co., Aug. 26 (TCM) and Brazos Co., Aug. 31 (KAA). An Am. Bittern was found dead at Tulsa Sept. 20, where there was only one previous fall record (PK). Two were sighted in Tom Green Co., Sept. 30 (TCM).

STORKS, IBISES, SPOONBILL — About 600 Wood Ibises were observed in Dallas Sept. 30 (D.C.A.S.). Good numbers of White-faced Ibis moved across the plains Aug. 14-Oct. 15. White Ibis were sighted at Dallas Aug. 16 (BV, AH) and Tyler Sept. 15 (OCS). A Roseate Spoonbill was present in Cleveland Co., Okla., Sept. 14 (PB, VC).

WATERFOWL — White-fronted Geese were unusually common during late October. Only 75,000 Snow and Blue Geese were estimated at Plattesmouth Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Neb., in mid-November. Refuge personnel noted a decline in young birds (*vide* MeW) In Payne Co., Okla., 20 Blue Geese were observed, Sept. 27 (ZM). Two Ross' Geese were netted at Buffalo Lake Refuge the last of November (*vide* KS) Black-bellied Tree Ducks which were present in Washington Co., Tex. from early August to Oct. 25 may have nested in the area (TMO *et al.*). Cinnamon Teal were noted in Tulsa, Aug. 22, a very early date (A&BR). This species was observed in Tom Green Co., where it is rare in the fall, Sept. 30, Nov. 11-12 (TCM). A Greater Scaup was recovered from a hunter's bag in Deaf Smith Co., Tex., Nov. 11 (MSu) and one was found dead in Huerfano Co., Colo. the same day (DGri). One in McLennan Co., Tex., Nov. 24 was a first record there (LMB). White-winged Scoters appeared in Tulsa, Oct. 19 (A&BR) and Lancaster Co., Neb., Nov. 5 & 19 (L&BP, MeW). Surf Scoters were sighted at Tulsa Nov. 2 (A&BR); Buffalo Lake Refuge Oct. 22 to end of period (KS, mob); Johnson Co., Tex., Oct. 30-Nov. 4 (mob); Keene, Tex., Oct. 28 (WE).

BIRDS OF PREY — Migrating flocks containing 100 or more Turkey Vultures were sighted over the Wichita Mts., Sept. 28 (JDT) and south of Denton, Tex., Oct. 7 (JKn). During a 170-mile trip from Wichita, Kans. to Kansas City in late October, 125 hawks were counted (MM). Late migrant flocks of Mississippi Kites were seen in Brazos Co., Oct. 8 (L&BD) and Tom Green Co., Oct. 13 (CCW) Goshawks appeared at Sumner Co., Kans., Nov. 5 (KK, mob); Amarillo, Oct. 25 (JKo) and one was found dead at Shawnee, Kans., Nov. 9 (MLM). The number of Sharp-shinned Hawks remains low, with only 32 reports in the Region; several of these may be repeated sightings of the same bird. Harlan's Hawks were noted at Pueblo Oct. 22 (VT, mob) and Lawton, Okla., Oct. 19-Nov. 26 (JDT). There were six records in the Denver area during October (D.F.O.). Broad-winged Hawks were west of their normal range in Adams Co., Colo., Sept. 24 (D.F.O.); Boulder Oct. 13 (SL); Buffalo Lake Refuge Oct. 1 (KS); Midland Sept. 21-24 (M.N.); San Angelo Sept. 16 (CCW, mob). Only three flocks of Swainson's Hawks were reported: Payne Co., Okla., 35 individuals, Oct. 5 (DI); Comanche Co., Okla., 20 birds Sept. 26 (CR); Schleicher Co., Tex., 310 birds Oct. 10 (CCW). Rough-legged Hawks were common near Denver (D.F.O.) and Pawnee Nat'l Grassland (DKP) in November. Twelve of this species near Clayton, New Mex., Nov. 16 was an unusual number (AK).

— S.A. —

The place to see Ferruginous Hawks in west Texas in the winter is in prairie dog towns. The hawks spend a great deal of time sitting on the ground among the "dogs" and Burrowing Owls, or perched on low shrubs at the edge of the towns. The "dogs" take alarm and dive into their holes if a hawk circles overhead, but ignore the hawks on the ground.

A Harris' Hawk was sighted in Jackson Co., Okla., Oct. 9 (JA). There is no specimen of this species for Oklahoma. Golden Eagles were sighted 32 times in the Region. While this is not a large number, their presence at localities as far east as Dallas, Ft. Worth and Bell Co., Tex. may indicate an increase in population. The Bell County eagle was found shot Dec 6 (MaW). Only 16 Bald Eagles were reported. Ospreys were reported 56 times, on dates from Aug. 15 to Oct 29. The greatest number occurred Sept. 29-Oct 5 Caracaras continue to move north and east in Texas. Recent records include Falls Co., Oct. 18 (RW); Freestone Co., Sept. 17 (GFC); McLennan Co., Aug 29 (MBu). There were 22 reports of Prairie Falcons and only ten of Peregrine Falcons. Pigeon Hawks were sighted in Osage Co., Okla., Oct. 15-Nov. 4 (B.A.S.), Hays Oct. 15 (MER); Ovid, Colo., Nov. 26 (MSC), McLennan Co., Sept. 20 (LMB); Stephens Co., Okla., Nov. 8 (JGra). At Pawnee Grasslands, four Pigeon Hawks were seen at once, Oct. 27 (D.F.O.).

CRANES, RAILS — Several thousand Sandhill Cranes remained at Buffalo Lake Refuge until Nov. 20, unusually late (MSu), and were abundant in the Lubbock-Tahoka area to the south. By contrast, num-

bers in the Stanton-Big Spring still farther south were much reduced. Farmers in the latter area are growing cotton instead of grains, and ranchers are feeding their cattle alfalfa pellets instead of grain, which was formerly shared with the cranes. These changes have eliminated the food supply which formerly fed 50-75,000 Sandhill Cranes every winter. At Omaha Oct. 6, a Virginia Rail flew into a window and was stunned, but subsequently recovered (MPI). At L. Meredith there were 4 Virginia Rails Nov. 26 (KS). Soras appeared at Tulsa Aug. 26-Sept. 29 for the first time since 1961, with as many as 6 present at one time (A&BR). Soras were noted at Oklahoma City Sept. 2 (JGN) and Buffalo L. Sept. 3 (KS), but the peak of the Sora flight occurred Sept. 15-16, when 40 were sighted near Snyder, Tex. (JH) and a dozen or more were heard at Midland (TJ). A Yellow Rail in Brazos Co., Oct. 7 was a first record there (GFC, OG).

SHOREBIRDS — Snowy Plovers were sighted in Stephens Co., Okla., Sept. 25 (S.C.A.S.) and Lancaster Co., Aug. 19 (L&BP). One in Midland Nov. 11 was late (TJ). Piping Plovers were recorded in Dallas Co. Aug. 26 (WP, mob) and Oklahoma City Sept. 10 (JGN). Am. Golden Plovers are seldom recorded in the fall, but this year were noted at Hagerman Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Tex., Sept. 30 (CRB); Brazos Co., Oct. 20 (GFC); Oklahoma City Sept. 16-Oct. 7 (JGN); Washington Co., Okla., Sept. 30 (DGo). Ruddy Turnstones were reported at Tulsa Aug. 4 (A&BR), Oct. 9-28 (T.A.S.) and Oklahoma City Aug. 5 (JRo). Normal shorebird migration occurs late July to mid-September. This year, shorebirds were very low in numbers, even absent from some localities during normal peak periods. Maximum numbers appeared this fall as late as mid-October in Payne Co. (ZM) and Nov. 5 in Dallas (HN). An Am. Woodcock collected in Ellis Co., Kans., Nov. 20 constituted a first record there (CAE), and one was sighted in McLennan Co., Nov. 23 (YD). A Whimbrel appeared in Tom Green Co., Sept. 6 (TCM). A Knot was photographed at Big Spring, Tex., Sept. 1 (Paul). In the Denver area, 63 Pectoral Sandpipers were counted Sept. 16 (D.F.O.). A Pectoral Sandpiper in Brazos Co., Nov. 10 was 24 days later than any previous record (KAA). Dunlins were sighted at Tulsa Oct. 9-12 (A&BR) and Oklahoma City Nov. 5, 11 (JGN). Short-billed Dowitchers were carefully studied at close range and also identified by voice in Randall Co., Tex., Sept. 4 (KS) and Hagerman Refuge, Sept. 23 (KH, CRB). At Midland, 90 Long-billed Dowitchers on Nov. 5 represented a new high count of that species (TJ). At Denver, 145 Stilt Sandpipers were counted Sept. 16 (D.F.O.). A Western Sandpiper in McLennan Co., Aug. 25 was a first record there (LMB); Buff-breasted Sandpipers were found across the Region, Aug. 3-Sept. 25.

PHALAROPES, GULLS, TERNS — Two Red Phalaropes visited Dallas Sept. 6 (D.C.A.S.) and one was later collected (WP). The remaining one was last seen Sept. 20. Wilson's Phalaropes lingered at Hays until Oct. 15 (CAE) and Midland until Nov. 5 (TJ). Northern Phalaropes were observed at many localities, Aug. 31-Oct. 15. A Black-legged Kittiwake was

observed at Tulsa Nov. 5-7 (A&BR, mob) Sabine's Gulls were noted in Crowley Co., Colo., Sept. 9-10 (VT, mob) and Pueblo Co., Sept. 25 (DRri). In view of George M. Sutton's statement (1967) that "thirty terns of general appearance of *S. hirundo* collected since 1951 in effort to obtain that species have proved to be *S. forsteri*," it is difficult for an editor to decide what to do with the multitude of Com. Tern records reported each fall. Certainly all observers who report Com. Terns are sincere in their belief that their identification is correct. A Gull-billed Tern in McLennan Co., Aug. 21-25 was a new record there (LMB). A Least Tern in Washington Co., Colo., Sept. 2 was noteworthy (JRe).

DOVES, PARAKEETS, CUCKOOS — A Ground Dove was collected in Tom Green Co., Oct. 15 (TCM). This species was also seen in Schleicher Co. in October (CCW) and in Midland, Oct. 5 (ME, FW), both first county records. Ground Doves in Brazos Co. in October and November were the first occurrences during those months (KAA). An Inca Dove visited a feeder in Altus, Okla. regularly during October and November (VEE).

— S.A. —

Monk Parakeets have reached the southern plains. A pair began building a nest at Norman, Okla., Sept. 7 and worked on it intermittently all fall. Dr. Sutton writes, "On December 1, the two parakeets were busy at and near their big nest, carrying in twigs which they continue to add. Warren Harden, Keever Greer, and I observed the birds for some time during the middle of the day. With the help of fire department equipment we went to the nest, finding it empty. The nest has steadily grown larger. There seems to be no lining, but the thought occurs to me that eggs (laid long since) might be buried under the twigs of the bottom. This is a South Temperate Zone species, of course, so this is their breeding season. [The parakeets quickly adapt to northern hemisphere seasons for their breeding, however. — Ed.] The nest is in a big tree at the Clomer Hames residence." Monk Parakeets were also noted nest-building at Tulsa, Sept. 20 (ESi, PK) and Omaha, Oct. 27 (TBr *et al.*).

A Yellow-billed Cuckoo remained at Barr, Colo. until the late date, Oct. 8 (LWi). Black-billed Cuckoos were sighted at San Angelo Sept. 3 & 5 (CCW); Hays Sept. 12 (CAE); Brazos Co., Aug. 29 (MJH). A Groove-billed Ani appeared at San Angelo Sept. 19-21 (TCM, mob).

OWLS, GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS — Five pairs of Barn Owls were still nesting at Dallas in late September, and young remained in the nest as late as Oct. 21 (RL, VD). A Burrowing Owl found dead in Tarrant Co., Oct. 25 was a first record (VD). Short-eared Owls were reported only at Hays Nov. 19 (CAE) and Oklahoma City Nov. 4 (JGN). A Whip-poor-will was noted in Brazos Co., Oct. 13, a late date (GFC). Flocks of migrating Com. Nighthawks were observed at Tulsa Sept. 27 (ESi) and Payne Co., Sept. 20 (DI). A flock

of Chimney Swifts estimated at 1000 birds was sighted at Tulsa Aug 16 (ESi, PK). Five were located at La Junta, Colo., Aug. 19 (D.F.O.). White-throated Swifts remained until Nov. 10 s.w. of Clayton (AK).

HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHER, AND WOODPECKERS — Hummingbirds were abundant throughout the Region and remained at feeders until late in November. Rufous Hummingbirds occurred as far east as Dallas Sept. 30 (DE) and Washington Co., Okla., Sept. 20 (ED). Two Calliope Hummingbirds at Midland Sept. 13-19 represented a second record there (GP, mob). A Green Kingfisher in Tom Green Co., Nov. 18 made a second record (TCM). A Yellow-shafted Flicker was recorded at Pawnee Grassland, Sept. 21 for the first time (DKP). Golden-fronted Woodpeckers were found at Dallas Oct. 22, Nov. 8 (BV) and Nov. 20 (EHa). Six Red-headed Woodpeckers were at Pueblo throughout the period (VT), with one at Hagerman Refuge, Sept. 14-17 (CRB), and one at Hays Oct. 12 (CAE). A Lewis' Woodpecker in Adams Co., Colo., Sept. 16 was out of habitat (D F O.).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — At Clayton, 40 Cassin's Kingbirds were counted Sept. 12 (AK, WC). Great Crested Flycatchers were west of their normal range at Midland Aug. 23 (JKi) and San Angelo Sept. 6 (TCM, mob). This species remained at Omaha until Oct. 10 (MeW). A Black Phoebe was sighted at Buffalo L., Nov. 19 (KS). A flock of 8000 swallows spent Oct. 2-3 at Hagerman Refuge (CRB, KH). From Oct. 18-21, flights of swallows were noted at Tulsa, Tarrant Co. and Brazos Co.

— S.A. —

CORVIDS — The season's highlight was the massive invasion of the plains by montane corvids. Nothing remotely approaching the magnitude of this invasion could be recalled by any of the contributors. Some flocks of Pinyon Jays were found in "cedar breaks" along river valleys, but Scrub and Steller's Jays and Clark's Nutcrackers were recorded mostly in the cities. Space is lacking to give dates and observers, but following are the localities: *Steller's Jay*, Denver, Pueblo, Colorado Springs, Ft. Collins, Loveland, Longmont, Amarillo; *Scrub Jay*, Otero & Crowley Cos., Ft. Collins, Loveland, Clayton, Amarillo; *Pinyon Jay*, Longmont, Denver, Boulder, Clayton, Elk City, Okla., Amarillo, Buffalo L., Crockett Co., Tex.; *Clark's Nutcracker*, Longmont, Denver, Colorado Springs, Pawnee Grassland, Hays, Ellis, Louisville, Neb., Clayton, Norman, Hemphill Co., Tex., Randall Co., Tex., Terry Co., Tex., Moore Co., Tex., Buffalo L. Wichita Mts. Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Fletcher, Okla. (first specimen for state).

TITMICE, NUTHATCHERS, CREEPERS, WRENS — Mrs. Myers, at Shawnee, Kans., reported an unusual hazard to small birds. A Tufted Titmouse became entangled in a Beggar's-lice (*Cynoglossum officinale?*). Its wings were trapped by the multitudi-

nous stickers rendering the bird helpless until Mrs. Myers freed it. Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported throughout the Region. The earliest arrival was at Amarillo Aug. 25 (PA), although they did not appear at some southern localities until late October. Brown Creepers were also more common than normally, with most arrival dates in early October. There was an influx of Winter Wrens Oct. 11-17. A Carolina Wren was observed in Amarillo Oct. 2 (PA).

MIMIDS, THRUSHES, KINGLETS, WAXWINGS — A Catbird lingered in Coryell Co., Tex to the late date, Nov. 15 (LMB). Sage Thrashers at Hagerman Refuge Nov. 4 (KH, CRB) and Fort Worth in late November (JMS) were east of their normal winter range. A Varied Thrush was sighted at Omaha Nov. 20 and was found dead Nov. 24. The specimen is at the University of Nebraska (MeW, mob). Wood Thrushes were observed at Lawton, Okla., Oct. 16-17 (JMM); and in Texas at College Station Oct. 23 (R&VK); Bryan Oct. 29 (L&BD); Pueblo Co., Oct. 23-Nov. 2 (DB); Borger (MF). Numbers of Wood, Hermit and Swainson's Thrushes were noted at Dallas Sept. 16 through October (D.C.A.S.). Swainson's Thrushes at Midland Aug. 26 (JKi) and Amarillo Sept. 26 (EST) were the first in several years. A Gray-cheeked Thrush in the Denver area Sept. 16 provided a first fall record there (TM *et al.*). Veerys were noted in Adams Co., Colo., Sept. 16 (D.F.O.); Hays and Ellis Cos. (dates not noted, CAE). Good flights of E. Bluebirds were observed at Shawnee (MLM) and Payne Co. (ZM) Oct. 7-8. Townsend's Solitaires were recorded at Boys Town Nov. 11-13 (L&BP, mob), Wichita Mts. Refuge Nov. 11 (JDT, JMM); Fort Worth Nov. 15 (JMS). Golden-crowned Kinglets were numerous and widespread. Bohemian Waxwings were reported at Boulder Oct. 27 (SL); Otero Co., Nov. 18 (VT); Longmont in mid-November (AC); Ft. Collins Nov. 28 (FH). There were 200 birds at the latter locality.

VIREO, WARBLERS — A Philadelphia Vireo at Hays Oct. 3-6 provided a third fall record (CAE). A Black-and-white Warbler was still at Omaha on the late date of Nov. 10 (JGre). A Prothonotary Warbler at Tulsa Sept. 31 was late (A&BR), as was a Golden-winged Warbler at Shawnee Oct. 23 (MLM). A Blue-winged Warbler at Bryan Aug. 26, 31 made a first fall record there (L&BD). A Tennessee Warbler was located at Longmont Sept. 25 (AC) and one was found dead at Hays Nov. 30 (EKS). A Magnolia Warbler at Bryan Oct. 22-23 provided a second fall record (L&BD); others were sighted near Denver Sept. 13 (JRe) and Longmont Sept. 25 (AC). A Black-throated Blue Warbler at Bartlesville Aug. 24 was early (SM), and records at Denver Sept. 16 (D.F.O.) and Hays, Sept. 28 (MER) were noteworthy. A Black-throated Green Warbler at College Station Nov. 10 was late (KAA). Chestnut-sided Warblers were recorded at Longmont Sept. 11 (AC); Shawnee Oct. 15 (MLM), Ft. Worth Sept. 5 (MPar, JMS); Hays Sept. 17 (CAE). A Bay-breasted Warbler at Midland, Oct. 8 represented a second record there (TJ), while one at Shawnee Nov. 11 was late (MLM). Blackpolls were

noted at Denver, Sept. 13 (JRe) and Longmont, Oct. 4 (AC). A Pine Warbler at Longmont, Sept. 13 was one of the few occurrences there. An Ovenbird was observed in Fletcher Nov. 28-Dec. 1, more than two months after it should have left the state (CR). A Louisiana Waterthrush collected at Hays Sept. 8 constituted a first record there (CAE). A Kentucky Warbler at Midland Aug. 26 provided a third record there (JKi). A MacGillivray's Warbler was located in Ft. Collins on the late date of Oct. 15 (FH). A Canada Warbler at Norman Oct. 23 was a month late (HC).

ICTERIDS—In Randall Co., Tex., 10,000 Yellow-headed Blackbirds were estimated, Sept. 13 (PA). A Baltimore Oriole was observed at Boulder Aug. 25 (ABC). Another lingered at Tulsa until the late date of Oct. 6 (LR). Rusty Blackbirds visited Hays Oct. 15 and Nov. 18 (MER). Brewer's Blackbirds arrived at Bryan Sept. 15, one month early (I&BD).

FRINGILLIDS—Black-headed Grosbeaks were found east to Bartlesville, a first record, Sept. 15 (SM); Lawton Sept. 21 (JMM); Ft. Worth Sept. 9 (JMS). A Lazuli Bunting was noted at Ft. Collins Nov. 13 (GF), a very late date. A Dickcissel at College Station Nov. 30 was also late (KAA). Evening Grosbeaks appeared in good numbers in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma by mid-October, but the only report in Texas was at Amarillo, Oct. 20-29 (LF). A Cassin's Finch at Clayton Sept. 23 made a second record there (AK). Pine Grosbeaks were sighted at Pueblo Oct. 11 (JL, mob) and Omaha Nov. 24 (CJ). Gray-crowned Rosy Finches arrived early at Pawnee Grassland Nov. 30 (DKP). Com. Redpolls at Ft. Collins were also early on Nov. 13 (DL). This species again appeared at Bellevue, Neb., where it was abundant last winter (MeW). Pine Siskins arrived early and in large numbers in Oklahoma and Texas. The irruption of Red Crossbills into the plains eclipsed all other news except the jay invasion. They were mentioned in the reports of 17 contributors, well scattered through the Region. Crossbills arrived at Hays in mid-July, and at Ft. Collins, Aug. 28, but most other arrival dates were in October. Many contributors stated that crossbills were a "first" in their area, but Mrs. Wigg at Omaha noted a more startling observation: a flock was seen feeding on *Cannabis sativa!* At San Angelo, 15 Green-tailed Towhees were located on Oct. 8 (CCW). Grasshopper Sparrows were abundant in w. Texas (M.N.), probably because of the excellent grass seed crop following fall rains. Baird's Sparrows were sighted in Kiowa Co., Sept. 4 (VT); Pueblo Co., Sept. 7-9 (VT, mob); Crowley Co., Sept. 11 (DS); Midland Oct. 29 (TJ). Le Conte's Sparrows in Brazos Co., Sept. 28 were early (GFC). Other localities reported their arrival on the more usual mid-October dates. A Sharp-tailed Sparrow in Brazos Co., Oct. 21 provided a first record there (BP). A Sage Sparrow was noted in Washington Co., Colo., Sept. 2 (JRe). Tree Sparrows were common at Hays (CAE) and appeared as far south as McLennen Co., Nov. 4 (BA, MBu). Migration of Chipping Sparrows was observed at Amarillo Sept. 15, when about 2000 passed over a residential area, 8:30 a.m. (PA). Clay-colored Sparrows stopped at

Tulsa Sept. 14 & 23 (A&BR) and in McLennen Co., Nov. 3 (LMB *et al.*) A Field Sparrow was noted in Kiowa Co., Sept. 4 (VT). Harris' Sparrows were common all fall at Pueblo, Ft. Collins and Colorado Springs. A Fox Sparrow was recorded at Hays, Nov. 20 and Swamp Sparrows were at the same locality, Sept. 23 and Oct. 12 (CAE). At Pawnee Grassland, there was the largest fall flight of longspurs since 1969. Peaks included 134 McCown's, Sept. 21 and 166 Lapland, Oct. 26 (DKP). Other good flights of longspurs were 2000 mixed species at Oklahoma City, Nov. 19 (JGN); 500 at Colorado Springs, Oct. 16 (MSP), 175 Smith's at Norman, Nov. 17 (WH) and a "large flock" at Amarillo, Nov. 26 (KS).

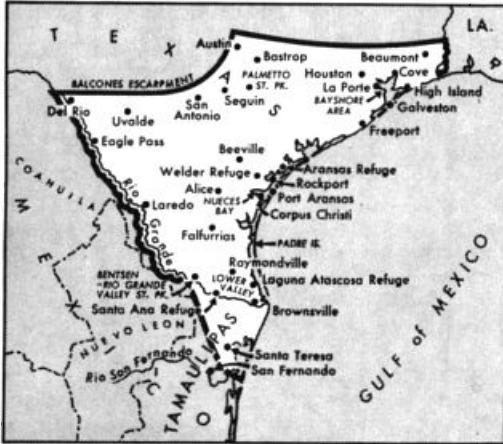
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SOUTH TEXAS REGION

/Fred S. Webster, Jr.

Fall migrants found water adequate and food supplies ample in most areas. Temperatures were mild until November 14 when the weather pattern changed

abruptly and below-seasonal temperatures took a firm grip on the entire Region; this situation prevailed into December.



LOONS, GREBES—Two Com. Loons at Brazoria Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Oct. 27 were the earliest on record there (RJF). Single Red-necked Grebes were seen at an inland pond near Mission Oct. 4 (GD) and off S. Padre I. Nov. 25 (ECR). This species is not listed in L. Irby Davis's annotated checklist, *Birds of the Rio Grande Delta Region* (Rev. 1966). Two Least Grebes were found at sewage ponds in Austin Sept. 18; they remained into winter (RTH *et al.*).

PELICANS, BOOBIES—White Pelican migration continued into mid-November in the Austin and San Antonio areas. An ad. Blue-faced Booby was sighted at sea, about 30 mi. due east of Galveston Sept. 3 (JRS).

ANHINGA, BITTERN—Flocks of Anhingas seen over Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park Sept. 20 (GD) & 29 (BY) were assumed to be migrating. Am. Bitterns were reported more frequently than usual in the Corpus Christi area (KM).

WATERFOWL—All common species of geese were present in some numbers in the Houston area by Oct. 15 (PN). Snow and Blue Geese were abundant at Cove Oct. 27 (AKM). The season's top Snow-Blue count at Brazoria Refuge was 10,000, while 33,000 were present at San Bernard Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (RJF). Blue-winged Teal were abundant at Cove by Aug. 23 (CP). A flock of 50 Canvasbacks took up residence on a pond at Ingleside, n.e. of Corpus Christi, by late October (*vide* KM); few of this species were reported elsewhere. Single White-winged Scoters were at Austin Nov. 4 (MAM) and in the Mission area Nov. 9 & 16 (GD). A ♂ Masked Duck in breeding plumage was observed at Ingleside Oct. 27 & 29 (JE, *vide* KM). Twelve Hooded Mergansers were noted at Austin Nov. 21 (MT).

HAWKS—Largest numbers of Mississippi Kites were reported from the upper coast—68 at Houston Aug. 26 (DHH) and 55 at Sour L., w. of Beaumont, Aug. 27 (EWM). A migration of Sharp-shinned (20), Cooper's (8), Marsh (10), Pigeon (2), and Sparrow (30)

Hawks was observed just w. of Corpus Christi Oct. 8 (DS). As frequently happens, reports of Broad-winged Hawks are too numerous to record in detail. The earliest reported flight was observed at Sour L. (555-EWM) and Houston (150-MA) Sept. 16. Thereafter, no significant numbers were noted until Sept. 22 when a "mass movement", lasting from noon until nightfall, was observed generally following the shoreline in the Corpus Christi area (*vide* KM); no counts are available. Farther south, at Falfurrias, some 450 hawks were recorded, southbound, in late afternoon on this date (OCB); around 500 were seen here Sept. 23 (AWO).

— S.A. —

Starting with a flight of 2000 birds over Houston Sept. 29 (MA) and 670 at Sour L. Sept. 30 (EWM), a major movement can be traced southwestward, within 50 mi. of the coast, for several days. On Oct. 1, at Hazel Bazemore Park near Corpus Christi, 500 birds were observed "sitting," presumably awaiting development of thermals; later, twice that number were airborne (DB, *vide* KM). Mrs. Donohue describes the conclusion of a flight on the same day, at Bentsen Park, on the Rio Grande. Starting at 6 p.m., and for about 30 minutes, an estimated 18,000 Broad-winged "dropped in towards the river, slanting in from the north, some dropping into trees near the river, some coasting downriver towards Anzalduas." Early on the following morning, 2 mi. e. of Mission, she found hawks "sitting in trees all around. At 8:30 a.m. a few arose and began to soar southward, but the majority sat tight. It was damp but sunny. By 9:15 they began to move. In the meantime I drove all around the area and found they covered a mile along the expressway and half a mile south. North they must have been way back, as when they began to fly they really came from the north. I counted 7732 spiraling over a 2-mi. front."

— S.A. —

Still, thousands of Broad-winged remained to cross into Mexico on subsequent days, as the following reports indicate: 3500 at Goliad, about 50 mi. n. of Corpus Christi Oct. 2 (JHP); a widely dispersed flight (1000+ seen) at Corpus Christi Oct. 4 (KM); and 1000+ at Cove Oct. 7 (AKM). Most notable count of Swainson's Hawks was 1000 near Garner State Park, flying e.s.e. in late morning of Oct. 10 (BY). Two immature Gray Hawks were seen from Farm Road 2687, near the Jim Hogg-Zapata county line (one in each county) Oct. 1 (OCB). Contributors in widely separated localities submitted at least a dozen reports of Ospreys seen singly, the first being on Sept. 3 at Bentsen Park (GD). "At least 8" were seen at Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir in Bell Co. Sept. 23, following a weak cold front (REC). A Pigeon Hawk, rare in the Rio Grande Delta, was seen at Bentsen Park Oct. 1 (BY).

CRANES, RAILS, GALLINULES—At Aransas Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, the first Whooping Crane was counted on Oct. 11, although probable arrival date was

in the range of Oct 4 to 6. The last bird to arrive was sighted on the census of Nov. 22. A count on Oct 24 was most productive, showing 24 new arrivals. A total of 46 adults and 5 young were present at the end of the year. Top count last year was 59; 56 birds flew north in spring, a family of 3 having disappeared after arrival at the refuge in December. "We have searched the Texas coast from Port Lavaca to Brownsville attempting to locate additional cranes. The Nat'l Audubon Society has also checked the coast for 170 miles into Mexico." (LBM).

A late migration of Sandhill Cranes was noted at Austin and in Bastrop Co., Nov. 4 (EAK, BR & JWW). An early Virginia Rail was at San Bernard Refuge Sept. 12 (RJF & LI). One was seen in the Mission area, where rare, Sept. 20 (GD). Common Gallinules were found to be common indeed at San Antonio's Mitchell L. Aug. 18 (JAM).

SHOREBIRDS — Six Semipalmated Plovers at Mitchell L. Sept. 23 (DW) represent a high count for this uncommon species. More unusual was a Piping Plover, believed to be the first recorded in Bexar Co.; it was seen Sept. 2 (AH, NL & JAM) & 3 (DW). One was seen at Bartlett, about 40 mi. n. of Austin, Aug. 1 (REC). A Com. Snipe appeared at Mitchell L. Sept. 3 (DW), weeks ahead of other sightings. A lone Upland Plover, flying southward over Austin at 8:05 a.m. July 23, was the first migrant reported (FSW). Unusually large numbers were seen at Bartlett, starting July 28 and continuing into September (REC). Two Knots in spring plumage were seen at Bartlett July 28 (REC). Sandpipers made an excellent showing at Mitchell L.; this was thought due to "beautification" efforts combined with ideal rainfall (CRB). Peak counts there include 97 Pectoral, 51 Baird's, and 2575+ Least on Aug. 31, and 62 Stilt and 480+ Western Sandpipers on Sept. 23 (DW). At Corpus Christi, 50 Baird's July 30 (KM) is noteworthy. Buff-breasted Sandpipers were reported in small numbers at Bartlett, San Antonio and Cove. Hudsonian Godwits, very rare in fall, were reported at Cove July 26 (1) and 27 (2 — CP & DP).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — Three imm. Pomarine Jaegers were sighted off N. Padre I. Nov. 29 (DS). In fall, Franklin's Gulls are not reported in the great numbers that are often seen in spring; even so, numbers seemed low and late this season. Flights were indicated in the Corpus Christi area Oct. 29 (DNW), at Austin Oct. 31 (with a cool front — FSW), and at Brazoria Refuge Nov. 11 (RJF). Noteworthy for numbers was sighting of 8 Forster's Terns at Bartlett Aug. 6 (REC); similarly, 277 Least Terns at High I. Aug. 29 (TBF).

DOVES, CUCKOOS, ANIS — Three Ground Doves, rare on the upper coast, were seen at Brazoria Refuge Oct. 27, the second locality record for this species (RJF). A Black-billed Cuckoo at Artesia Wells, La Salle Co., Sept. 10 (ROA) was unusual for fall.

Groove-billed Anis seemed to "explode" after the breeding season. From Hidalgo County, Mrs. Donohue wrote: "From mid-August on, after a seeming absence, many family groups of 4 or 5 everywhere. In every hedgerow along any road they were in evidence." High count at Bentsen Park was 43 on Aug. 17 and "100s" were in the Mission and Anzalduas areas Sept. 1 & 7, respectively. "But after this they seem to have disappeared again." Reports then came in from widely scattered localities, as follows: 50+ in the Laredo area Sept. 11 (BY); one in San Antonio Sept. 30 (RBP & MZ), a second county record; one at Moulton, Lavaca Co., Oct. 3 (JFH), a county first, one at Brazoria Refuge Oct. 17 (RJF); and as many as 12 in the Houston area Nov. 5 and later (SG & NR, *et al.*). From 10 to 20 were present at Aransas Refuge in November (*vide* LBM).

NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS — In Falfurrias, a late Com. Nighthawk was seen Dec. 6 (OCB). A Black Swift was sighted with a flock of Chimney Swifts at Corpus Christi Sept. 21 (KM & AWO). Last Chimney Swifts reported were seen at Cove Oct. 24 (AKM). A White-throated Swift was reported with Chimney Swifts at the Houston Yacht Club July 22 (DM).

HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS — A number of Rufous Hummingbirds added excitement to the migration at Corpus Christi (*vide* AKM). Late on the afternoon of Sept. 20, an ad. ♂ *Selasphorus* species hummingbird, accompanied by a ♀ or immature, appeared at an Austin residence. The pair seemed "very thirsty" but upon attempting to use a feeder were viciously set upon and driven away by a pair of Ruby-throateds. The unidentified ♂ had a green back (DP). A Ringed Kingfisher was seen at Hazel Bazemore Park Aug. 3 (DS).

WOODPECKERS, BECARDS, FLYCATCHERS — A southward movement of Yellow-shafted Flickers was noted n. of Hempstead, Waller Co., Oct. 1 (TBF). A Lewis' Woodpecker was reported at Garner State Park Oct. 10 (BY). A ♀ Rose-throated Becard was seen near Zapata, Zapata Co., Oct. 8 (OCB), most sightings of this species are from Hidalgo Co. Peak numbers of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were migrating through the Mission area Oct. 14 (GD) while impressive numbers yet remained in n. portions of the Region. A Kiskadee was seen at Aransas Refuge Oct. 31 (*vide* LBM) and one in Live Oak Co. Nov. 17 (CMC, *vide* KM). Good numbers of *Empidonax* species flycatchers passed through the Corpus Christi area during August (DS). An early Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and an early Olive-sided Flycatcher were seen at Seabrook, Harris Co., July 31 (TBF & NP).

SWALLOWS, JAYS, CROWS — Near Tivoli, Refugio Co., Pierce reported the following observations of Barn Swallows Oct. 15; "In the few minutes we watched, I estimated around 500,000 passing by, covering a path about ¾ to 1 mi. wide." A major movement of Blue Jays into deep South Texas occurred in October, coincident with a large crop of live oak acorns. McDaniel, who lives in Hardin Co. on the

n e edge of the Region, reported "the influx largest I have ever seen, beginning Sept 3 and building to a high about Oct. 25." Feltner reported "a very marked migration" just n. of Hempstead on Oct. 1, moving on a n. wind. The species arrived at Aransas Refuge by Oct. 6 (HP), at Beeville by Oct. 7 (AHG), and Corpus Christi by Oct. 8 (DS). Impressive numbers were reported subsequently at Victoria, Corpus Christi, Welder Wildlife Refuge, Beeville and San Antonio. Mexican Crows (30+) were found at the Brownsville city dump July 27, well ahead of their usual fall crossing of the Rio Grande (JL & RAR).

NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS, WRENS — A Red-breasted Nuthatch was seen at Falfurrias around the first of October (*vide* KM), and one at Santa Maria, Cameron Co., Dec. 2 (CEH). The first Brown Creeper was reported at Houston City Hall (C.H.) Oct. 15 (PJ) The attraction here is a small park with a reflection pool amid tall buildings of downtown Houston (TBF). Creepers reached Cove Oct. 25 (AKM), and Port Aransas, n. tip of Mustang I., Oct. 26 (WP). As usual, numbers were small. Three Winter Wrens were found at Houston C.H. Oct. 29, "feeding on spiders under limestone benches" (VLE & TBF).

CATBIRDS, THRASHERS — A push of Catbirds was indicated at Cove (AKM) and at Houston C. H. (12 — VLE) Sept. 30. Nine Brown Thrashers were at Houston C. H. on the same date (VLE). A Sage Thrasher was found at Houston Nov. 19 (MA & BGC).

ROBINS, KINGLETS, WAXWINGS — Robins apparently moved into most areas in late October but only small numbers were reported. A **Rufous-backed Robin** (*Turdus rufopalliatus*) was seen well as it drank at the edge of North L. at Santa Ana Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Aug. 15 (CMA & WAS). The presence of this Mexican endemic is inexplicable. Golden-crowned Kinglets appeared on a wide front the second half of October; earliest report was from Cove Oct. 23 (AKM). They had reached Bentsen Park by Nov. 2 (GD). Cedar Waxwings were first noted at Austin Oct. 27 (FSW), but were scarce in the Region until winter.

WARBLERS, ORIOLES — Some unusual warbler records: Worm-eating at Bentsen Park Nov. 2 (GD); **Black-throated Gray Warbler** at San Antonio Sept. 5 (GBH); Chestnut-sided at Houston C. H. Oct. 7 (VLE & TBF), 8 & 15 (PJ), Bay-breasted at Austin Oct. 22 (BR), Cove Oct. 23 (AKM), and Port Aransas Oct. 29 (WP); **Prairie Warbler** at Laguna Atascosa Refuge Aug. 10 (DHH), Mission area Sept. 5 and Anzalduas area Sept. 7 (GD); **Connecticut Warbler** at Houston C. H. Oct. 7 (VLE & TBF) and at Bentsen Park Oct. 26 (GD); Mourning Warbler at High I. Aug. 29 (TBF), Dove Aug. 31 (AKM), and reported at Houston C. H. on several occasions Sept. 17-Oct. 15; and Hooded at Freeport Nov. 15 (TBF). The woods at High I. held 26 Yellow-breasted Chats and 11 Canada Warblers Aug. 29 (TBF). Peak numbers of Orchard Orioles were at Mission Aug. 18 (GD) and at High I. Aug. 29 (TBF). A **Bullock's Oriole** was found at Houston C. H. Oct. 29 (VLE & TBF).

FRINGILLIDS — Single Black-headed Grosbeaks were seen at Bentsen Park Oct. 27 (GD) and at Austin Nov. 4 (MH). A **Lazuli Bunting** in winter plumage was feeding with Indigo Buntings at Freeport Nov. 15 (TBF). A major flight of Dickcissels passed over the Mission area Sept. 17 and 18 (GD). First Purple Finches were reported west of Austin Nov. 6 (JBA) and were observed in Houston Nov. 13 (MA); a good winter population was indicated. Pine Siskins arrived at Austin Oct. 25 (FSW) and at Ingleside Oct. 27 (50 — JE *vide* KM), but did not remain. An invasion of **Red Crossbills** provided the season's feature attraction. Sightings were as follows: sixteen at Bartlett Oct. 29-30 & Nov. 1 (REC *et al.*); 12 at Cotulla in late October (A.A.S., *vide* KM); 2 separate flocks heard on Nov. 5 — and seen on later dates — at Bastrop State Park and vicinity (RAR); 12 at Rockport Nov. 12 (BR & DNW); and 17 at Port Aransas Nov. 13 (WP). Only the birds in Bastrop County are known to have remained into winter. Three Lark Buntings at Austin Nov. 4 (EAK & BR) were unusual; this species has been all but absent from the area for many years. A Grasshopper Sparrow was observed at Houston C. H. Oct. 7 (VLE & TBF). Slate-colored Juncos were at Austin by Nov. 8 (AMW & FSW), at Corpus Christi Nov. 25 (BP), and at Rockport Nov. 27 (DNW). A Harris' Sparrow was found in the Houston area Nov. 19 (DHH). A Chestnut-collared Longspur was seen at Mitchell L. Nov. 26 (AH).

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NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN— INTERMOUNTAIN REGION / Thomas H. Rogers

The latter half of August was cool and rainy, but by the 25th hot weather returned briefly, to be replaced by a cooling trend at month's end. Subnormal temperatures were the rule during September. A stormy period,



just after mid-month brought snow to the mountains of British Columbia, and to Fortine in northwestern Montana.

October was nearly as warm as September and dry, making a mild, pleasant month, turning cold later in mountain areas with some snow in the valleys. Red Rock Lakes had a wet month, and most waters were frozen at month's end. But November had above-normal temperatures and lack of precipitation, stretching autumn into a long mild season in most areas.

The general effect of the mild weather on bird movements was that late departures and stragglers exceeded early arrivals and departures. Fortine was an exception for waterfowl, because of the early freeze-up there. The other feature of the period was the number of species "displaced" from east or west — perhaps 13 species each from the east, and from the west, with a few others from either direction, suggesting that weather conditions, including wind, were not an important factor.

The mild weather detained some species such as Oregon Junco in the mountains, or widely dispersed them, but Brown Creeper, Pine Grosbeak, and possibly Red- and White-breasted Nuthatches were in increased numbers in the lowlands. Of the "northern" finches, Evening Grosbeak and Gray-crowned Rosy Finches appeared in good numbers, but Red Crossbill did not, possibly owing to poor cone crops in the lowlands.

LOONS AND GREBES — Three Com. Loons were at Seebe, west of Calgary Sept. 4. Movement into the Bozeman area was both early (Sept. 24) and late (Nov. 19). A few loons were recorded at Umatilla Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Ore., on the Columbia R. near Richland, at McNary Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Wash., in the Spokane area, near Fortine, and near Helena until Nov. 11. An Arctic Loon was observed on Potholes Reservoir near Moses L., Wash., Oct. 18 (DB). Three Red-throated Loons closely observed at Harrison, Mont., Nov. 18, furnished only the sixth

record there (ETH & RAH). Perhaps 6 Red-necked Grebes were at Kootenai NWR, Ida., in early October, and one was on the Columbia R. at Richland Oct. 22. Singles were seen on Banks L., Oct. 7, and Park L., Grant Co., Wash. Nov. 19; 2 were seen twice in November on Coeur d' Alene L., Ida.

WATERFOWL — Peak concentrations of certain species of waterfowl reported during the period are summarized in Table 1. A group of Mute Swans noted at Cottonwood Reservoir near Walsall, Mont. in the summer were still present Sept. 16, when 11 adults were counted (RAH, PDS). The cold spell at October's end triggered a southward movement of Whistling Swans in n. Idaho and Montana west of the Continental Divide. (See Table 1.) Mild weather kept the Trumpeter Swans at Turnbull NWR dispersed, with a possible 31 wild birds joining the 3 pinioned "decoys" in the display pool. The Centennial Valley population at Red Rock Lakes NWR remained at 200. Canada Goose numbers appeared very good, with the peak at McNary NWR double that of 1971. A Cackling Goose was shot at Red Rock Lakes NWR, where it is unusual, and 20 more were seen with Canadas on Park L., Wash. Oct. 29.

White-fronted Geese were seen in increased numbers, reaching a peak of 100 in mid-October at McNary NWR, with 200 in Morrow Co., Ore. Sept. 24, and stragglers at Stratford and Richland. However, Umatilla reported a peak of 125 in October, unusually high for this far west. A single Blue Goose was identified among Canadas at Stratford Oct. 7, and two Ross' Geese were seen at close range near Richland Nov. 7 (NFM).

Mallards, as usual, far outnumbered all other species (see Table 1). Other ducks counted on the Columbia Basin censuses of Oct. 17-19 and Nov. 27-28 numbered 24,600 and 36,500, respectively. At Red Rock Lakes NWR the duck population peaked at about 45,000 from late September to mid-October. A peak of 86 Wood Ducks, largest count reported, was at Cold Springs NWR in September, with 15 still there in November; about 100 were near Naches Fish Hatchery northwest of Yakima to Nov. 16. An imm. ♂ Oldsquaw was observed at Kootenai NWR Nov. 17, a first record for the refuge. One was seen two days later at Lenore L., Wash. Two White-winged Scoters were identified at Fernan L. at Coeur d'Alene Oct. 8 (SS). Three ♀♀ or imm. Surf Scoters were sighted at Harrison, Mont. Oct. 1-2 (SC, PDS) and one was there Oct. 23 (HC, ETH, RAH, LM, PDS). Two were at Lenore L., Oct. 7 and one at Medical L., Spokane, Oct. 18. The Red-breasted Merganser was reported from the Bozeman area, where it is regular, first on Oct. 23, an early date. A belated report is of the sighting of 2 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀ on Coeur d'Alene L. May 5, 1972 (BM).

VULTURES AND HAWKS — A few Turkey Vultures were sighted during September near Spokane, at Turnbull NWR, on Yakima Indian Reservation, and around Baker, where the highest number, 8, was seen Sept. 8. The latest date was Oct. 4, when 2 were seen on Turnbull NWR. Goshawk were more common than usual near Spokane. These, along with reports from

Table 1. Peak waterfowl populations, dominant species, at major concentration areas. Autumn, 1972

	Kootenai NWR	Red Rocks Lakes NWR	Turnbull NWR	Columbia Basin	Other
Whistling Swan	Oct. 29 15 flocks of 20-50	Oct. 29, 400	late Oct., 90	late Nov., 270	Umatilla NWR Nov., 60, Lower Flathead Valley, Mont. "Spectacular," Oct. 29
Canada Goose	—	—	—	end Nov., 100,000	Stratford L., Wash. Oct. 7, 35,000, McNary NWR, late Nov., 24,000
Mallard	—	Sept. 28, 5,000	—	Oct. 17-19 158,200 Nov. 27-28 427,700	N. Idaho, late Oct., 36,000
Gadwall	—	Oct. 17, 10,000	late Nov., 725	—	—
Am Widgeon	—	Sept. 28, 11,800	—	—	—
Shoveler	—	Oct. 17, 1800	—	—	—
Redhead	—	Sept. 28, 10,600	—	—	—
Canvasback	—	Sept. 28, 4800	—	—	Umatilla NWR, Nov., 920
Lesser Scaup	—	Oct. 17, 11,400	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	Fall, 500	—	—	—	—
Com Goldeneye	late Oct., 500	—	late Nov., 3500	—	—
Barrow's Goldeneye	—	—	late Nov., 1600	—	—
Bufflehead	early Nov., 100	Sept. 28, 4400	early Nov., 100	—	—
Ruddy Duck	—	—	—	"vast numbers"	—

Red Rock Lakes, Bozeman, Fortine, Kootenai NWR, Baker, and Umatilla Nat'l Forest, Ore. suggest increased numbers, but in the s. Okanagan of British Columbia no repetition of the 1971-72 "invasion" occurred. Hawk numbers in general appeared to be good except for the Missoula and Fortine areas. The Sharp-shinned was seen only once at Missoula and was not seen all year at Fortine, where the Red-tailed was the only species considered to have maintained a relatively stable population in recent years. However, a Rough-legged Hawk there at the beginning of November was the first in about fifteen years. A dark-phased **Harlan's Hawk** was identified near Bozeman, Oct 21 (ETH, RAH, LM) and a light-phased bird was seen west of Three Forks, Mont. Oct. 23 (HC, ETH, RAH, LM, PDS). The only reports of the Ferruginous Hawk was of one Aug. 16 at Red Rock Lakes

NWR, where it is rarely seen, and one or 2 on three dates between Aug. 27 and Oct. 13 at Baker. The regular fall concentration of the Bald Eagle at West Glacier in Glacier Nat'l Park, Mont. built up from 10 on Oct 12 to a peak of 287 on Nov. 9 and had decreased to 40 on Nov. 29. About 200 of the birds were estimated to be in the Coeur d'Alene L. area at the end of the period (I.F.G.).

Fifteen Ospreys flying over Swan L. near Vernon, B.C. Sept. 10 apparently were migrating, and one was north of Richland Nov. 5 (REW). A few reports of the scarce Prairie Falcon came in from e. Oregon and Washington, from Aug. 17 to Nov. 30. Locations of falcon sightings will no longer be published, but may be obtained from the Regional Editor. The rare Peregrine Falcon was chasing shorebirds at a Montana location and four other sightings were reported from Oct

9 to Nov. 24 (CC *et al.*), in Oregon and Washington. A very few Pigeon Hawks had showed up by the end of the period. One was seen Aug. 23 but no more were noted until the more normal date of Oct. 23.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS — Populations of Blue, Spruce and Ruffed Grouse appeared low in the Fortine area and game-checking stations in s. interior British Columbia assessed numbers of the latter two species at about two-thirds normal. However, Ruffed Grouse had apparently increased at Turnbull NWR. At least 20 Sharp-tailed and 15 Sage Grouse were seen south of Creston, Wash. Sept. 17 and about a dozen of the latter were noted in the Harrington, Wash. area Nov. 26. The Japanese Green Pheasants planted near Bonners Ferry, Ida., produced numerous broods. The species has not in the past been able to sustain itself in the area. California Quail and Ring-necked Pheasant numbers appeared generally good in e. Washington but were much lower than last year in the s. Okanogan, the decrease attributed to the heavy snows of last winter and very wet weather during the last hatching season. Not many Gray Partridge were reported, except in the Clarkston, Wash. area where up to 50 were noted. Poaching, automobiles and predators took a heavy toll of the Turkeys planted last spring about 10 mi. n.e. of Bonners Ferry, making their survival doubtful.

CRANES, RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOT — Sandhill Cranes were observed between Sept. 15 and Oct. 13. Several large flocks were seen flying over Sun Lakes and Banks L., Grant Co., Sept. 23-24 and large flocks were reported in the Bozeman-Harrison area. Smaller numbers were seen elsewhere in e. Washington and Oregon. Near Helena, 3 birds believed to be subspecies *canadensis* were observed at close range under good conditions with Sandhill Cranes for about two weeks beginning Sept. 22 (SM). Single Virginia Rails were noted at Reardan Aug. 20; Yakima, an imm. Sept. 24, and Toppenish Creek, Yakima Co., Wash. Nov. 1. A Sora was seen at Reardan Aug. 20 and the latest date for the species at Fortine was Sept. 1. The birds were described as common in early September at Kootenai NWR. Am. Coot, always common in the Region, increased to 80,000 at Red Rock Lakes Sept. 28, then tapered off and dropped to zero during the first two weeks of November. Turnbull Refuge had a peak of 5000, and 10,000 were estimated for the lakes of the Grand Coulee area, Grant Co. The first Montana record, belatedly reported, for the **Common Gallinule**, is of one carefully observed at Seeley L., Missoula Co. Apr. 28, 1972 (Mr. & Mrs. CRB, *vide* PDS).

SHOREBIRDS — No more than one or 2 Semipalmated Plovers at a time were seen on a few dates between Aug. 18 and Sept. 5. Localities reporting them were Bozeman, Missoula, Reardan, and Wenas L. near Yakima. The single **Am. Golden Plover** reported was at Turnbull Refuge Sept. 4. A few Black-bellied Plovers were moving through during September and up to mid-October. The seldom-reported Upland Plover was noted in two unusual localities, Charlo, Mont., Aug.

26, the first there in 14 years observing by C. J. Henry, and Fortine, Aug. 29, only the second record in Weydemeyer's fifty-two years' observing there. The birds were not noted elsewhere. Long-billed Curlews were noted only in Morrow Co., Ore. and between Haines and N. Powder, north of Baker. In the latter area perhaps 50 or more were seen. Baird's Sandpiper numbers appeared low in some areas and a record late date of Oct. 23 for the species was obtained at Harrison Lake. The earliest date in 52 years' observing, July 15, was obtained for the Least Sandpiper at Fortine. All dowitchers observed at Fortine, carefully studied, proved to be Short-billed. One was seen Aug. 29, 2 on Sept. 8 and 5 on Sept. 29 (WW). Long-billed Dowitchers appeared at Reardan Oct. 21 in unusually large numbers, 45-50, and "especially large numbers" were noted in wet fields west of Richland Oct. 7. By contrast the species was not noted at Missoula, where it is a usually dependable fall migrant. The only migrating Stilt Sandpiper was on still in partial breeding plumage at Reardan July 21 (JA). Western Sandpipers appeared concentrated in a few localities, with 40 on Aug. 18 at Harrison the last date. Up to 35 were present at Wenas L. in September and a peak of 25 occurred near Baker Aug. 11. The Spokane area, the only other one reporting the species, had only a sparse showing of the birds. The Marbled Godwit, noted only in the



The bird above (foreground) was reported as Washington's first Ruff, but a panel of experts at N.A.S. believe it to be a Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Photo: James Acton.

Bozeman area, was last seen Aug. 18. What has been tentatively identified as an imm. **Ruff** was observed at length at close range and also photographed in color at a pond at Reardan by two very competent observers. This would be the first Washington sighting (JA & WH).

Sanderlings, always scarce in the Region, were seen in four widely separated localities. One was at Wilsall Reservoir, Park Co., Mont. Sept. 16 (RAH & PDS); one remained at a pond at Missoula Sept. 5-18; one was seen running along a street in Vernon, B.C. Sept. 26, and 4 were seen at Fortine Aug. 29. An unusual concentration of 300 Wilson's Phalarope was noted at Baker Aug. 11 and 200 were still there the next day.

JAEGER, GULLS AND TERNS — An ad **Pomarine Jaeger** was seen well at a range of about 100 feet near the inlet to Canyon Ferry Reservoir, Broadwater Co., Mont. Oct. 1. This is the first record for the state (RLE, *vide* PDS). Herring Gulls were reported only at Apgar, Glacier Nat'l Park, Mont., 3 during early November (LM) and on the river at Spokane, where they appeared Nov. 5. Franklin's Gull was last seen in the Bozeman-Harrison area Aug. 18 but one was noted at the river in downtown Spokane Sept. 24. The species was not reported elsewhere. A few Bonaparte's Gulls were seen in the Columbia Basin of c. Washington and the birds appeared at Otter L. in the s. Okanagan of British Columbia Aug. 8. The Com. Tern was last noted in the Bozeman-Harrison area Sept. 24. The only other record was of one at Clear L., west of Yakima Sept. 1.

OWLS — A Snowy Owl was seen Nov. 19 in the Davenport-Reardan, area. This is the tenth consecutive year for sightings in e. Washington. A Barred Owl was heard in Trinity Valley ecological reserve in the s. Okanagan of British Columbia Sept. 23 & 25 and 1 was seen near Lavington, B.C., Oct. 18. Single birds of this species were seen in the Fortine area Oct. 25 and Nov. 12-13. The only previous records there were on two dates in 1969 (WW). A Barn Owl was seen near Baker Nov. 30 (LR); one was at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers Nov. 24 (CC), and one was seen near Clarkston Aug. 20 (MJP). The only Burrowing Owls reported were at McNary NWR, one or 2 until early November, and 2 at Deep Canyon near Clarkston Nov. 16 (LP). Short-eared Owls were reported from many scattered areas but were not common except perhaps at Turnbull NWR, where 8-9 were noted, and near Creston, Wash., where 6 were roosting in brush Nov. 5. The recording of 3 sightings of Saw-whet Owls may have some significance. One was seen in the mountains just south of Helena (GH) and one with an injured wing was captured near Churchill, north of Bozeman Oct. 19 (LM). Another was released on McNary Refuge after it walked into a private apartment in Pasco!

NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS — The mild autumn weather seemed to be the cause of some late Com. Nighthawk records. In the Bozeman area Oct. 9 was a late date and the species was still at Spokane Sept. 27 & Oct. 4. A lone straggler was seen in Morrow Co., Ore. Sept. 29. An injured Poorwill from a nearby farm was released on McNary Refuge Oct. 12. Black Swifts were noted at Vance Creek Canyon, 20 mi. n.e. of Vernon Sept. 26, the last date seen. The report of the tentative identification of 3 **Anna's Hummingbirds** all fall and as late as Dec. 6 at a feeder in Yakima (ERC & JR) looked incredible until another apparently of this species was picked up dead in Heppner, Ore. Nov. 19. The specimen is being checked further (BT).

WOODPECKERS — The Pileated Woodpecker appeared to be the only woodpecker in the Fortine area not decreasing in numbers, even though favorable

habitat is decreasing there. The species seemed locally scarce in the Vernon area, with only a sighting of 2 at Lavington Sept. 30. Single Black-backed three-toed Woodpeckers were seen near Chattaroy and Camden, Wash. in early October, and at Crane Prairie Reservoir near Bend, Ore. Oct. 20.

FLYCATCHERS AND SWALLOWS — The W Kingbird was noted as becoming uncommon in the lower Flathead Valley around Charlo, Mont. Most of the reports of the species came from s. and c. Washington and n.e. Oregon, although the birds were noted at Bozeman and, during the summer, at Fortine. They were inexplicably absent in the Walla Walla area. An Ash-throated Flycatcher at Missoula Aug. 28 was Hand's third record for w. Montana. A Say's Phoebe at Fortine Sept. 8 was the first fall bird there since 1944. A late W. Wood Pewee was at Baker Sept. 29 and an Olive-sided Flycatcher remained there until Sept. 26. One of the latter tarried at Heppner until the 25th.

A concentration of well over 7000 swallows was observed at Medical L. Wash. Sept. 24. It consisted mostly of Barn Swallows, with perhaps 300 Banks and a few Violet-greens, Trees and Rough-wingeds. Young Barn Swallows were still in the nest in Kootenay Nat'l Park, B.C. Sept. 3 (WW). A single swallow, unidentified but not a Barn Swallow, was seen along the river at Yakima Dec. 3, a bitterly cold day.

JAYS, CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES AND CREEPERS — Two Blue Jays were found along the trail to Siyeh Pass, north of St. Mary's L. Glacier Nat'l Park, Sept. 2 (SS). A Steller's Jay was found in very unusual habitat, sparsely wooded lowland at the confluence of the Grande Ronde and Snake Rivers in extreme s.e. Washington, Sept. 28. Three Boreal Chickadees were seen at Bonneau L., 25 mi. east of Vernon Aug. 9 and a few were seen and heard in the Salmo Pass-Shedroof area n.e. Pend Oreille Co., Wash. Aug. 26 (WH) and Oct. 1 (JA). A group of about 12 Com. Bushtits were found along the Middle Fork of Rock Creek west of Hardman, Ore. Oct. 15. A few Red-breasted Nuthatches appeared at Walla Walla for the first time in Niel Meadowcroft's experience and the species was common in Richland, suggesting a minor "invasion" in s.c. Washington. The Brown Creeper may also be staging a small "invasion" in parts of e. Washington. Four were seen on Kamiak Butte Oct. 31, one in Pullman Nov. 3 and one on the Grande Ronde Nov. 11.

WRENS, MIMIC THRUSHES AND THRUSHES — Two or 3 Bewick's Wrens were seen along Toppenish Creek and the Yakima R. near Yakima. The Mockingbird is making a bid to establish itself in the Region, for 6 of the birds were in residence at Milton-Freewater, Ore. until late September and one remained until late October. (DB, *vide* NFM) A very pronounced flight of Varied Thrushes occurred at Prineville, Ore. Oct. 5-Nov. 2, with up to 7-8 seen at a time. The largest concentration of W. Bluebirds reported was a flock of 20-25 at Memalose State Park near Hood River Ore., Sept. 14-16. The species has

been inexplicably absent from the Fortine area for several years. A surprising concentration of at least 200 Mountain Bluebirds was seen at Hilgard Junction State Park northwest of La Grande, Ore. Sept. 2. Another group of 75-100 was seen Sept. 24 just north of Spokane. About 150 were seen at Peola, west of Clarkston, Aug. 21.

KINGLETS, PIPITS AND WAXWINGS — The most pronounced movement of Ruby-crowned Kinglets occurred in the Yakima area, where they reached a peak of 25-30 daily by Oct. 1 and were last seen Nov. 28. Pipits were observed in good numbers in the Spokane and Tri-cities areas. The former locality reported 200 in one flock Oct. 8, and Bozeman had some good-sized flocks. Spokane had one or 2 flocks of 300 Bohemian Waxwings by the end of the period.

VIREOS AND WARBLERS — A few Warbling Vireos were seen in the Ahtanum Valley just west of Yakima Sept. 13-Oct. 2 and a very late bird was seen at Spokane Oct. 5 (MV). Orange-crowned Warblers were moving through in September but one was seen at Baker as late as Oct. 12 and one was seen at Prineville Dec. 3, after a 5-inch snowfall a month later than any previous record there (GM). A ♀ **Parula Warbler** was studied painstakingly during its stay at Baker, Oct. 18-Dec. 3 (AW). A very late Yellow Warbler was seen at Walla Walla Oct. 29. Two **Myrtle Warblers** were identified in the La Grande, Ore. area Oct. 8 (EB). At least 2 Townsend's Warblers were seen in Bozeman Sept. 29 and later (SC; DRS & PDS). There are only two prior local records there. A very late record for this species was of one at Baker Dec. 1 & 3. A Northern Waterthrush was seen Sept. 4 at Canmore, just east of Banff, B.C. and was the only one reported. Wilson's Warblers had mostly migrated through by the end of September but a very late ♂ was seen at Heppner Oct. 19. Two ♂ Am. Redstarts were observed Aug. 21 in the Heppner area. The ♂ that appeared at Baker July 21 stayed until Aug. 21. On Sept. 5 a ♀ or imm. appeared there.

HOUSE SPARROW, BLACKBIRDS — House Sparrow numbers at Missoula were slowly rising after being decimated by an unknown disease during the winter of 1970-71. The only fall Bobolink record was of 10 in autumn plumage near Baker Aug. 19. The birds were gone from the Yakima area by the end of July. Two flocks of W. Meadowlarks, totalling some 400 birds, were observed near Umapine, Ore., southwest of Walla Walla Sept. 5 and 50 or more were seen near Peola, Wash. Oct. 25. Flocks of several hundred Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at Kootenai NWR in late September. A few remained into November in the Spokane area and at Charlo and ad. ♂ appeared Nov. 5-Nov. 28. Kootenai had a flock of several thousand Red-winged Blackbirds during late September and early October. Largest numbers of Brewer's Blackbirds were, as usual, in the s.w. part of the region, from Yakima to Baker. Flocks probably totalling thousands were seen in the Walla Walla area. The latest dates for the Brown-headed Cowbird were Sept. 2 at Missoula and Oct. 13, at Yakima Indian Reservation.

FINCHES — Evening Grosbeaks appeared in good numbers at many localities, in some instances as early as late August, but had mostly moved on before the end of November. Cassin's Finches were migrating mostly in September but a few stayed through October in the Spokane area. Three House Finches Sept 29 were the first ever observed at Fortine in the fall (WW). The species, now well established at Missoula, was seen in flocks of 30-70 there during the fall and has become much more in evidence than Cassin's. Pine Grosbeaks seemed to be moving down out of the mountains into the valleys more than usually. A ♀ even appeared at Richland staying from Oct. 31 until at least Nov. 25. Sizeable flocks of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches appeared in four localities. At Kamiak Butte, north of Pullman, at least 300 were seen Nov. 18. Probably 300, nearly all Hepburn's race, were seen Nov. 19 near Blue L. in the Grand Coulee and a flock of about 150, including about 30 Hepburn's, were watched Oct. 13 near Fortine. About 500 were in a flock at Hart's Pass in the North Cascades of Washington Oct. 23. A few Com. Redpolls had appeared at Fortine, Missoula and Spokane in November and at Vernon Oct. 26. Two birds observed closely at Fortine were almost certainly Hoary Redpolls (WW). Pine Siskins were common in the Vernon area, at Yakima and Baker during September but dwindled thereafter. A ♀ or imm. **Lesser Goldfinch** appeared at Prineville, from about Oct. 19-28 in the area where the species nested two years ago (GM). Red Crossbill sightings were spotty and included no large numbers.

SPARROWS — A Green-tailed Towhee was observed with several Rufous-sided Towhees Sept. 5 at Heppner (BT). A ♀ Lark Bunting closely examined Sept. 28 at Fortine, was the first fall date and only the third occurrence noted there in 52 years' observing (WW). A few Slate-colored Juncos appeared with Oregon Juncos at Spokane and one was seen at Yakima Oct. 7. A few Tree Sparrows arrived in October. One at Richland Oct. 15 was very early and Oct. 22 was an early date for Bozeman. Two were seen at Banks L. Wash. Oct. 29. The only conspicuous congregation of Chipping Sparrows reported was of 50+ Baker Sept. 22. One remained there until Oct. 7. A Clay-colored Sparrow was seen on Plateau Mtn. west of Nanton in s.w. Alberta Aug. 13. An ad. of this species was seen at Missoula Sept. 2 & 3 and two were noted there Sept. 11 (RLH). Brewer's Sparrows were noted migrating during late August and early September at Missoula, Baker, Clarkston and along the Walla Walla R. Harris' Sparrows appeared in no less than six localities, beginning Oct. 8 near Spokane (VN & CS): one, Fortine Oct. 21-Nov. 15 (WW); 2 imm. , Harrison, Mont. Oct. 23 (HC, ETH, RAH, LM & PDS) and up to 5 at Bozeman Oct. 29 (ID; RAH & ETH; NK). Their appearance followed a snowstorm. Only about 8 prior records for the locality exist. Two imm. were at Richland Oct. 20-21 (EM) and one to 3 frequented feeders at Vernon and nearby towns from Nov. 11 to the end of the period (JTF, WC, JG, JM, JS). Of special note was a Golden-crowned Sparrow at Enderby near Vernon, Nov. 27-30 (JM). A **White-throated Sparrow** appeared near

Spokane Oct. 8-9. (VN & CS). A Fox Sparrow in Umatilla, Ore. Nov. 23 was the latest recorded there (CC).

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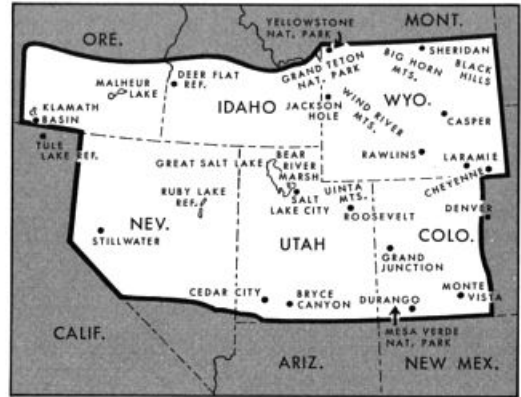
CORRIGENDUM—The 300-400 swifts seen at LaGrande, Ore. July 26, (*Am. Birds*, 26:880,) are now considered to have been Vaux's Swifts.

GREAT BASIN-CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

/ **Hugh E. Kingery**

The most striking feature of the fall migration in our Region came with a massive invasion by jays of the low country: Gray Jays dropped to the valleys; Steller's and Scrub Jays and Clark's Nutcrackers

advanced to the foothills, plains, and deserts, and Blue Jays spurred west to Idaho. Besides the jays, several other mountain species were unusually common at low-land elevations — see accounts for Goshawk, Mountain Chickadee, Brown Creeper, Townsend's Solitaire, and Golden-crowned Kinglet. Three wanderers, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Bohemian Waxwing, and Evening Grosbeak, have returned in numbers, although the nuthatches may be scattering, like the Red Crossbills. Two midwesterners — White-winged Junco and Harris' Sparrow — began a winter visitation in unprecedented numbers.



Our dry, mild summer weather became severe, in October in Colorado and Utah and November through most of the rest of the Region. Grand Junction had its wettest October ever with $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. of rain, 4 times normal; the same month Durango, Colo., had 11.69 in., $4\frac{1}{2}$ times normal and Kanab, Utah, had 3 in. — with an average annual rainfall of 5 in. November saw much snowfall on the Colorado E. Slope, but less than normal in the Colorado and Oregon high country.

Sparse cone crops on conifers presumably resulted from the dry summer and fall. A Colorado Western State College scientist, studying tree rings, pronounced summer 1972 on the W. Slope the driest in 1200 years (*vide* ASH).

BOUNDARY CHANGE — With this report the California counties formerly in the Great Basin Region have moved to the Middle Pacific Coast Region.

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS — Arctic Loons straggled into 2 inland locations, with one observed at Blue Mesa Res. near Gunnison, Colo., Sept. 30 & Oct. 1; the observers studied the bird for 25 minutes in quiet water for the first W. Slope record since 1887. The second report concerns one on Nov. 1, a bird in partial summer plumage at Sheridan, Wyo. (PIH). Eared Grebes migrated through the Region until October, with Minidoka N.W.R., Idaho, reporting the highest number — 2300 on Aug. 8. Western Grebes were still sitting on nests Aug. 28 at Stillwater N.W.R., Nev., but no young appeared that late. Peak migration totals were 3300 at Minidoka Aug. 8, 2500 at Bear River N.W.R. Sept. 7, and 1900 at Malheur N.W.R. in mid-August. At Cheyenne in late October fog

grounded many W Grebes on city streets, they could not fly off because of their body configuration, and they fiercely resisted human assistance. Some were killed by cars, but others moved to local lakes and escaped. Normal populations of White Pelicans occurred in mid-September at Stillwater (6000) and Bear R. (3500); but Malheur's peak of 4315 compared with 1800 a year ago. Single birds occurred at unusual locations like Walsenburg and Monte Vista, Colo., and Fish Springs N.W.R., Utah, all in October. A Brown Pelican, on Utah's hypothetical list, was reportedly at L. Powell, 10 mi. from the San Juan R. oil spill, on Oct. 14 (VH, *vide* GLK).

CORMORANTS, HERONS IBIS — Double-crested Cormorants, ordinarily found further south, occurred in unusual numbers in Idaho, with flocks of 100 Sept. 1 (CH) and 150 (DH, RG) at Camas N.W.R.; 126 at Rupert Sept. 26, 8 near Am. Falls Sept. 9, and 9 at Nampa Oct. 29. The wildlife refuges reported good numbers of Great Blue Herons, with peaks of 540 at Malheur, 500 at Bear R. Sept. 7, 300 at Minidoka Aug. 29, 250 at Camas July 30; and 48 at Fish Springs Oct. 27. Four rare Green Herons stayed in Reno Oct. 1-15. The only reported Cattle Egret, an imm. found near Minidoka where Idaho's first record came last year, appeared Aug. 22. Com. Egrets reached 1200 at Malheur and 25 at Stillwater in early August, while single birds stopped at Rexburg, Ida., Aug. 31, the first locally, and near Thatcher, Ida. Sept. 3 (BCM). Most Snowy Egrets left the Region by mid-October, the most reported being 1700 at Bear R. Sept. 7; however one with an injured foot wandered late to Gunnison Nov. 2. Malheur counted 3200 Black-crowned Night Herons Aug. 15, and Bear R. had 1400 Sept. 7. Fish Springs had an August peak of 70, then a second peak of 42 Nov. 7. White-faced Ibis nested for the first time at Grays Lake N.W.R., Ida. — 20 pairs strong. It reached a peak of 2000 at Bear R. Sept. 7, a decline. Several Great Basin lakes reported migrant flocks up to 150.

SWANS, GEESE — Bear River's Whistling Swan population has built up to only 7800 by the end of the period, compared with 28,000 last year; similarly Minidoka's population at 510 was down 27 per cent, possibly delayed by mild weather to the north. Yet further west they arrived as usual at Stillwater Oct. 20, peaked at 3300 compared with 1300 last year, and included numerous large family groups, evidencing good production. Malheur had a peak of 15,500 (4200 more than 1971), most of which left en masse Dec. 4, the day before the temperature hit -16° . Canada Geese peaked at over 10,000 at both Malheur and Deer Flat N.W.R., Ida., at 2200 at Bear R. Oct. 16, and 1500 at Minidoka Dec. 5, all normal levels except Minidoka, which showed a 20 per cent increase. Similarly Malheur's 100 White-fronted Geese the last half of September was a normal count, but 4 on Aug. 28 at Eagle, Colo. were unusual (DS). Snow Geese hit a level of 85,000 at Summer Lake W.M.A., Ore., in mid-November, only 3 per cent were juveniles, for the second year in a row. Malheur counted 9000 on Nov. 5-11, half of the 1970 and 1971 totals, and Stillwa-

ter counted 9700 on Nov. 3. Further east, Monte Vista had 100 on Oct. 31, its highest previous count was 20.

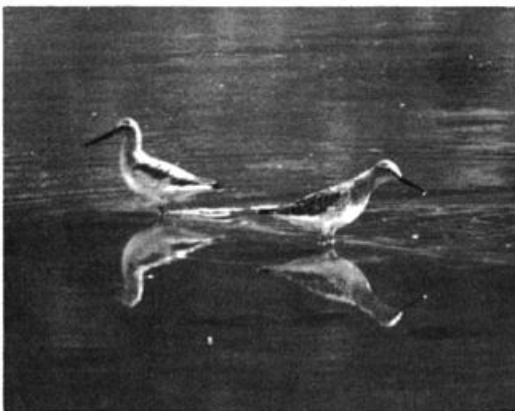
DUCKS — The wildlife refugees attracted somewhat fewer waterfowl than usual, in some cases because of the mild weather. Malheur had a poor sago pondweed crop and a much lower duck population, which peaked not in the fall but on Aug. 6-11 at 145,000 ducks. Most birds at Stillwater reached totals only half of normal, yet across Nevada at Ruby L. the peak reached 55,700, the highest total in 15 years. Minidoka had reduced populations of ducks compared to reports last year, as did Bear R. and Monte Vista.

The refuges reported about 225,000 Mallards, with the most Deer Flat's 85,000, Minidoka's 48,200, and Camas' 45,000. Bear R. had the most Gadwall, 17,000, and the most Pintails, 75,000, out of a total of 175,000 Pintails reported from the refuges. Shovelers — 48,100 in mid-September — crowded into Malheur, the greatest population since 1957, while the 15,200 Canvasbacks represented a dip to half of last year's total. Bear R. had 25,300 Canvasbacks, about the same as last year. On Oct. 24 29,000 Ruddy Ducks visited Minidoka, along with 7000 Canvasbacks and 8600 Lesser Scaups; most duck populations there, except Mallard, were up around 50 per cent. Unusual duck records included another sight record of the Eur. Widgeon in Idaho, this an ad. ♂ near Pocatello (*vide* CHT), and at the same place a ♀ Oldsquaw on Nov. 15. At Stillwater hunters collected 4 scoters — 2 very rare Surf Scoters and 2 not quite so rare White-winged

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES — Goshawks appeared for 49 observations; they descended upon Pocatello where 8 were seen in one day, perhaps reflecting the descent of mountain passerines all over the Region. Forty-two observations of Sharp-shinned Hawks, including 4 at Pocatello living off sparrows at feeders, and 40 Cooper's Hawks completed numerous Accipiter reports. Rough-legged Hawks began appearing in October, in usual numbers except for possible decreases at Reno and Flaming Gorge Res., Utah, and increases at Bear R. High counts were 18 at Seedskadee and 15-20 at Monte Vista in late November. Imm. Ferruginous Hawks concentrated near Pocatello, with 50 counted there Sept. 10. Only 7 other reports came in. Golden Eagles made the newspapers again: the infamous Wyoming helicopter gunners escaped with light fines and probation in Wyoming and Colorado federal courts; however a Tooele Co., Utah, court sentenced 2 men to 90 days in jail for shooting an eagle for coyote bait. Our observers reported 146 sightings of the magnificent bird, as well as 81 Bald Eagle observations. Marsh Hawks seem to increase at Bear R., with a count of 52 on Nov. 28, but decline at Camas (25 on Nov. 30) and Minidoka (25 on Aug. 8). We had 34 observations of Ospreys including Stillwater's first in recent years and 2 gliding south on air currents at Crater L. Nat'l Park Oct. 25. We collected 28 observations of Prairie Falcons, 14 Peregrine Falcons, and 16 Pigeon Hawks; the last included the first (several) observations from Zion Nat'l Park area since 1947.

GROUSE, CRANE, RAILS — Three Idaho locations report declining Sage Grouse populations (Camas, Lemmi Co., and Rupert) and the manager of the Flat Top Sheep Co. hasn't seen one since hunting season ended — he covers 300 sq. mi. of what was formerly the greatest concentration of the bird in Idaho (WHS). On their way to regular wintering grounds large flocks of Sandhill Cranes passed through Grays L. in September, with a peak of 2000; birds were noted in October at Camas, Ruby L., Malheur (947 peak), Grand Junction and Gunnison, Colo., the latter Oct. 30 with 4 in. of snow on the ground and 19° temperature. Monte Vista Refuge held 3400 on Oct. 13 with many more in the valley. Huge numbers of Am. Coots included 60,000 at Bear R. Sept. 7, 52,200 at Malheur, 32,000 at Desert Lake W.M.A., Utah, 55,700 at Ruby L. Oct. 1-7, the highest peak in 15 years and double 1971, and 19,000 at Minidoka. Even desert ponds around Kanab, Utah, held flocks of 500 on 3 different days.

SHOREBIRDS — Bear R. had 1400 Killdeer on Aug. 24, and Pocatello counted over 200 on Sept. 10. Mountain Plover straggled over the mountains to Yellowstone Aug. 22 and Grand Junction Oct. 1. Over 250 Com. Snipe were found at Malheur Aug. 29 and at Bear R. Oct. 24; they were more numerous this year at Dubois, seen 8 days during October including 21 on Oct. 17. Lesser Yellowlegs, rare in the Utah desert, built to a peak of 30 at Fish Springs, and about 8 visited a pond near Kanab during September. At the Great Salt L., 5 Knot gathered with 100 Black-bellied Plover on Sept. 20 (WS). Pectoral Sandpipers migrated through c. Colorado, with observations in September at Gunnison and the San Luis Valley. Dowitchers came through the Great Basin in large numbers; Malheur had 19,600 on Sept. 26 and 18,500 on Oct. 20, the most in 6 years; Bear R. had 8000 on Oct. 13. Two Stilt Sandpipers made a rare W. Slope appearance at Gunnison Sept. 10; one stayed 2-3 days.



Stilt Sandpipers at Blue Mesa Reservoir, near Gunnison, Colo., Sept. 10, 1972. Photo/Dave Galinat. New reservoirs are attracting migratory shorebirds to areas previously unvisited. Last w. Colorado record 1884.

At Bear R. 2500 Marbled Godwit visited Oct. 3, and Malheur had about 150 Aug. 1-Oct. 6 (none last year, 60 the year before). Malheur had only 835 Avocets, compared with 3600 last year, but their abundance at Summer L. may have included birds diverted from Malheur. Bear R. counted 8000 Avocets Aug. 2. Black-necked Stilts occurred in their usual numbers at Malheur and Summer L.; were 3800 strong at Bear R. Aug. 2; and peaked at 174 at Fish Springs Aug. 10. N. Phalarope reports included 4 sightings of 17 individuals near Kanab; 2 sightings of 3 individuals at Gunnison; and singles at Westcliffe and Walsenburg, Colo. and Malheur.

PIGEONS, DOVES, ROADRUNNER, OWLS — W. Nevada's Band-tailed Pigeons remained in the Carson Range in August, and spread to the Pine Nut Range near Wabuska, feeding on piñon nuts. Large flocks appeared east of Zion; their normal migration route lies west of the park. A Mourning Dove nest found at Stillwater on the late date of Aug. 23 had 4 eggs — double the usual clutch. On Oct. 20 Ground Doves, new for Wyoming, were noted at separate locations in Green River, Wyo. — one in town and one at Seedskadee N.W.R. Feeding on the ground, both upon close approach flew a short distance, showing the distinctive roundish tail and ruddy wings. (MOB EV; **). Roadrunner observations totaled 6 this fall at Springdale, an improvement over the past years.

OWLS, GOATSUCKERS — Flammulated Owls appeared in w. Colorado, with 3 juveniles Aug. 20 and one ad. Sept. 9 at Durango, and one picked up by a cat near Montrose Oct. 30 (*Western State Col.) We have two second-hand reports of Snowy Owls in October: one near Burns, Ore. (*vide* EM) and one at Rupert Oct. 28 (*vide* WHS). Five Pygmy Owl reports included one which visited a Pueblo feeder to partake of another visitor, a House Sparrow. Encouraging late summer reports of Burrowing Owls came from Minidoka, Reno, and Kanab. Yellowstone seems to be the only location for Great Gray Owls in the Region; observers found one between the park and Ashton, Ida., Nov. 11 (CLH). Several wildlife refuges reported increased numbers of Short-eared Owls: Minidoka, Camas, Bear R., and Malheur. Single observations came from Fish Springs in August, and Ruby L. and Grand Junction in November. Poor-wills were late at Evergreen again on Oct. 9 (DS) and Eureka Oct. 13. The last Com. Nighthawks noted were at Fish Springs Nov. 19, where the peak had been 160 on Aug. 3.

SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS — The last Regional White-throated Swifts left Kanab in mid-October, but this remarkable statement came from Grand Junction: "We are all wondering why the White-throated Swifts are still here . . . It has been below freezing so much of November we can't see what they find to eat. They are flying all over the valley from Grand Junction north to Fruita to Highline L. and where the farmers are digging sugar beets." The birds remained at least through Dec. 3. The hummingbird migration built up to its normal peak in late August; e.g., at Kanab were "hundreds feeding on the purple bee plants where these

(the bee plants) were very abundant. When the bee plants stopped blooming the hummer numbers dropped greatly." At Zion they fed on clumps of paintbrush (PS). By mid-September most left the Region, and the last dates were Sept. 25 at Durango and Zion and Sept. 27 at R.M.N.P.; then late-arriving Rufous showed up at Springdale Oct. 14, 19, 21, & 22. At Springdale, a possible pair of **Blue-throated Hummingbirds** patronized the same feeder with the Rivoli's ♀. Lacking notes from the second observer who saw the birds, (which would be new for Utah,) Jerome Gifford hesitated to submit the record; however his 2 pages of notes describe a large hummingbird with white rictal and postocular stripes, white tail feathers, and an aggressive behavior contrasting markedly with the docile Rivoli's (**).

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — Flickers exhibited yellow wings to observers in 9 different locations, with the furthest west being at Crater L. Nov. 7. Flicker numbers increased in Salt Lake City (EG) and Rexburg, where a pine beetle infestation and a reduction in Forest Service insecticide spraying (or vice versa) attracted them, along with Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers. A ♀ Hairy Woodpecker began excavating a hole in a cottonwood near Springdale on Nov. 29. Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers, regular in the Region but unobtrusive, were seen in 4 locations during the season. While most flycatchers leave the Region in September, a stray Black Phoebe was spotted at Springdale Nov. 4 (GA). The only other flycatchers seen after September were 2 W. Wood Pewees Oct. 12 at Kanab. Each species of swallow stayed late somewhere; most noticeable were many late Barn Swallows migrating in late October in Summit Co., Pueblo, and Jefferson, Colo., Fish Springs, Utah, and Nov. 9 at Malheur.

JAYS — The movement of jays affected our whole Region except n. Nevada, Oregon and Wyoming. Gray Jays appeared in Gunnison Aug. 27, and now several are regular at feeders there. They came to an aspen grove near Jefferson, Colo., Aug. 27, to Durango Sept. 20, and to L. Isabel near Pueblo Nov. 25. Scrub Jays also appeared in Gunnison Aug. 27 — a first record there — and have been regular since. **Blue Jays** popped up in two locations in Idaho, which had had only one previous (sight) record. At Blackfoot one came to a feeder in October and November (slide, not suitable for reproduction, to Idaho State Univ.). Then from Nov. 2-8 Camas N.W.R. hosted one (**).

Steller's Jays made the most spectacular moves. In Colorado they appeared in droves on the plains at Colorado Springs and Pueblo (along with Scrub and Pinyon Jays and Clark's Nutcracker), in the w. mountain valleys at McCoy, Durango, Grand Junction, and even out to the desert south of Cortez. They came early to Salt Lake City, and first appeared in Springdale Aug. 7, by November becoming the most common jay, even as far out into the desert as Virgin; at Kanab they outnumbered the Scrub Jays in the low country, vice versa in the high country. The first two ever reported in Pocatello arrived there at the end of November.

Even Black-billed Magpies may have participated in the exodus: 4 rare ones came to Fish Springs Oct. 18, and they penetrated into the Kanab desert further than usual.

Pinyon Jays ordinarily range erratically all over the West, often in large flocks. Typical were reports of numbers at Ruby L. refuge headquarters, where they fed on barley put out for quail; local piñon pines had a very poor nut crop. Other reports included flocks of 150 at Kanab and Durango, hundreds Sept. 23 at the Great Sand Dunes Nat'l Mon. with Clark's Nutcrackers (DAG), flocks at Springdale, Castledale, and Fish Springs, Utah, and McCoy and Grand L., Colo. Clark's Nutcrackers joined their relatives in spreading to the low country. Most pronounced on the Colorado E. Slope, the nutcrackers popped up everywhere all fall around Evergreen, the Denver foothills, and Estes Park. They came into City Park in Pueblo, and dropped to McCoy and Grand Junction. Zion Canyon had its first record Sept. 21, followed by 2 down-canyon observations in Springdale in October. Fish Springs had a first refuge record, and Malheur had observations Sept. 15 and Oct. 11, the fourth and fifth records there.

CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS — Mountain Chickadees joined the jays and other mountain species in unusual lowland appearances. Typical were early arrivals in Salt Lake City and numbers in Pueblo, Durango, Cheyenne, Grand Junction (sleeping in gourd feeders), and e. Idaho. All 6 states reported Red-breasted Nuthatches, most August to October, with normal appearances at many Colorado locations plus unusual places like Dubois, Minidoka, Rupert, and the shrublands near Reno. Brown Creepers joined the montane species' descent, with unusual appearances or unusual abundance in Idaho (at Rupert more numerous than in 40 years; at Camas the first refuge record), Salt Lake City, and Colorado. The invasion spread from Malheur to Evergreen.

WRENS, THRASHERS, THRUSHES — Southern Utah had few observations of Bewick's Wrens, although more than last year, while s. Colorado had 2 November records, at Pueblo and Durango. Rock Wrens stayed until Aug. 31 — late for Dubois — while appearing for the first refuge record at Camas Oct. 1. Brown Thrashers strayed to Malheur Sept. 6 (second refuge record) and Fish Springs Oct. 27 — a surprising 4 birds. Few Am. Robins stayed in Colorado and Utah this year. Most had left by mid-November, although one remained at Dubois Nov. 8. In addition to several at Malheur Oct. 2-14 as last year, Varied Thrushes made unusual appearances throughout the Region. Reno Nov. 9, Salt Lake City Nov. 6 (GLK), near Bryce Canyon Oct. 30 (RAS), and near Pikes Peak in late November. Lingering Hermit Thrushes turned up Oct. 23 in Summit Co., Nov. 6-8 at Durango, and Nov. 29-30 at Salt Lake City (EG, GLK), and Salt Lake City had a late Swainson's Thrush Nov. 30 (GLK). Kashin identified a bird new for Utah Oct. 18 with a **Gray-cheeked Thrush** in S. Willow Canyon, Stansbury Mtns., noting gray cheeks and slight eye ring; and then found another in Salt Lake City Nov.

7 Western Bluebirds seemed on the decrease at Kanab, but on the increase at Zion; an ad. ♂ fed an imm. at Zion Inn Aug. 28 — “unusual since they do not nest in Zion Canyon and must have migrated here together.” Mountain Bluebirds flocked in migration, with hundreds seen in August at Zion (PS) and scores w of Colorado Springs, August to October. Mountain-dwelling Townsend’s Solitaires dropped into the cities — Salt Lake, Pueblo, Cheyenne — and to desert locations like Eureka and Kanab. A peak count was 50 in the Stansbury Mtns. Oct. 1 (WS).

KINGLETS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS — Several observers commented on unusual appearances of Golden-crowned Kinglets: dozens in the Hermosa Creek drainage near Durango; September observations in Colorado Springs and Crane Prairie, one Oct. 15 in the Wasatch Range of Utah (JWJ), one Nov. 6 at Dubois, the third in 10 years, and many in November in Salt Lake City and Kanab. Ruby-crowned Kinglets migrated in unusually high numbers with Summit Co. counting 53 on Sept. 10 and 46 on Oct. 8; hundreds in the Stansbury and Oquirrh Mtns. w. of Salt Lake City Oct. 18. About 2000 Water Pipits flocked around Brigham City, Utah, Oct. 22 (WS). Bohemian Waxwings will visit us this winter; already November reports have come from Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado. At Crater L. came the first park record of the Bohemian Waxwing, of one feeding on Mtn. Ash berries Nov. 30. Park Naturalist Holcomb commented, “Range maps indicate the sighting is not uncommon, depending on movement fluctuations. The record gap only too well relates the incompleteness of bird records in many of the western areas.” Our Region’s frequent first county, first refuge, and first state records confirm this; yet even intensively-studied Malheur regularly reports unusual records.

SHRIKE, VIREOS, WARBLERS — Loggerhead Shrike reports came from 4 Utah locations, and one each in Colorado and Idaho; many more should report this bird. Stray Solitary Vireos stayed late, with records from Cheyenne Sept. 26, Durango Oct. 14, and McCoy Oct. 22. Late Warbling Vireos visited Colorado Springs Oct. 1 and Pueblo Oct. 23. Tennessee Warblers appeared in force in Salt Lake’s Stansbury Mtns., with 6 on Sept. 26 feeding on rabbit brush flowers (GLK); one each at Durango on Sept. 9, 16, 18, & 24. Mountain city Gunnison reported a “fantastic warbler migration”: large numbers of Tennessee Warblers from Aug. 5-Oct. 24, including 12 on Aug. 27 (DG, ASH); total counts for the season of 100 Orange-crowned and 40 Virginia’s. Durango also had many warblers, although only 2 Myrtles, “unusually few for a year like this.” Many Audubon’s passed through Sept. 3-16, with the last Nov. 21, but the most unusual occurrence at Durango was the unprecedented numbers of Townsend’s Warblers, from Sept. 11 to Oct. 27. Audubon’s Warblers migrated in force elsewhere as well, with large numbers noted in Summit Co. (peak, 69 on Sept. 10), Kanab, Sept. 4-Oct. 29 (peak of 50), 100 at Camas Sept. 29 — which stopped for one day only, and hundreds Oct. 1 near Grantsville, Utah, all departed by Oct. 14 (WS, GLK). Unusual Townsend’s Warbler

reports came from Camas and Dubois Aug. 25, Zion Aug. 30, Cheyenne Sept. 3 and 11; other scattered observations occurred until the last one Nov. 18 at Castledale, the day before a heavy snow. Durango observers found a Chestnut-sided Warbler Sept. 25-26, reporting with detailed notes. (** to C.F.O.). Forty mi. from Tonopah, Nevada’s sixth Blackpoll Warbler was identified Sept. 17 (BB). A tail-bobbing Palm Warbler was identified at Idaho Springs, Colo., Nov. 11 (JC). Wilson’s Warblers migrate abundantly throughout the West, but one Aug. 18 in Box Elder Co., Utah, was foraging in a green spot consisting of 3 willow trees, surrounded by miles and miles of rocky ridges and desert scrub (RJV). Am. Redstarts occurred twice at Rupert, Aug. 23 & Sept. 26, and once at Zion, Nov. 15, the third report there. A Scarlet Tanager in fall’s green plumage visited Gunnison Sept. 3, the only record for the W. Slope since 1892.

FINCHES — By the end of November, Evening Grosbeaks populated all 6 states. They penetrated south to Fish Springs Oct. 4-27, first for the refuge, s. Utah, with observations beginning Sept. 13 at Kanab and Oct. 19 at Virgin. At Crater L. the red fir cone crop is negligible, after overwhelming abundance last year; consequently the finch and siskin populations have plummeted. House Finches celebrated the mild fall by bursting into song in mid-October in Salt Lake City (VK). Pine Grosbeaks, regular in the high country, had descended to a few lowland sites with records at Rupert Oct. 30; Lemhi Co. in October; Evergreen all fall (DS); and 6 in City Park at Pueblo Nov. 8 (JL, KP). Pine Siskins seem to have disappeared from the Region, leaving in October from Crater L., Bryce Canyon, Nampa, and Evergreen. Although scarce at Kanab, a few appeared at Zion Nov. 26. Red Crossbills remain scattered through the Region, but their numbers have dwindled since last fall and winter. The rare Sage Sparrows occurred at Gunnison Sept. 25 and Ignacio, Colo., Oct. 2 (RSy). White-winged Junco numbers mounted to the highest in several years, with an arrival en masse with a snowstorm at Colorado Springs Oct. 27 (MS). They had arrived by late October all along the Colorado foothills. Other juncos arrived at their wintering grounds on normal dates.

SPARROWS — Harris’ Sparrow, a midwestern species, appeared at 9 regional locations from Dubois to Salt Lake City and Kanab. A few years ago one caused comment anywhere in the Region; this year a Durango feeder had 10 on Nov. 27. Other November observations occurred at Colorado Springs, Summit Co., Gunnison, Estes Park, and Grand Junction. Many of these observations are associated with feeders. The White-crowned Sparrow, usually the second most abundant winter bird (to the Oregon Junco) at Zion, had not arrived by the end of November. At Crater L., however, flocks of up to 50 White-crowns, along with a few Golden-crowned, Fox, and Savannah Sparrows commonly skulked among willows of the high country streams and meadows, until the late October snows. A White-throated Sparrow was identified at Crater L. Oct. 14; the record is a first for the park, although Oregon has a few previous records. Other

single White-throats occurred at Pocatello Oct. 23 (*vide* CHT); the Stansbury Mtns. Oct. 18 (GLK); and R.M.N.P. Oct. 30. Fish Springs had a rare occurrence of 4 Lapland Longspurs Nov. 7. A few Snow Buntings had arrived in Lemhi Co. by late September, followed by many flocks by the end of November.

CORRIGENDA: Nevada's Com. Teal (*Am. Birds* 26:788) turns out to be our Region's second record; a banding trap caught one at Malheur in March, 1964. One of the Yellow-billed Cuckoos mentioned in *Am. Birds* 26:884 struck a window at Malheur headquarters, becoming an Oregon specimen (* U.S. Nat'l Museum) (SF). The C.F.O. Rare Birds Committee did not accept May's White-eyed Vireo (*Am. Birds* 26:790) because the bird's eye was dark and the observers did not hear it sing.

ABBREVIATIONS — *: Specimen; ** sight record report on file with Regional Editor; C.F.O.: Colorado Field Ornithologists; R.M.N.P.: Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park.

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SOUTHWEST REGION / Gale Monson

The wettest October in Southwest history left more than 6 inches of rain in some localities. Record floods occurred on the upper Gila drainage in w. New Mexico and e. Arizona — the heaviest flows since at least 1917. Many acres of bottomland and many trees were



swept away, and other areas, including wetlands, silted up. Precipitation and temperature were normal in the last half of August and in September. November was much drier than October, and colder, particularly in the northeastern sections of the Region. Snow that fell at higher elevations in October had, for the most part, melted by the end of that month, and the snow cover November 30 was somewhat less than normal.

The October rains fell too late to produce much vegetative growth. Summer rains, however, were sufficient for a good seed crop on most plants. Acorn and pine nut production proved to be spotty Region-wide, but largely poor or lacking throughout Arizona; the same was true of juniper berries and wild grapes.

New water bird attracting spots that also attracted birders were sugar mill disposal ponds near Chandler, Maricopa Co., Ariz., and the international sewage ponds north of Nogales, Ariz. The sewage disposal ponds at Sierra Vista, Cochise Co., Ariz. might also be mentioned in this respect. An encouraging sign is a move on the part of the U. S. Forest Service to eliminate the many private cabins in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Ariz., certainly one of the premium birding places in the United States. On the other side of the coin is habitat wreckage by road and water pipeline construction to the marvelously diversified Garden Canyon on the n. side of the Huachuca Mts., Ariz., by the U. S. Army, which agency by now has been directly and indirectly responsible for the loss of thousands of acres of unique wildlife habitat in southeastern Arizona.

Most observers described the season as better than usual for birdwatching, due mainly to a virtually unprecedented season for the appearance of a number of northern species in unusual abundance, especially in the lowlands. These included Lewis' Woodpecker, jays (Steller's, Scrub, and Pinyon), Clark's Nutcracker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Varied

Thrush, Bohemian Waxwing, Purple and Cassin's Finches, Evening Grosbeak, and Red Crossbill. On the other hand, sparrows generally seemed to have declined in numbers since last year, Chipping and White-crowned Sparrows especially.

LOON, GREBES — A Com. Loon was at Bitter Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. on the early dates of Sept. 18-23 (DB); 1 was seen near Chandler, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Oct. 16-26 (RB, VP). Eared Grebe numbers were only about 10 per cent of normal at L. Mead, Ariz.-Nev. (CL). Scattered records of 1-3 W. Grebes came from a number of places in s. Arizona and s.w. New Mexico. Other sightings included 6 on Nelson Reservoir, Apache Co., Ariz. Oct. 21 (DD); 24 at L. Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex. Nov. 4 (AN); 1 at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 17 (DB, JC); at least 8000 were on L. Mead at the close of the period, about the same as last year (CL).

PELICANS, CORMORANT — Ten White Pelicans were on Elephant Butte Reservoir, N. Mex. Aug. 20 (CH, BE); 200 were seen at Bitter Lake Refuge, Oct. 17 (DB, LK); 190 were counted at L. MacMillan, Eddy Co., N. Mex. Nov. 8 (SW); 7 were on Balmorhea L., Reeves Co., Tex. Nov. 25 (SW); and 1 was at Pipe Spring Nat'l Monument, Mohave Co., Ariz. Oct. 28-Nov. 11 (RWI). A Brown Pelican was on Saguaro L., Maricopa Co., Ariz. Aug. 19 (*fide* SD) and 2 were present there Oct. 8 to at least Nov. 15 (SD *et al.*); one that landed a few mi. e. of Silver Bell, Pima Co., Ariz. Sept. 17 was brought to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum at Tucson (*fide* GM); and 2 were seen on Roosevelt L., Ariz. Oct. 14 (BH, RN). Single Double-crested Cormorants were observed on 3 lakes in San Juan Co., N. Mex. between Oct. 21 and Nov. 18 (AN), and 10 were present at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 17 (DB).

HERONS — An imm. Little Blue Heron was found at Las Vegas Wash, Nev., on L. Mead Sept. 2 & 24 (VM), and 8 (including 2 ad.) were at Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. Oct. 16 (GZ). Cattle Egrets were noted in increased numbers; among the records were 2 on Havasu Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (Ariz. portion) Nov. 22 to at least Nov. 30 (SB, RK); (number?) present on Cibola and Imperial Nat'l Wildlife Refuges, Ariz.-Calif. Nov. 30 (Monte Dodson); 1 at Phoenix Oct. 5 (RB); 1 at Sierra Vista, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 14 (CM); 9 on Bosque Refuge Nov. 13-16 (GZ); 5 on Sept. 8 and 17 on Oct. 5 at Bitter Lake Refuge (DB); and 1 at Balmorhea L. Nov. 25 (SW). A Least Bittern was picked up along a Tucson street Oct. 7 and brought to the Desert Museum (*fide* GM). An Am. Bittern was found at St. David, Cochise Co., Ariz. Sept. 26 (DD).

WATERFOWL — A flock of 34 Canada Geese flew over Saddle Canyon, Kaibab Nat'l Forest, Coconino Co., Ariz. Nov. 23 (LW). Two White-fronted Geese were observed at McAllister L., San Miguel Co., N. Mex. Oct. 22 (WH). The Snow Goose at Fenton L., 16 mi. n. of Jemez Springs, Sandoval Co., N. Mex. mentioned in the previous report disappeared on Sept.

3 (MS). A flock of 16 flew over near Tombstone, Cochise Co., Ariz. Oct. 16 (JP, FS), and about 15 flew over Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex. Nov. 1 (AN). Two appeared at Bosque Refuge on the early date of Sept. 16; a peak of 8000 was reached Nov. 9 (GZ). Bitter Lake Refuge's peak of 4500 came on Nov. 30 (LK). As many as 30 Ross' Geese were on Bosque Refuge Nov. 9 (GZ). A Black-bellied Tree Duck was at Chandler Sept. 3-4 (VP, RWI), and 4 remained at Tucson until Nov. 10 (JG, DHa, MR). A Wood Duck was seen at Balmorhea L. Nov. 25 (SW). A Surf Scoter was n.w. of Phoenix Oct. 12-13 (Mary Lee Swartz, RB). Seven to 8 Red-breasted Mergansers were at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 10-24 (DB).

VULTURES, HAWKS — An unusually late Turkey Vulture was seen Nov. 11 at Dixon, Rio Arriba Co., N. Mex. (JWh). Four Black Vultures were observed about 3 mi. s. of Fronteras, Sonora, Mex. Nov. 23 (DZ). A Goshawk was identified near San Carlos, San Carlos Indian Reservation, Gila Co., Ariz. Nov. 4 (DZ). An ad. ♂ crashed into a lighted window of the Arizona Biltmore Hotel, Phoenix, at 11 p.m. on Nov. 21 (*fide* DT). One was photographed near Topock, Mohave Co., Ariz. on Havasu Refuge Nov. 29 (SB). An ad. Red-shouldered Hawk was carefully identified at Mormon Farm, near Las Vegas, Nev. Sept. 2 & 25 (CL, VM). Swainson's Hawks were regular through Sept. 10 e. of the Dragoon Mts., Cochise Co., Ariz., but not thereafter (WA). A very tame Zone-tailed Hawk was found in the driveway of a farmyard in Peeples Valley, Yavapai Co., Ariz. Sept. 17 (RJ, AR). Several Rough-legged Hawks were reported 1 e. of Dragoon Mts. Oct. 22 (WA); 1 near Las Cruces, N. Mex. Oct. 28 (DHI); 1 at Mormon Farm Nov. 4-25 (VM); 1 s. of Farmington Nov. 10 (AN); 1 at La Joya, Socorro Co., N. Mex. Nov. 25 (PS); and 1 between Douglas and Portal, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 25 (WS). A Ferruginous Hawk was found in the Casa Blanca area, Gila Indian Reservation, Pinal Co., Ariz. Sept. 30 (AR). An imm. Gray Hawk at Nogales, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Oct. 22 (TP, SST) was very late.

More Golden Eagle reports than usual were received. Bald Eagles were reported as follows: 1 ad near Grants, Valencia Co., N. Mex. Sept. 7 (ABS), 4 ad. and 2 imm. at Big L., White Mts., Apache Co., Ariz. Oct. 22 (DD); 1 ad. at L. Mead, near Temple Bar, Ariz. Nov. 26 (Dave Lane); 1 ad. at Clints Well, Coconino Co., Ariz. Nov. 28 (SB); 2 ad. and 1 imm at Cedar Hill 10 mi. n. of Aztec, San Juan Co., N. Mex. Nov. 30 (AN); and 1 ad. at Honeymoon, Greenlee Co., Ariz. Nov. 30 (SL). An Osprey was observed at Sun City near Phoenix Sept. 20 to at least Oct. 1 (*fide* SD). Reports were received of only 3 Peregrine Falcons. A Pigeon Hawk was at Tule Springs, near Las Vegas, Nev. Sept. 23 (VM). A Sparrow Hawk was trying to catch sparrows at 11:30 p.m. on the lighted parking lot of the Hilton Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 17 (CL).

QUAIL — Numbers were good in most of Arizona, but poor in New Mexico. Young Gambel's Quail only one-third grown were seen at Globe, Gila Co., Ariz.

as late as Oct. 29 (Bob & Charmion McCusick) Harlequin Quail were unusually numerous in their Arizona range, particularly from the Huachuca Mts. west.

SANDHILL CRANE — Thirty were at Willcox Dry L., Cochise Co., Ariz. Oct. 30 (GM), the most reported from Arizona in the period. Seven were seen at Dixon Nov. 5 (JWh); flocks were over Albuquerque Oct. 17-Nov. 10, with the most birds Oct. 22-23 (Pat Basham); a peak of 36,345 were at Bitter Lake Refuge Oct. 19 (LK); a peak of 8500 occurred at Bosque Refuge Nov. 9 (GZ); and about 1000 were seen near Columbus, Luna Co., N. Mex. Nov. 24 (Myra McCormick).

RAILS, GALLINULES — About 75 Va. Rails were counted at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 30 (DB). An imm. ♀ Sora flew into a window at Tyrone, Grant Co., N. Mex. Aug. 8 (*fide* DZ). A Purple Gallinule was seen at St. David Aug. 24 (PN). A Com. Gallinule was observed at Quitobaquito, Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Monument, Pima Co., Ariz. Nov. 22 (BRL) and Nov. 23-24 (BM).

SHOREBIRDS — Three Semipalmated Plover were reported at Morgan L., San Juan Co., N. Mex. Sept. 16 (AN). An Am. Golden Plover was at Phoenix Oct. 20 (BB). A Black-bellied Plover was found at Morgan L. Oct. 14 (AN). About 1000 Long-billed Curlews were seen Sept. 29, 35 to 40 mi. e. of Roswell, in Chaves Co., N. Mex. (James Sikes). A Solitary Sandpiper was still at Tucson Oct. 1 (SSt). A Willet was seen at Phoenix Oct. 8 (BB). A Knot was at Las Vegas Wash, Nev. on L. Mead Sept. 16 (VM). A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was discovered near Chandler by RWi on Oct. 15, and was seen by m. ob. during the next 2 days; it was photographed by RWi. Not only is this the first Arizona record, but it also appears to be the first inland record for North America! A Pectoral Sandpiper was found at Jackson L., San Juan Co., N. Mex. Aug. 26 (AN). Two Stilt Sandpipers were at Willcox, Cochise Co., Ariz. Aug. 29 (GM) and 2 were at Chandler Sept. 2-3 (VP, RWi). Sanderlings were seen as follows: 1 at Phoenix Aug. 6-10 (BB *et al.*); another at Phoenix Aug. 23-25 (Zona Brighton, SD *et al.*); 1 at Morgan L. Sept. 4 (AN); and 1 at Nogales Sept. 16-23 (PN *et al.*). Single Red Phalaropes were at Phoenix Oct. 8 (BB), at Nogales Aug. 26 and Sept. 7 (PN), and at Willcox Aug. 27 (PN).

GULLS, TERNS — A **Glaucous Gull** was found and photographed Nov. 30 at Boulder Beach on L. Mead; identification through photographs has been confirmed by Guy McCaskie and Joseph Jehl of the San Diego Natural History Museum (CL). It is the first record for Nevada. A first-year imm. Western Gull collided with an airplane at Tucson Internat'l Airport Nov. 4 and was brought dead to the Desert Museum (*fide* GM). A California Gull was seen at Chandler Oct. 25 and 2 others were at Phoenix Nov. 2 (RWi). About 30 Ring-billed Gulls landed on the Los Alamos, N. Mex. airport in mid-October (*fide* PS). Four were seen near Alcalde, Rio Arriba Co.,

N. Mex. on Oct. 31 during a snowstorm (JWh). On Nov. 30 about 500 were at Bitter Lake Refuge (LK). A **Mew Gull** was found at Boulder Beach on L. Mead, Nov. 25 (VM), a second Nevada record after last winter's first. Three Franklin's Gulls were at Phoenix Oct. 7 (RN), 1 was at Nogales Oct. 22-23 (TP, SSt *et al.*), and 1 was at Saguaro L. Nov. 15 (SD *et al.*). Among Bonaparte's Gull records were 5 at Chandler Nov. 5 (RN), 10 at Menagers L., Papago Indian Reservation, Pima Co., Ariz. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt), and 3 at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 10 (LK). A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was carefully identified at Bosque Refuge Nov. 12 (GZ) for possibly the first and at least the second New Mexico record. Two Forster's Terns were at Phoenix Nov. 21 (BB), a late date. A Com. Tern was observed at Picacho Reservoir, Pinal Co., Ariz. Aug. 16 (RB), PN saw one at Willcox Aug. 27, 2 at Sierra Vista Aug. 24, and one at Nogales Sept. 7; and one was at Bitter Lake Refuge Sept. 19 (LK). Two Caspian Terns were noted at Phoenix Sept. 16 (RN). As many as 59 Black Terns were at Nogales Aug. 26 (PN).

PIGEON, DOVES — A Band-tailed Pigeon was noted near Bosque Refuge headquarters Oct. 4 (GZ). A White-winged Dove was seen on Bosque Refuge Sept. 25 (GZ); 21 were at Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Oct. 24 (GM); 45 were roosting in Tucson Nov. 17 (TP, JG, Kenn Kaufman); and 2 were at Ft. McDowell Indian Reservation, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Nov. 29 (RJ, JS). A Ground Dove was seen at San Simon Cienega, Hidalgo Co., N. Mex. Aug. 19 (PS), and 1 was found 2 mi. s. of Nogal Canyon, in Sierra Co., N. Mex. along a Bureau of Reclamation channel Oct. 14 (GZ, John Stroebele). A rash of Inca Dove reports came in from places they had not been seen before, or had been seen only once or twice previously: 3 at Needles, San Bernardino Co., Calif. from last June 3 until Nov. 10 (SB, Tony Moskos); 2 at Globe Sept. 13 (BJ); 15 counted at Silver City, Grant Co., N. Mex. Oct. 15 (DZ); 2 at Ft. Bayard, Grant Co., N. Mex. after Oct. 25 (RF); 1+ at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., N. Mex. Sept. 27 (SW); 3 near Las Cruces Nov. 2 (DHi); and 1 at a Farmington feeder after Nov. 14 (Judy Nordstrom).

CUCKOO, ANI, OWLS — A **Black-billed Cuckoo** was carefully observed near Patagonia for a second Arizona sight record (MR). A Groove-billed Ani was reported from Silver City Sept. 28 to at least Oct. 5 (DHu *et al.*), and 1 was seen n. of Aztec, Yuma Co., Ariz. Nov. 18 (RJ, AR). A Flammulated Owl was found injured at Concho, Apache Co., Ariz. Nov. 13 (G. Israel, *fide* DZ); it subsequently became a specimen at Western New Mexico U. Burrowing Owls were regular until Oct. 28 e. of the Dragoon Mts. but were not seen thereafter (WA). One was found dead on the road, and another seen, near Apache, s.e. Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 20 (SSp). Two Long-eared Owls were netted on the Jornada Range Reserve, Dona Ana Co., N. Mex. Sept. 28 (DHi); one was seen in the Santan area of the Gila Indian Reservation Oct. 16 (AR); one was at Corn Creek Field Station, Desert Nat'l Wildlife Range, Nev. Oct. 18 (CL); and one was found freshly dead at Kumatke, Gila Indian Reservation, Maricopa

Co, Ariz Nov 5 (AR) A Saw-whet Owl was discovered at Las Vegas, Nev Nov 1 by LH and photographed by CL.

NIGHTJARS — Two or 3 Whip-poor-wills were heard in Red Canyon, Monzano Mts., Torrance Co., N Mex. Sept. 23-24 (*vide* Jean Ralston). One was still present on Four Peaks, Mazatzal Mts., Gila Co., Ariz. Nov 4 (RN). A Poor-will was found dead on the road in the Aspen Campground vicinity on East Fork of the Black R. in the White Mts., Apache Co., Ariz. Aug 26 (LW). A Com. Nighthawk was still at Farmington Oct. 16 (AN). Lesser Nighthawks (26) were still common on the e. fork of Sycamore Canyon, Mazatzal Mts., Maricopa Co., Ariz. Oct. 9 (RN), and 7 were in the Santan area of the Gila Indian Reservation Oct. 28 (AR).

HUMMINGBIRDS — A ♂ Lucifer Hummingbird was at Ramsey Canyon, Huachuca Mts., Ariz. Aug. 28 (JP) to Sept. 12 (FS, W. Meteers). Last dates hummingbirds were seen at Portal, Cochise Co., Ariz. included one Black-chinned to Nov. 19, 2 Anna's to Nov 27, one Rufous to Nov. 14, and a Rivoli's to Nov 25 (SSp). A ♂ Costa's Hummingbird has returned to Tucson by Oct. 2 (SL). A ♂ Anna's Hummingbird at Silver City Oct. 2-Nov. 7 (DZ) provided the first New Mexico record (photographed). A ♂ first seen at Globe Aug. 27 remained until Nov. 13 (SH). The only Calliope Hummers reported were singles at Las Vegas, N. Mex. Aug. 29 & Sept. 3 (WH). Two Rivoli's Hummingbirds were found at an unusual location, the Jornada Reserve, Sept. 6 (DH*i*). A Violet-crowned Hummingbird visited the Desert Museum, Tucson, Oct 22 (GM). A wintering Broad-billed Hummingbird had returned to a feeder in Youngtown, Ariz., near Phoenix, Oct. 15 (*vide* JW*i*), and a late one was below L Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Oct. 28 (TP, DH*a*, MR) Another was at a Scottsdale feeder throughout August (LD). A hummingbird nest that fledged young Sept 19 on the Ariz. State U. campus, Tempe, has been tentatively identified as that of Black-chinned Hummingbirds (Roland Shook).

TROGON, KINGFISHER — A pair of Copper-tailed Trogons fledged young in Ramsey Canyon Sept. 14-15; the last one was seen Sept. 27 (Carroll Peabody). A Green Kingfisher was at Kino Springs, Santa Cruz Co, Ariz. Sept. 23-Nov. 11 (TP *et al.*), and another was below L. Patagonia Oct. 28 (TP, DH*a*, MR).

WOODPECKERS — An Acorn Woodpecker first seen e. of Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 23 was photographed and collected Oct. 27 for a fourth Nevada record (CL). One was seen at a Scottsdale feeder Sept. 10 (LD). Another was at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 27 (DB). This was the best year ever for Lewis' Woodpeckers in the Las Vegas, Nev. area; as many as 30 were present at Corn Creek Oct. 1 (CL). One was foraging at 11:30 p.m. in the lighted parking lot of the Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas on Oct. 17 (CL). One was seen in the Ajo Mts., Organ Pipe Cactus Monument, Nov. 23 (BRL); one was in Phoenix after Nov. 5 (SD); one was seen at Komatke Sept. 29 (AR); one was observed on Four Peaks, Mazatzal Mts. Oct. 14 (RN); numbers were in Farmington after Aug. 30 (AN); and

2 were seen near Las Cruces Oct 28 (DH*i*) Early Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were noted at Farmington Sept. 6 (AN) and at Portal Sept. 17 (SSp). Single Williamson's Sapsuckers were seen in upper Bear Canyon, Santa Catalina Mts., Ariz. Sept. (T.A.S.) and at Patagonia Nov. 11 (JG, DH*a*, MR). Two were noted in SU Canyon, San Francisco Mts., Catron Co., N Mex. Sept. 30-Oct. 1 (BM), and a ♀ was at Jackson L. Oct. 20-27 (AN). A Hairy Woodpecker was seen in Boulder City, Nev. Oct. 26 (CL). A Downy Woodpecker was at Bitter Lake Refuge Oct. 4-Nov. 30 (LK)

BECARD, FLYCATCHERS — A ♂ Rose-throated Becard was seen below L. Patagonia on the late date of Oct. 28 (TP, MR, DH*a*). A W. Kingbird was observed with 2 Cassin's Kingbirds on Oct 30 near the junction of US Hwy. 666 with Dragoon Rd., Cochise Co., Ariz. (GM). Single Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were seen at Bitter Lake Refuge Sept 15 (DB), at Bernalillo, Sandoval Co., N. Mex. Sept 30 (DL *et al.*), and e. of the Dragoon Mts. (photo — WA). An Olivaceous Flycatcher was identified by both sight and call note at Corn Creek Aug. 27 (VM) Single E. Phoebe were found at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt) and at Bosque Refuge Nov 26 (PS). An E. Wood Pewee was seen, and heard calling a number of times, at Guevavi Ranch on the Santa Cruz R. n. of Nogales Oct. 15 (TP, DH*a*, MR).

SWALLOWS — A Violet-green Swallow was noted near the s. end of Kansas Settlement Rd., Cochise Co., Ariz. Oct. 30 (GM). A Rough-winged Swallow was at Phoenix Nov. 8 (GM, HRC). Four to 6 pairs of Barn Swallows nested at Grants (ABS). Late records included 1 near Sunnizona, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov 1 (GM), 5 at Phoenix Nov. 8 (GM, HRC), and 3 at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt). An estimated 10,000 Cliff Swallows were on Bosque Refuge Aug. 20 (GZ), a late one was at Phoenix Nov. 2 (RW*i*). Six Purple Martins were at Cave Creek, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Aug 27 (ER), 2 were seen near Quitobaquito Oct. 14 (TP, MR), and at least 100 were still at Tucson Oct 17 (GM).

CORVIDS — This was undoubtedly one of the best corvid years on record, especially for Clark's Nutcrackers. A Blue Jay was at a feeder at Roberts L., Grant Co., N. Mex. Nov. 20-22 (Otto Griggs, *vide* RF) Although Steller's Jays were widespread throughout the Upper and Lower Sonoran Life Zones in Arizona, they were not seen in large flocks — generally in ones or twos or in small flocks, often with Mexican Jays. The earliest good lowland record was of 1 at Youngtown, near Phoenix, Sept. 24 (*vide* SD). In much of New Mexico they were more numerous, with several hundred on Bosque Refuge Oct. 4 (GZ). Scrub Jays were in similar numbers, the earliest lowland records being one at Cave Creek Aug. 31 (*vide* ER), and 4 at Phoenix Sept. 2 (RJ). They were everywhere in the Las Vegas, Nev. area after Sept. 16 (CL). About 4 Black-billed Magpies appeared in the Las Vegas, Nev. area, with one at Corn Creek Oct. 18 (CL) and others seen along the shoreline of L. Mead (Geo. Constantino, photo) and at Las Vegas (CL). Two dozen

Com Ravens were in a flock at 13,000 ft over the Truchas Peaks area, Sangre de Cristo Mts., Rio Arriba Co., N. Mex. Sept. 4 (Stuart Bryan, Jr.). Nine Com. Crows were observed near Saguaro L. Nov. 15 (SD).

Pinyon Jays were widely distributed, chiefly in large flocks, and weren't seen so far from their "home base" as other corvids. Earliest reports of their dispersal were of birds at Sandia Park, Sandia Mts., N. Mex. Aug. 9 (Myrtle Hilty); a flock of 25 at the Bounds Ranch in the Mimbres Valley, Grant Co., N. Mex. Aug. 24 (RF); 30 in the Pinos Altos Mts., Grant Co., N. Mex. Aug. 27 (RF); and 22 over the Pinaleno Mts., Graham Co., Ariz. Aug. 31 (GM). By Sept. 15 they had been reported over most parts of the Region, except in s.w. Arizona. Flocks of more than 500 were seen in a number of places. In the Las Vegas, Nev. area they appeared Sept. 23, and flocks up to 40 or more were observed until the end of the period (CL *et al.*).

A Clark's Nutcracker was found at Needles as early as Aug. 28 (*vide* RK), one was seen s.e. of Topock Sept. 14 (SB), and 1 was at Bullhead City, Mohave Co., Ariz. Sept. 15 (G. Edwards). In s.e. Arizona the first ones noted were 6 in Ramsey Canyon, Huachuca Mts. Sept. 17 (CM); hundreds were in the Chiricahua Mts. by late October (TP). In New Mexico, they were seen at San Cristobal, Taos Co. Aug. 27 (WH), they were common in the Sandia Mts. Sept. 4 (CH, BE), and at least 6 were on the U. of New Mexico campus, Albuquerque, Nov. 30 (DL). Four, including one collected, were found at Alpine, Brewster Co., Tex. Nov. 11 (SW). One was in Phoenix Oct. 9 (*vide* JWi), and another was on the desert n.e. of Yuma, Ariz. Nov. 23 (Allen Guenther, *vide* DT).

CHICKADEE, NUTHATCHES, CREEPER —

Two Mountain Chickadees were seen near the confluence of the Salt and Verde Rivers, Ariz. Oct. 11 (Zona Brighton *et al.*), one was noted in willows just below Coolidge Dam, Ariz. Nov. 3 (TP, SSt), and 3 were at Corn Creek Oct. 19 (CL). Two White-breasted Nuthatches were found at Browns Crossing of the Bill Williams R., Yuma and Mohave Cos., Ariz. Oct. 18-19 (RJ, AR), and at least one was heard n. of Aztec, Ariz. Nov. 18 (RJ). Red-breasted Nuthatches were much more numerous than usual in the high mountain country of at least s.e. Arizona. Large numbers were found in extreme s. Nevada, where as many as 21 were seen at Corn Creek Oct. 9, and 23 the same date at Tule Springs, near Las Vegas (CL). One was at Boulder City on Aug. 31 (PL). Three were feeding at 11:30 p.m. in the Hilton Hotel parking lot at Las Vegas Oct. 17 (CL). Two were at the Joseph City Reservoir, Navajo Co., Ariz. Sept. 24 (AR). Another was in mesquites 13 mi. w. of Quijotoa, Papago Indian Reservation, Pima Co., Ariz. Oct. 21 (TP). A Brown Creeper was collected in the Casa Blanca area of the Gila Indian Reservation Sept. 30 (AR).

WRENS — A House Wren fed at 11:30 p.m. in that busy Hilton Hotel parking lot, Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 17 (CL). Single Winter Wrens were noted in Ramsey Canyon Oct. 4 (JP), at Corn Creek Oct. 19 (VM), at Granite Basin L. near Prescott, Yavapai Co., Ariz. Nov. 6 (AR), at Patagonia Nov. 18 (T.A.S.), and n.

of Aztec, Ariz. Nov. 18 (AR). A Carolina Wren was heard Sept. 3 and seen Nov. 25 at Rattlesnake Springs, Carlsbad Cavern Nat'l Park, N. Mex. (Frances Williams).

MIMIDS — A Mockingbird was still present at Dilia, Guadalupe Co., N. Mex. Nov. 5 (WH). Two Brown Thrashers were at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 30 (DB), one was at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., N. Mex. Sept. 26 (SW), one was in Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 22-Nov. 18 (VM), and one was at Tule Springs near Las Vegas Oct. 23 (VM). About 6 Crissal Thrashers were found during the period e. of the Dragoon Mts. (WA)

THRUSHES — Robins were unusually scarce, virtually absent, in s.e. and c. Arizona. Only one bird was found all season at Globe (BJ). Finally, at the end of the period, a flock of at least 300 arrived at Portal (SSp). In New Mexico, the picture was somewhat different, with large numbers in most of the n part, including thousands in the Embudo Valley, Rio Arriba Co., especially in October (JWh). An imm. was seen at Elephant Butte Marsh, at the head of Elephant Butte Reservoir, Aug. 19 (CH, BE). Five Varied Thrushes were seen in the Las Vegas, Nev. area, beginning with one at Corn Creek Oct. 18 (CL). Two were taken in Arizona: one at Roll, Yuma Co. on Nov. 19, and one at Komatke on Nov. 26 (both AR). A Swainson's Thrush was observed at Nogales Sept. 23 (TP *et al.*). About 500 Mountain Bluebirds were counted in 15-20 mi. of jeep driving in the Ft. McDowell Reservation Nov. 29 (RJ, JS). An early Townsend's Solitaire was found at Boulder City Aug. 20 (PL).

WAXWING, VIREOS — Two Bohemian Waxwings were seen at Corn Creek Nov. 19, with no large flocks occurring in the Las Vegas area (CL). Nineteen were noted at Farmington Nov. 27-30 (AN). Late or wintering Solitary Vireo singles were seen at Portal Nov. 14 (SSp), in s.w. Phoenix Nov. 19 (RWi), and at Bonito Well, Organ Pipe Cactus Monument Nov. 24 (BM). A Red-eyed Vireo was at Dixon Aug. 24 (JWh), 2 were at Tule Springs near Las Vegas, Nev. Aug. 27 (VM), and one was at Los Alamos Sept. 22 (Lorraine Hartshorne).

WOOD WARBLERS — A Black-and-white Warbler was noted at Boulder City Sept. 29 (PL) and at least 2 others were in the Las Vegas, Nev. vicinity later in the period (CL, VW). One was at Bitter Lake Refuge Sept. 29 (LK), and another was found in lower Sabino Canyon, Santa Catalina Mts. Oct. 17 (GM). A Prothonotary Warbler was carefully observed in Albuquerque Oct. 24-25 (Laura Lefkofsky). Single Tennessee Warblers were seen Oct. 9 & 18 at Corn Creek (CL), Oct. 26 at Boulder City (CL), and Sept. 24 in Baker Canyon, Guadalupe Mts., Cochise Co., Ariz. (WA). A Nashville Warbler was at Dixon Aug. 25 & Sept. 15, and a Parula Warbler was noted there Aug. 24 (JWh). A Nashville Warbler below Coolidge Dam Nov. 3 (TP, SSt) and a Lucy's Warbler at Nogales Oct. 28 (TP) were late, as was a Yellow Warbler at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt). An imm. *Magnolia*

Warbler was window-killed at Farmington Oct. 8 (AN); this is apparently a second record for New Mexico. Perhaps 2 Black-throated Blue Warblers were seen at Corn Creek Oct. 1-Nov. 1 (CL, VM); one was also at Tule Springs Oct. 14 (VM). A Black-throated Gray Warbler was noted at Bonito Well, Organ Pipe Cactus Monument Nov. 24 (BM).

About 7 Townsend's Warblers were at Redington, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 3 (TP, SSt), one was at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt), and about 4 were at Komatke Nov. 26 (AR). One was seen near Saguaro L. Nov. 15 (SD *et al.*), one was in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Ariz. Nov. 21 (Don Hanbury), and one was in Phoenix Nov. 21 (SD *et al.*). A Hermit Warbler was still in the Mazatzal Mts. Oct. 9 (RN), and one below L. Patagonia Oct. 28 (TP, DHa, MR) was exceptionally late. A Blackpoll Warbler was at Quitobaquito Oct. 14 (TP, MR). A N. Waterthrush near Elgin, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Nov. 11 (Ron Pulliam) was late. Three Wilson's Warblers were found at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt). A Painted Redstart was found dead at Youngtown, near Phoenix, Sept. 15 (*vide* SD), one was seen in Phoenix Sept. 10 (*vide* BB), and one was at a Scottsdale feeder Sept. 30 (LD).

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS — Two Bobolinks were found at Mormon Farm, near Las Vegas, Nev. Aug. 24 (Bill Conway, CL). More than 6000 Yellow-headed Blackbirds were already at Picacho Reservoir Sept. 20 (GM). At least one Hooded Oriole was in Globe on Nov. 6 (Donnafred Hoff, SH). A Scott's Oriole was seen near Dwyer, Grant Co., N. Mex. Oct. 11 (RF), and one was at a Tombstone feeder Nov. 6, 10 & 11 (DD). A Western Tanager fed in the Hilton Hotel parking lot in Las Vegas, Nev. at 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 17 (CL). A ♂ Scarlet Tanager was found at Quitobaquito Oct. 21 (TP, MR).

FINCHES & SPARROWS — A Cardinal was observed at Pecos, Reeves Co., Tex. Nov. 22 (SW). A ♀ Pyrrhuloxia was found at Portal Nov. 17 (SSp). A ♂ Indigo Bunting was at Bosque Refuge Aug. 20 (PS). At least 2 Lazuli Buntings were at Komatke Oct. 29 (AR). A ♂ Varied Bunting was still at Kino Springs Sept. 27 (GM). A Painted Bunting was collected n. of Rodeo, N. Mex. Aug. 18 (Ron Shunk, *vide* PS), a ♀ was banded on the Jornada Reserve Sept. 19 (DHi), and a ♂ was seen at Kino Springs Oct. 2 (SSt). A Dickcissel was window-killed near Cliff, Grant Co., N. Mex. about Sept. 26 (DHu), and 1 was a Tucson feeder Oct. 4 (SL). A flight of Evening Grosbeaks occurred early in the period in the extreme w. part of the Region. Large numbers appeared in the Las Vegas, Nev. and Boulder City area with up to 1500 present after Oct. 2 (CL). Twelve were at Topock after Oct. 1 (SB), and small flocks were seen as far s. as Lake Havasu City, Mohave Co., Ariz. Oct. 12 (PL). A "mini-invasion" occurred at Pipe Spring Monument from before Oct. 25 to the end of the period (RWI). At Youngtown, near Phoenix, 18 were found on Oct. 23 (*vide* SD). In New Mexico, they were first seen at Farmington on Sept. 26, and were common after mid-October (AN). About 40 were seen in Ramsey Canyon Oct. 14 (T.A.S.), and 7 were at Portal on Nov. 30 (SSp).

A small flight of Purple Finches occurred in Arizona and in the Las Vegas area of Nevada, the first record being of 2 at Tule Springs near Las Vegas on Oct. 8 (VM). A ♂ was seen as far s.w. as Quitobaquito Nov. 10 (TP, SSt), and 30 were observed just n. of Pipe Spring Monument Nov. 29 (RWI). Cassin's Finches invaded the lowlands, mostly in limited numbers, with the earliest reports from New Mexico: one in the w. foothills of the Florida Mts., Luna Co. Sept. 30 (DZ), and 6 in SU Canyon, San Francisco Mts. Sept. 29-Oct. 1 (BM). They were found as far s. w. as Tal-wi-wi near Phoenix where 2 were seen (one collected) Nov. 23 (RJ, JS). Two Pine Grosbeaks were identified at Bear Wallow, Santa Catalina Mts. Nov. 6 (Stephen Russell). A ♂ was found freshly dead (not preserved) in the first week of November, after being observed for 2 weeks previously, at Gila Bend Air Base, Maricopa Co., Ariz. (Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Elms, *vide* RJ). A flock of 6 Black Rosy Finches was noted 15 mi. e. of Fredonia, Coconino Co., Ariz. Nov. 24 (RWI).

Pine Siskins came to the lowlands in larger numbers than usual, including 160 at Patagonia Oct. 24 (GM) and 175 at Boulder City Oct. 27 (CL). Scattered reports of Am. Goldfinch included 21 at Corn Creek Oct. 9 (CL) and 12 along the Verde R. e. of Phoenix Nov. 11 (*vide* JW). Ads. were still feeding young Lesser Goldfinches in the nest at Dixon Oct. 6 (JWh). Two ♂ Lawrence's Goldfinches were photographed at Corn Creek Oct. 1 for the first documented Nevada record (CL); one was there the previous day (Glade Koch), and one was at Tule Springs the same day (VM). They were present in the Tucson to Nogales area after Sept. 23 (TP *et al.*), and one was at Globe Oct. 16 (BJ). Red Crossbills were abundant in the Pinaleno Mts. Aug. 29-Sept. 1 (GM) and could be found from the Transition Zone up in all s. Arizona mountains in October and later. At least 15 were in Phoenix after Nov. 21 (SD *et al.*). An ad. was seen Oct. 14 along the marsh at the n. end of Elephant Butte Reservoir Oct. 14 (GZ). Seven Rufous-sided Towhees at Komatke Oct. 29 (AR) was an unusual number for a deep Lower Sonoran locality. Lark Buntings were widespread, but in much fewer numbers than last year and below normal.

From one to 5 Grasshopper Sparrows were identified Oct. 2-Nov. 1 near Las Vegas, Nev. and at Corn Creek (CL, VM). Two Five-striped Sparrows were still near Patagonia Oct. 22 (TP). Cassin's Sparrows were last heard singing e. of the Dragoon Mts. Sept. 11 (WA). A Sage Sparrow on Aug. 20 at Elephant Butte Reservoir (CH, BE) was an extremely early arrival. Single White-winged Juncos were noted Nov. 15 & 17 at Jemez Springs (MS) and Nov. 19 at Los Alamos (PS). Three Gray-headed Juncos Sept. 23 in the Dragoon Mts. (DD) were unusually early. A Mexican Junco was found in Kellner Canyon just s. of Globe at 3800 ft. on Nov. 10 (BJ). A Tree Sparrow was observed at Corn Creek Oct. 18 (CL). Single Clay-colored Sparrows were seen at Tule Springs near Las Vegas Aug. 27 (VM) and at Corn Creek Oct. 9 and Nov. 1 (CL) for the first Nevada records. About 200 were on Bitter Lake Refuge Oct. 4 (LK). Seven were banded on the Jornada Reserve on Sept. 15 & 21, and 4 about

7 mi. e. of Las Cruces Nov. 28 (BH). A Black-chinned Sparrow was found near Elgin Oct. 1 (SSt), and one was in mesquites 13 mi. w. of Quijotoa, Papago Reservation, Oct. 21 (TP, MR). At least one Harris' Sparrow was at Corn Creek after Nov. 1 (CL, VM), one was taken at Sun City, near Phoenix, Nov. 4 (C. Douglas, RJ), and 3 were at Pipe Spring Monument Nov. 30 (RWI). A Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen at Corn Creek Oct. 19 (VM). White-throated Sparrows were at Silver City Oct. 20-23 and Nov. 11 (DZ), at Phoenix Nov. 24 (RB), and in n.w. Phoenix Nov. 30 (SD, Helen Longstreth). A Fox Sparrow was found in the Mazatzal Mts. foothills Oct. 9 (RN). A Swamp Sparrow was at Patagonia Nov. 18 (T.A.S.). A McCown's Longspur had arrived at the Jornada Reserve by Oct. 5 (DHI).

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ALASKA REGION

/ Daniel D. Gibson and G. Vernon Byrd

Fall was extended and generally mild throughout the Region this year, and winter did not arrive to stay until after the close of the reporting period. Late departures (or arrivals, as the case may be), including many record late dates, were the order of the season.

LOONS, GREBES, CORMORANTS — An Arctic Loon on the Chena R., Fairbanks, Sept. 29 (MSB), was the only one reported in that area. The latest Red-necked Grebes in the Fairbanks area were 2 on the Chena R., Oct. 15 (TTW); and the latest Horned Grebes were 2 in the same area the following day (MSB). An ad. Red-faced Cormorant observed at Port Etches, Sept. 15 (JDS, *vide* PI), is the third record for e. Prince William Sound.

SWANS, GEESE — Four ad. Whooper Swans, the first fall arrivals, were observed at Amchitka I., Nov. 16 (CEA & GVB). Canada Geese remained at Izembek



Nat'l Wildlife Range through the third week of November, two weeks later than usual (EPB & GVB). One on the Chena R., Fairbanks, Oct. 5 (MSB), was the latest reported in that area. One Brant was observed among some 200 Black Brant at Oliktok Pt., Colville R. delta, Aug. 27 (GEH). Black Brant usually depart Izembek about Nov. 8; this year most of them did not leave until Nov. 22, the latest departure on record (RDJ). A single Black Brant was present on Clam Lagoon, Adak I., from Sept. 30 through the end of the period (GVB & JLT). Emperor Geese arrived later than usual in the c. Aleutians this fall, and at the close of the period concentrations usually present by mid-November were still absent (GVB). A flock of 20 Snow Geese over Chena Ridge, College, Sept. 26 (JDG), was the latest record in the Fairbanks area.

SURFACE-FEEDING DUCKS — In the College-Fairbanks area, Pintails were last seen Oct. 10 (RSH), Green-winged Teal Oct. 14 (TTW), and Am. Widgeon Oct. 16 (MSB). There are few fall records of Blue-winged Teal from the Interior, so one at Fairbanks Internat'l Airport, Sept. 24-30 (DDG & DgS), is of interest. Up to 13 Eur. Widgeon were present at Adak from Sept. 30 through the end of the reporting period (GVB, MJH, & JLT), and a few were seen Oct. 8-12 at Amchitka (GVB). Twenty Shovelers were still present at Fairbanks Internat'l Airport Sept. 30 (DDG); the last three were seen there the following day (TTW). Shovelers are scarce but regular migrants in the Aleutians; 9 stayed at Adak, Oct. 9-13 (MJH & JLT), and a lone ♀ was seen at Amchitka, Oct. 12 (GVB).

DIVING DUCKS — Two Redheads, rare migrants in s.e. Alaska, were observed on the Chilkat R. marsh, Haines area, Oct. 9, and one was seen there the following day (JDW). The latest Ring-necked Ducks reported were 3 at Fairbanks, Sept. 30 (DDG). Single Canvas-

backs at Eyak L., Cordova, Oct. 4 (PI), at Chilkat R. marsh, Oct. 9-10 (JDW), are of interest, the last ones in the College-Fairbanks area were noted Oct. 16 (MSB). Since Lesser Scaup has been regarded as a rare migrant or a casual in the Prince William Sound-Upper Gulf Coast area, it was especially sought this fall, with the following result: 5 on Oct. 2 at Long I., Copper R. delta; 8 on Oct. 3 at Eyak L., Cordova; and 32 on Eyak L., Oct. 9-12, in company with ca. 150 Greater Scaup (PI). Near Haines, two to 60 Lesser Scaup per day were recorded, Oct. 6-11 (JDW). A ♂ Tufted Duck was present on Jones L., Amchitka, Sept. 1-7, and two ♀♀ were seen there Oct. 8 (GVB). Five Barrow's Goldeneyes, rare west of the tree limit, were killed by a hunter at Cold Bay, Sept. 7 (RH). At Adak, Com. Goldeneyes arrived in numbers Oct. 31, Buffleheads arrived Oct. 24, and Oldsquaws arrived Nov. 14 (MJH & JLT), all some two weeks later than usual Buffleheads and Com. Goldeneyes were still present on the Chena R., Fairbanks, in mid-October (MSB, TTW). Two Harlequin Ducks, scarce migrants in the Fairbanks area, were observed there Oct. 7-15 (TTW). Surf Scoters are rare in the c. Aleutians, so two ♀♀ at Adak Nov. 3 (MJH & JLT) are noteworthy. Two ♀-plumaged Smews were observed on Crater L., Adak, Oct. 17-23 (MJH & JLT). There are now at least ten Alaska records of this Palearctic merganser, all since 1960; the species is rare but apparently regular in the c. and w. Aleutians, mainly in fall.

HAWKS, OSPREY, FALCONS — One Harlan's Hawk at Chena Ridge, College, Oct. 15 (JHL), was very late. An Osprey seen over Lower Coho L., Aug. 19 (MAM), is only the third Coho area record of this very locally distributed species. A Gyrfalcon first noted near College, Oct. 15 (MHD), was apparently the same individual seen in the same area Nov. 17 and subsequently (LG). A lone Gyrfalcon was observed on the Colville R. delta, Nov. 18 (GEH *et al.*) Single Sparrow Hawks observed at Auke Bay, Sept. 29 (ESD), and at Haines, Oct. 6-7 (JDW), are among the latest records in the Region.

CRANES — An estimated 90,000 Sandhill Cranes were observed in the Tok-Northway area between noon and dark on Sept. 16 (PDH).

SHOREBIRDS — Am. Golden Plovers were seen in larger-than-usual numbers in the c. Aleutians this fall. At Adak up to 75 birds were counted Oct. 5-6 (MJH & JLT), and over 100 were seen at Amchitka Oct. 8 (GVB). Two in the Cordova area Oct. 13 (PI) were late. Two Black-bellied Plovers were seen at Oliktok Pt., Sept. 13, and singles were noted as late as Sept. 16, two days before freezeup there (GEH). An almost incredibly late record was that of a Whimbrel at Homer Spit Nov. 5 (MAM)! The observer's previous late date for the species on the Kenai Peninsula was Sept. 5. A Spotted Sandpiper at Fairbanks Internat'l Airport, Sept. 23 (TTW), was easily the latest ever there; 30-35 Greater Yellowlegs at the Kasilof R. mouth, Kenai Peninsula, Oct. 15 (MAM), were the second latest record there; and a Lesser Yellowlegs in College Sept. 16 (TTW) was also late. At least two Knots were observed at the Kasilof R. mouth Oct.

22 (MAM), the latest ever in the Region. Sharp-tailed and Pectoral sandpipers stopped in the c. and w. Aleutians in unprecedented numbers during October. Up to 75 Sharp-taileds and as many as 4 Pectorals were observed at Adak, Oct. 1-20 (GVB, MJH, & JLT). At Amchitka the two species, occurring in mixed flocks, reached a peak of at least 300 birds Oct. 8 (GVB & SS). Previously, Sharp-tailed Sandpipers had been recorded less than a half dozen times in the Aleutians, Pectorals four times. Coincident with this movement was the observation of 3 Sharp-tailed Sandpipers at the Kasilof R. mouth, Oct. 15 (MAM). The only Pectoral reported in the Fairbanks area this fall was one at Smith L., College, Sept. 16 (DDG, RSH, & SRJ). Four were seen late in the Cordova area Oct. 13 (PI), and one or two were seen late in the Coho-Kasilof area on Oct. 15 (MAM). Three to five Curlew Sandpipers (see breeding season) were observed on passage at Oliktok Pt., Aug. 8 (GEH). A late Dunlin was recorded at Oliktok Pt., Sept. 17 (GEH); and a Long-billed Dowitcher at Kasilof R. mouth Oct. 7 (MAM), was another latest record there. One Stilt Sandpiper was recorded at Oliktok Pt., Aug. 12 (GEH). On Oct. 9-10 a W. Sandpiper was seen at Clam Lagoon, Adak (MJH & JLT), the second recent record for the Aleutians (see AB, 26: 891, 1972). The first fall record of Bar-tailed Godwit for the Aleutians, which the species apparently normally overflies without stopping, was a single bird at Clam Lagoon, Adak, Sept. 28 (GVB). Subsequently up to 6 were recorded there Oct. 9-19 (MJH & JLT). One Bar-tailed Godwit, the first Kenai Peninsula record, was closely observed with other shorebirds at the Kasilof R. mouth Oct. 7 & 22 (MAM). Six Sanderlings at Barrow Sept. 24 (GEH) are probably the latest record for the arctic coast. At least 150 Red Phalaropes fed in Sweeper Cove, Adak, Sept. 30 (GVB, MJH, & JLT). A record late departure was one Red Phalarope at Pt. Barrow Oct. 25 (GEH).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — A Pomarine Jaeger at Barrow Sept. 18 (DnS) was very late. A few Ivory Gulls were observed with Glaucous Gulls, Ross' Gulls, and Black-legged Kittiwakes at Barrow during October: 2 on Oct. 3 (GEH), a few Oct. 11-17 (DnS), and 6 on Oct. 18 (GEH). This year data were gathered outlining the entire fall migration of Ross' Gull at Pt. Barrow. The first birds, mostly immatures, were noted Sept. 16, and hundreds were present by Sept. 18. There was either some movement of birds back and forth (i.e., inshore to offshore) or 'waves' of birds moving coastally were involved, for on Sept. 20 several thousand Ross' Gulls, in flocks of up to 50, were present; on Sept. 23 most were gone; but by Sept. 30 hundreds were again at the point. Numbers dropped off again during most of October, but on Nov. 5, the last date the species was recorded, ca. 1000 birds were observed in the point area (GEH). It should be noted that Barrow, like the rest of the Region, enjoyed an exceptional autumn, and there was open water there, at least when east winds blew, through the close of the reporting period. The last Sabine's Gulls were seen at Barrow Oct. 3 (GEH). A winter-plumaged Arctic Tern collected at Clam Lagoon, Adak, Sept. 30 (GVB,

* to U.A.), appeared at least a month after all other terns had departed. There is no later record for the state.

OWLS, WOODPECKERS— A Screech Owl heard along the Chilkat R., Oct. 10 (JDW), provides one of few recent records of the species in the Region. A Great Gray Owl was found in Muskox Subdivision, College, Oct. 7 (BK), and was photographed by several observers. Single Yellow-shafted Flickers observed near Haines Sept. 29 and Oct. 1-3 (JDW) and at Cordova Oct. 5 (PI) are among the latest records for the state.

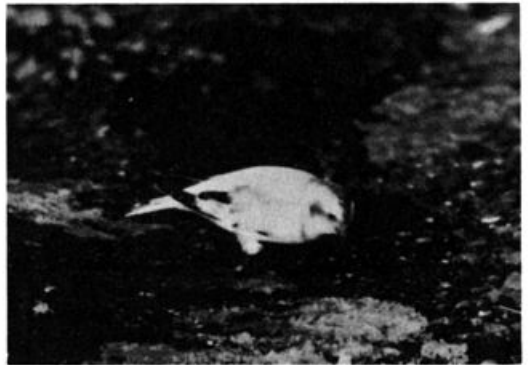
FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, CORVIDS— A Say's Phoebe observed at Eagle R., Juneau, Oct. 6 (ESD), is one of few records for s.e. Alaska. A W. Flycatcher and 2 W. Wood Pewees at Auke Bay, Aug. 29 (ESD), were the last ones noted. A Tree Swallow, the second record for the c. or w. Aleutians, was observed at Adak on the almost incredible date of Nov. 5 (MJH & JLT)! Barn Swallows were seen very late at Cordova: 10 on Sept. 17 and 3 on Sept. 20 (PI). One Clark's Nutcracker was closely seen and heard on Hawkins I., Prince William Sound, Oct. 8 (PGM, *vide* PI).

THRUSHES, PIPITS— As different from many waterfowl, shorebirds, and wood warblers, thrushes departed on schedule. In the Fairbanks area Robins were not reported after Oct. 19 (DDG), Varied Thrushes after Oct. 13 (*vide* BK), Hermit Thrushes after Aug. 28 (BK), and Swainson's Thrushes after Sept. 2 (FH). Three migrant Wheatears were observed on Ester Dome, College-Fairbanks area, Aug. 16 (DDG & RSH). Townsend's Solitaires, which often go unreported entirely, were recorded on the Resurrection Creek Trail, near Hope, Kenai Peninsula, Sept. 6 (PCB); on the Wood R., s.w. of Fairbanks, Sept. 16 (LJP); and near Haines Sept. 29, Oct. 1 & 3 (JDW). A Water Pipit, rare in the c. Aleutians, was collected at Adak Sept. 22 (GVB; * to U.A.). It has not yet been keyed to subspecies. A Water Pipit on the U. of Alaska campus, Fairbanks, Nov. 1 (AMS), was very late; and at least 5 at Coho as late as Nov. 18 (MAM) were the latest ever there.

SHRIKE, STARLING, WOOD WARBLERS— One N. Shrike was noted at Putu Camp, Colville R. delta, Sept. 22-23 (GEH). Apparently migrant Starlings were seen in Haines: 20 on Sept. 9 and 12 on Oct. 1 (JDW). Two Tennessee Warblers observed near Mosquito L., Haines area, Sept. 7 (JDW), are of particular interest, as they provide the second fall record of the species in the Region. There is no specimen or photographic record of this species for Alaska. Single Orange-crowned Warblers were seen very late in the Interior: one on the U. of Alaska campus, Fairbanks, Oct. 20 (MSB, MHD, BK), and a probable Orange-crowned Warbler in the same area, Oct. 27 (TL). A ♀ Yellow Warbler was late at Cordova, Sept. 21 (PI); and the last Myrtle Warbler reported in the College-Fairbanks area was seen Sept. 29 (BK). Fall migrant Townsend's Warblers were reported from Resurrection Creek Trail, near Hope, Sept. 5 (PCB); 3 were

seen at Mud Bay, Haines area, Sept. 6; and 2 were noted near Mosquito L., Haines area, Sept. 7 (JDW). Single N. Waterthrushes were captured in mist nets near Cold Bay Aug. 23 & Sept. 7 (EPB). These records are the second and third for the area. Three were seen at Cordova Sept. 3 (PI), late. Wilson's Warbler was recorded in the Fairbanks area as late as Oct. 8 (LA), somewhat late; but a Wilson's Warbler observed at Coho Nov. 18 (MAM) is unparalleled!

ICTERIDS, FRINGILLIDS— A ♂ Yellow-headed Blackbird arrived at a homestead s. of Fairbanks sometime in August and remained in the area until live-trapped and caged in mid-October (HD). It was identified and photographed Dec. 4 (DDG, RSH, & BK), the third record of the species in Alaska. A few Rusty Blackbirds stayed very late in the Fairbanks area, and at the close of the period there were at least five individuals apparently overwintering. Four Brown-headed Cowbirds were reported at Auke Bay Sep. 20 (ESD). A first local record was a flock of 20-25 Gray-crowned Rosy Finches at Coho Nov. 11 (MAM). Unusual in the c. and w. Aleutians in summer and of irregular occurrence in fall and winter, Com. Redpolls were recorded at Amchitka Nov. 15 (GVB), and at Adak Nov. 22 (MJH & JLT). Both Com. Redpolls and Pine Siskins were numerous in the Cordova-Copper R. delta area in October and November (PI), up to 150+ siskins were seen daily near Haines, Sept 6-Oct. 10 (JDW). The incursion of siskins into the Interior (see breeding season) lasted until mid-September. Fifteen seen in College Sept. 21 (RSH) were the last reported. Eighty were observed at Cantwell, s. slope of the Alaska Range Nov. 8 (HKS). White-winged Crossbills continued to be numerous in the Interior through the close of the observation period (m.ob.), and they were reported to be common in the Coho-Kasilof area during the late fall (MAM). They were rare in the Cordova area during the fall, however (PI). The first recent record of Savannah Sparrow in the c. Aleutians was of one observed at Adak, Sept 26-28 (GVB & JLT). A Savannah Sparrow in Fairbanks on Oct. 5 (HKS) was very late. Slate-colored Juncos were abundant on passage in the Coho-Kasilof area, Aug. 10 through the end of the month, and the



McKay's Bunting, Cold Bay, Alaska. Photo/G. V. Byrd.

latest record there was Sept. 24 (MAM). The latest one at Fairbanks was one on the U. of Alaska campus Nov. 2 (MS). Immature White-crowned Sparrows were observed at Oliktok Pt., one on Aug. 21 and 3 on Aug. 25 (GEH). Three im. White-crowned Sparrows arrived at a Fairbanks feeder on Nov. 6, and two of them were present through the close of the reporting period (WEB). There were two records of **White-throated Sparrows** in the Region this fall: one observed near Smith L., College, Sept. 19 (CPD & DgS); and a ♂ observed with White- and Golden-crowned at Cordova Oct. 7-9 (PI & RI). Lincoln's Sparrow was reported as late as Sept. 23 at Haines (JDW). The last Snow Buntings reported from the high arctic were observed at Oliktok Pt. Oct. 26 (DK, *fide* GEH). A ♂ McKay's Bunting was seen at Cold Bay Nov. 24 (EPB, GVB, & CR), three weeks earlier than the earliest past arrival date.

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NORTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION

/ John B. Crowell, Jr. and Harry B. Nehls

August was warmer but slightly drier than usual. September was cool, with above average precipitation. Rainfall in October was approximately half of what is normal for that month, but average temperatures were nonetheless lower. November also brought less than average rainfall but average temperatures were just at the norm.

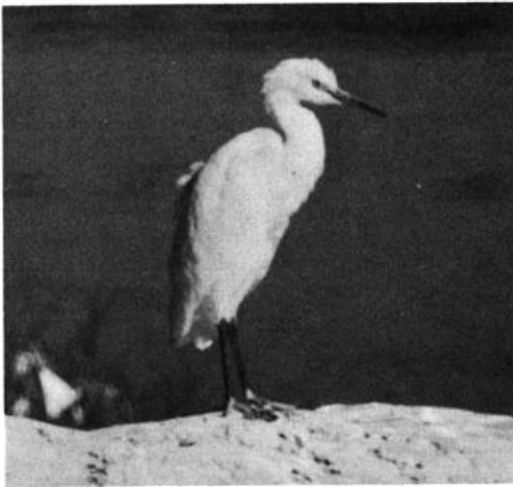
LOONS, GREBES, PELAGICS — An imm. Yellow-billed Loon appeared at Blaine, Wash., Nov. 2 and was "seen twice since" (DP, *fide* TW). An Arctic Loon at the s. jetty of the Columbia R. Aug. 5 (WH) was early, as was the single Red-necked Grebe at Pt. Roberts on the U.S. — Canadian border seen Sept. 6 by several observers (*fide* WW); 40 at March Pt., Wash., Sept. 23 was a highly unusual concentration (WW *et al.*), particularly so early in the season. A single Horned Grebe at Olympia, Wash., Aug. 19 was early as were the 3 at Ocean Shores, Wash. Aug. 27 (all G & WHO). Eared Grebes appeared after the first



week in September at several places in Washington and s. British Columbia. Black-footed Albatrosses were seen in number up to 65 in a day on 5 different offshore trips from Washington and Oregon in the first two months of the report period. Single Laysan Albatrosses were recorded out of Newport, Oreg., Sept. 19 (BP & PR, *fide* FZ) and 57 miles w.n.w. of Westport, Wash., Sept. 10 (FA, *fide* TW). Fulmars were regularly recorded on offshore trips, with the 117 on Oct. 15 (TW) being a noteworthy total. Numbers of Pink-footed Shearwaters were observed on the offshore trips, the 200 off Depoe Bay, Oreg., Aug. 19 being the maximum one-day count, although over 100 individuals were seen out of Westport on both Sept. 10 and Oct. 15. On the latter date, two Pale-footed Shearwaters enlivened the proceedings (TW *et al.*). Numbers of New Zealand Shearwaters seen this fall far eclipsed even last year's record numbers! On Aug. 19, 150 individuals were noted out of Depoe Bay Sept. 11-12, 15 were recorded out of Newport, with 50 seen on a three-day cruise from there a week later (*fide* FZ); meanwhile, out of Westport, 18 were seen Sept. 9, 287 were counted the next day, 47 appeared Sept. 24, and then on Oct. 15, a grand total of 509 individuals was counted (TW *et al.*). Sooty Shearwaters, though present on all offshore trips, were not seen in as great numbers as in other years. A Slender-billed Shearwater was found dead on the beach at Nehalem Bay State Park, Oreg., on the unprecedented early date of Aug. 9 (WH), and 3 were seen over the ocean out of Depoe Bay Aug. 19 (FR *et al.*, *fide* FZ). Fork-tailed Petrels were only lightly recorded, the maximum being nine from Westport Sept. 24 (TW); five individuals were noted in the Straits of Juan de Fuca Sept. 16 (JT, *fide* TW).

PELICANS, HERONS — Brown Pelicans were seen in modest numbers, comparable to numbers for the 12 years along the Oregon coast; both adults and

immatures were well represented from mid-August to mid-November. One appeared off Gray's Harbor, Wash., early in September (TW). On Nov. 1, 800 Brandt's Cormorants were observed at Active Pass in the Gulf Islands off s.e. Vancouver I. (MS, *vide* WW). Green Herons were noted singly and in pairs in widely scattered locations in the s. portion of the Region until the first week in October, as is usual; the species has always been uncommon enough, however, to draw comment whenever found. Com. Egrets appeared in the Region more widely and in greater numbers than ever previously recorded; most sightings were from the s. and c. Oregon coast with the maximum 38 at Coos Bay Aug. 24 (WH), but birds were also seen in the Willamette Valley, at Tillamook, Oreg., and Sept. 2 at the Washington side of the Columbia River. A single Com. Egret was at Lummi Bay near Bellingham, Wash., from Oct. 2 until found dead Oct. 29; *to Washington State Museum (TW). Another Com. Egret was at Cowichan Bay, Victoria, B.C., from Sept. 24 until shot by a "hunter" about mid-October (RS



Snowy Egret, Esquimalt Lagoon, w. of Victoria, B.C., Aug. 26, 1972. Photo/Stuart Johnson.

& VG). A Snowy Egret appeared at Victoria on Aug. 22 and remained for a week, seen and photographed by numerous observers (ARD; VG *et al.*). Another was discovered at the n. jetty of the Columbia R. Sept. 8 (JW, *vide* TW). One-two Black-crowned Night Herons were repeatedly observed at Finley NWR s. of Corvallis, Oreg., in the last ten days of August and in September (FZ *et al.*); two were found at the Skagit, Wash., flats Oct. 6 (EH). A Cattle Egret was first found at Gold Beach, Oreg., Nov. 22 by Lois Brooks, with identification confirmed Dec. 1 (FB); the bird is Oregon's third. Only four reports of Am. Bitterns seen during the report period were received; two came from Vancouver, (*infra* all B.C.) Sept. 25 & Oct. 9, and the other two reports were from the s.w. Washington coast, Aug. 26 & Sept. 30. A Least Bittern was found along Bear Creek near Medford, Oreg., Sept. 10 & 15 (MM, *vide* JH).

WATERFOWL — A Whistling Swan appeared at Ankeny NWR s. of Albany, Oreg., Sept. 19 (early) and remained through October (FZ); small numbers of this species were present in the s. portion of the Willamette Valley after mid-November, and in the tidelands areas between Seattle n. to Vancouver after mid-October. Two Whistling Swans were seen at Ocean Shores Nov. 19 (G & WHO; JM) and one was at Rockaway, Oreg., Nov. 12 (RFi & HN). A Trumpeter Swan showed up at Terrace, B.C., Oct. 11, was joined by an imm. bird Oct. 31-Nov. 21, and was still present alone Nov. 30 (FF). An ad. Trumpeter was at Reifel Refuge near Vancouver Oct. 21 (MS & BM, *vide* WW), while 8 birds appeared at Clear L. near Bellingham Oct. 28 (TW) and one bird showed up at Wiser L. near Lynden, Wash., Nov. 2 (DH, *vide* TW). Black Brant were virtually unremarked, except for a few early arrivals in mid- and late September between Vancouver and Bellingham. October migrations of White-fronted Geese this year brought three individuals to the vicinity of Victoria in late October (JT *vide* SJ) and two to Dungeness, Wash. in mid-November (VG). A count of over 31,000 Snow Geese in Skagit Co. Wash., in mid-November was an all-time high according to the Washington State Game Dep't. (*vide* TW); this species was in migration through the s. portion of the Region as early as mid-September judging by widespread reports; a single bird was a bit out of the way at Victoria Oct. 19-21 (VG; SJ). The 102,000 ducks counted in Skagit County Oct. 10 by the Game Dep't. was "27 per cent below the comparable 1971 count but above the average of the last 17 years" (*vide* TW). Two Gadwall at Ocean Shores Oct. 23-Nov. 30 (JM) were out of place. A Com. Teal was found at Sidney, B. C., Nov. 25 (ARD). The 1000 Green-winged Teal at Pt. Roberts Sept. 9 and the 3000 at Sea and Iona Is. just s. of Vancouver Sept. 24 (*vide* WW) are high counts. A ♂ Cinnamon Teal was at Ocean Shores Nov. 5 & Nov. 26 (JM), both late dates. European Widgeon were frequently reported in the s. portion of the Region after mid-October. Hundreds of Shovelers were concentrated on a small sewage pond at Ladner, B.C. all fall (ND, *vide* WW). Redhead were reported from six localities from Ladner s. to Newport after Sept. 11. Canvasback were not present in normal numbers in their usual haunts; the maximum count of 100 from Newport Nov. 26 (JE & SF, *vide* FZ) was only 10 to 15 per cent of a normal maximum one-day count for the most favored places on the Oregon coast. An estimated 1200 Com. Goldeneye were found at Olympia Oct. 25 (G & WHO). There were 500 Barrow's Goldeneye at Stanley Park in Vancouver Oct. 28 (WW). The two Bufflehead which appeared at Iona I. s. of Vancouver Aug. 20 and remained for more than a month were early (GAP, *vide* WW). An early Oldsquaw was at Iona I., Aug. 20 (GAP, *vide* WW); 90 Oldsquaws were at Pt. Roberts Oct. 15 (BM, *vide* WW). Single Oldsquaws appeared at Newport Nov. 7 (WE, *vide* FZ), at Ocean Shores Nov. 9 (JM), and at Florence, Oreg., Nov. 24 (CAS). There were 60 Harlequins at Victoria Oct. 6 (SJ). An inland occurrence of a White-winged Scoter was recorded Oct. 29 when one was at Pitt R. e. of Vancouver B.C. (WW *et al.*). Surf Scoters were also recorded inland when

two immatures were shot Oct. 21 10 mi s w of Monmouth, Oreg. (JCa *vide* FZ) Four Com Mergansers at the n. jetty of the Columbia R. Aug. 26 were out-of-the-ordinary (HN *et al.*), as were the three early Red-breasted Mergansers at Tillamook Bay Aug. 10 (WH).

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES — Approximately 100 Turkey Vultures were seen over the Rogue R. Valley in s. Oregon Sept. 20 (JH); funnels of 30, 50 and 80 birds were seen there on Sept. 26 ahead of a storm front (OS). At Corvallis, Turkey Vultures were much in evidence, moving southward all through September, with 100 birds Sept. 1 (FI, *vide* FZ) the highest one-day count. A late Turkey Vulture was seen at Birch Bay, near Blaine, Oct. 17 (AB, *vide* TW). On Nov. 22 and again on Dec. 3, and ad. **White-tailed Kite** was carefully identified at Phoenix, Oreg., near Medford (CR & OS); local residents reported that a pair had been in the vicinity since June; the species has been seen in Oregon several times in the last fifteen years. Goshawks were noted at Pt. Roberts in late September, at Victoria in early October, at Reifel Refuge at the end of October and at Finley NWR in late November. Rough-legged Hawks moved into the Region in late September and in early October becoming widely established thereafter; 12 found in a day in late November from Lebanon w. to Finley NWR (JBC & WT) was an indication of their abundance in the c. Willamette Valley. Golden Eagles were seen several times throughout the report period at Victoria (ARD; RS *vide* VG); two were seen at Mt. Finleyson near Goldstream Prov. Park Oct. 25 (JT, *vide* SJ) while two others were seen at the crest of the Cascades e. of Ashland, Oreg., Sept. 23 (OS). Ospreys were seen repeatedly throughout the s. portion of the Region in numbers and varying locations rivaling last fall's occurrences which were described as being "the highest number of reports for a single season in at least 10 years". A gray-phase Gyrfalcon was observed for hours at Ocean Shores Sept. 24-26 (JM & GHo); another gray-phase bird was at the Samish Flats near Bellingham Nov. 29 & 30 (NL, *vide* TW). A very dark Gyrfalcon was seen at Reifel Refuge Nov. 20 (RK, *vide* WW). A Prairie Falcon appeared at Agate L. near Medford Nov. 18 & 25 (OS). We are in receipt of 11 Peregrine sightings from 8 localities between mid-September and mid-November, a poorer representation than last year. Lone Pigeon Hawks at Pemberton, B C, Aug. 17 (AL, *vide* WW) and at Merlin, Oreg., (!) just n. of Grants Pass Sept. 3 (EP) were the earliest of very few reports received for the season. The 35 Sparrow Hawks from Pemberton, (about 80 mi. n. of Vancouver) Aug. 17 are of interest, as are the 14 there Sept. 24 (AL, *vide* WW).

GAMEBIRDS, CRANES, SHOREBIRDS — A Ruffed Grouse in the low dunes at Leadbetter Pt. Aug. 26 (HN *et al.*) was a curiosity. Three White-tailed Ptarmigan seen in the Tantalus Range n. of Squamish, B C (TC & AS, *vide* WW) are of interest. Sandhill Crane individual stragglers were seen around Victoria and on the tidal flats between Everett and Bellingham through much of October; Sauvie I., n.w. of Portland,

Oreg., was as usual a stopping point in mid- and late October for hundreds of migrating Sandhills. Virginia Rails were found several times n. of Victoria from late August until mid-November (SJ); single birds also were recorded at Reifel Refuge Sept. 11 (AG, *vide* WW) and Oct. 28 (ND, *vide* WW), one was also at Tillamook Bay Sept. 16 (JBC & RFi). A Sora was found at Iona I. Sept. 2 (GAP, *vide* WW); another was seen at Medford Sept. 10 (OS). Approximately 1000 Coots were said to be present at Pitt Meadows e. of Vancouver Oct. 17 (JWi, *vide* WW). Wayne Hoffman hiked the Oregon beaches from n. to s. in August, during which time, he noted over 600 Semipalmated Plovers and 214 Snowy Plovers. American Golden Plovers were found at coastal points from Ocean Shores to Coos Bay and near Vancouver and Victoria Aug. 23 (Coos Bay)-Nov. 9 (Ocean Shores); highest counts were an astounding 200 at Sea I. near Vancouver Sept. 16 and 100 at Ocean Shores Sept. 30. More than 800 Black-bellied Plovers were counted at Boundary Bay near Blaine, also Sept. 16. On Aug. 18, there were 19 Ruddy Turnstones at Alsea Bay on the Oregon coast (WH); one was at Bay City on Tillamook Bay in company with Black Turnstones Nov. 17 (EP). A Long-billed Curlew was found at the mouth of the Coquille R. near Bandon, Oreg., Aug. 25 (WH). Late Whimbrels were two at Ediz Hook, near Port Angeles, Wash., Nov. 16 (VG) and 3 others at Newport Nov. 7 (WE & FZ); Hoffman found single birds or small groups all along the Oregon coast in August, with the largest concentrations being 22 at Newport on the 17th and 33 at Alsea Bay the next day. Lone Solitary Sandpipers appeared at Iona I. Aug. 20 (GAP *et al.*; TW) and Sept. 12 (BM, *vide* WW), and at Finley NWR Sept. 1-3 (FZ). Wandering Tattlers were scarce, being reported only from Pt. Roberts, Victoria, Ocean Shores, and the Columbia R. mouth Aug. 5-Oct. 13, with 6 maximum. Willets appeared singly at Crescent Beach, B.C., repeatedly at Dungeness, at Westport, Newport and Winchester Bay, Oreg., where two were present, on varying dates between Aug. 19 and Nov. 7 for a record number of single season occurrences. The 52 Greater Yellowlegs at Reifel Refuge Aug. 23 (AG, *vide* WW) was a noteworthy total, as was the 97 Lesser Yellowlegs there Sept. 10. 125 Lessers at Iona I. Aug. 20 was even more remarkable (RP *et al.*, *vide* WW). Knots were found at Leadbetter Pt. Sept. 9 when 10 were seen (EH), there were 4 at Ocean Shores Sept. 23 & Nov. 9, and 18 on Nov. 19 (JM, GHo), 3 at Dungeness Sept. 23 (EH), and one on the Samish Flats Oct. 8 (EH & TW). For the second consecutive year, a Rock Sandpiper showed up early at Ocean Shores; this one Aug. 12 (G & WHO); otherwise, it was not until the last week in October that others were found there and at Victoria. Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were found in numbers up to 7 commencing Sept. 12 and continuing through Oct. 29; the places so favored were Burnaby Lake, B.C., the environs of Victoria, Iona I., Reifel Refuge, Ladner and Ocean Shores. Pectoral Sandpipers were seen in most of those same places and at others too, including one at Siltcoos L. channel s. of Florence, Oreg., Aug. 21 (WH); maximum was 130 at Iona I. Oct. 7. Hoffman found Baird's Sandpipers at 5 locations on the Oregon coast during

his August trek, the species was also recorded at two other Oregon coastal locations, at Ocean Shores and Whidbey I., Wash., and at Sidney, Saanich, and Iona I., B.C., all Aug. 9-Sept. 30; 8 together at Tillamook Bay Sept. 16 (JBC & RFi) was the maximum count. The 525 Long-billed Dowitchers found on Westham I., near Vancouver Oct. 21 was a very high count (MS & BM, *vide* WW). A Stilt Sandpiper was photographed at Saanichton Inlet during its sojourn there Aug. 21-28 (SJ *et al.*). A Buff-breasted Sandpiper appeared at the Ocean Shores airport Sept. 1 (JM); the same bird or another was there Sept. 16-17 (GHo & JM). Another Buff-breasted Sandpiper was carefully studied s. of Takenitch L., Douglas Co., Ore., on the ocean beach Aug. 21 (WH). A Bar-tailed Godwit was discovered at Reifel Refuge Sept. 16, photographed Sept. 30, to Photoduplicate File, U.B.C. (JS *et al.*, *vide* WW). The record is evidently the second for the province. Hoffman found from one-20 Marbled Godwits at 5 localities between Newport and Gardiner, Ore. Aug. 17-22; single godwits were found twice at Leadbetter Pt., once at Ocean Shores, and once at Saanichton Inlet Sept. 1-16. A Ruff was found for the second consecutive September on Whidbey I., Wash., this year on Sept. 23 (RL & LI). Single Red Phalaropes were seen on 4 Oregon beaches Aug. 13-28 (WH); up to 16 were seen at sea on boat trips from Westport and Depoe Bay up to mid-October; one was also noted at Pt. Roberts Oct. 14 (BM, *vide* WW). Two Wilson's Phalaropes were recorded at Sauvie I. Sept. 3 (HN) and two others were at Pt. Roberts Sept. 6 (WR *et al.*, *vide* WW). Northern Phalaropes were found frequently from Vancouver and Victoria, on the ocean, and at Washington and Oregon coastal points, as well as in the Willamette Valley from mid-August until the first week in October; maximum numbers were the 1000 at Victoria Aug. 17, 1800 there the next day, and the 300 at the mouth of the Siuslaw R. n. of Florence, Ore., Aug. 20.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were found on most offshore trips during the period; the 21 Pomarines off of Westport Sept. 9 (TW *et al.*) was a high count. The 15 Parasitic Jaegers at Pt. Roberts Oct. 21 (MS *et al.*, *vide* WW) is a surprising concentration. A Long-tailed Jaeger was off Newport Sept. 11 (WE, *vide* FZ), another was seen 10 mi. w. of Grays Harbor Sept. 22 (*vide* TW), and an immature was seen out of Westport Sept. 24 (DH *vide* TW). Single Skuas were also observed 3 times this season; two were seen off Westport Sept. 10 & 24 (TW *et al.*), while the other was recorded at Victoria Oct. 28 (RS, *vide* VG). An estimated 11,000 California Gulls were around a six-vessel Russian fishing fleet 35 mi. from Westport Oct. 15 (TW *et al.*). Franklin's Gulls appeared in numbers, as is usual, in the Vancouver-Victoria-Bellingham area from August through October; the adult found at Tillamook Oct. 15 (HN), however, may well be the first record for the Oregon coast. Bonaparte's Gulls were abundant in the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca and in Puget Sound until the end of October; 1500 birds of this species were noted at Ocean Shores Oct. 30 (G & WHO). One and possibly two Little Gulls made

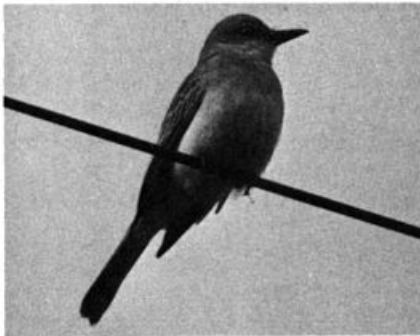
the first appearance known to us for the species in this Region. The first individual was an adult discovered at Victoria, Oct. 24 by Stuart Johnston who watched the bird for over an hour and took very meticulous notes and made careful accompanying drawings; after a lapse of several days the bird was seen by other competent observers (RF, VG & RS). The bird is said to have remained at Victoria until Nov. 19 (ARD). The second Little Gull — also an adult — was separately found Nov. 5 at Pt. Roberts and independently identified by two observers (RA; RP, both *vide* WW); thus, the State of Washington was assured its first record for the species, too. A late Heermann's Gull was at Blaine Nov. 25 (DP, *vide* TW), the same day two were noted at Tillamook (HN *et al.*). A spectacular 1000 Black-legged Kittiwakes were seen at Ocean Shores Sept. 16 (G & WHO) twelve days after 100 had been seen at Kingston, Kitsap Co., Wash., on Puget Sound. Sabine's Gulls in number up to 75 were seen on most offshore trips from mid-August to mid-October; single individuals were also seen at Victoria the third week in September and at Pt. Roberts Oct. 15 (BM & RK, *vide* WW). Com. Terns were somewhat more numerous than usual in September in the Straits of Georgia and Juan de Fuca, with between 70 and 100 individuals reported for several different days and localities; top count, however, was the 300 birds at Ocean Shores Sept. 16 (G & WHO); the 40 at Florence, Ore., Aug. 20 (WH) are also of interest. Up to 40 Arctic Terns were seen on four September offshore trips from Newport and Westport; one was at Pt. Roberts Aug. 20 (TW) and about 30 were at the s. jetty of the Columbia R. Sept. 28 (HN). Caspian Terns were observed at numerous points along the Oregon coast in August (WH); 8 were still at the Columbia R. mouth Sept. 28 (HN). Two Black Terns were seen at L. Whatcom near Bellingham on Aug. 19 (JD *vide* TW).

ALCIDS — A count of 565 Cassin's Auklets at sea off Westport Sept. 24 (TW *et al.*) was a high total. Of special interest is a report that a F. & W. S. census flight (presumably using photographic means) June 26, 1972, found almost 700 Tufted Puffins on Oregon's offshore rocks from Cannon Beach to Brookings; largest colonies were at Cannon Beach, Oceanside, and Cape Kiwanda.

OWLS, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS — Two Barn Owls were found at Ocean Shores Oct. 12 (JM). A Burrowing Owl remained at Baskett Slough NWR, n. of Dallas, Ore., Oct. 1-25; on Oct. 4, two birds were present there (JMi, *vide* FZ). A Long-eared Owl roost harboring 12 or more was discovered in a thick stand of bottom-land second growth deciduous trees at Finley NWR in early November and was still being utilized by Nov. 30 (FZ *et al.*); three other individuals of this species were seen at Ashland, Ore., at Reifel Refuge, and at Brunay Mtn. near Vancouver, all during the last week of October. Another Banded Owl was found in the Region during the report period; this one at Vancouver's w. end Nov. 13; photo to U.B.C. photoduplicate file (*vide* WW). A Great Gray Owl was reported seen at Crane Prairie Reservoir on the e

side of Oregon's Cascade Mts. Oct. 14 (*vide* FS). Road-killed Saw-whet Owls were picked up at Mount Vernon, Wash., Nov. 11 (EH) and w. of Hoquiam, Wash., Nov. 19 (G & WHO); a live bird was discovered at Malahat, n. of Victoria Sept. 24 (JT *vide* SJ). A Poorwill was seen n. of Sisters, Oreg., on the e. side of the Cascades Sept. 30 (WH). A Com. Nighthawk was at Victoria Oct. 7 (VG). On Sept. 22, there were 250 Black Swifts at Surrey, B.C. (*vide* WW); Black Swifts in numbers up to 30 were also noted at Victoria four times between Aug. 18 (VG) and Sept. 24 (SJ), at Iona I. Sept. 24 (GAP *vide* WW), at Ocean Shores Sept. 8 (G & WHO), and at Gleneden Beach, Oreg., Aug. 15 (WH). The one or two Vaux's Swifts seen at Victoria Oct. 6 (SJ) were late migrants. The increasing number of fall Anna's Hummingbird reports each year is a marvel! This year we have received mention of birds at Langley, B.C., through November; at Saanich, where one bird has been present since Oct. 8 and another since Nov. 14; at Clear L., Wash., from mid-October, at Portland where numerous reports originated; at Oakridge, Oreg., where a pair has been present since sometime early in 1972; at Gold Beach, where several have been present since Sept. 9; and finally from Medford where at least 16 individuals are being supported by feeders.

WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, AND JAYS — Lewis' Woodpeckers evidently were again back to being quite scarce in the Region during this report period. A Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker was seen in the Oregon Cascades 4 miles n. of the Santiam highway e. of Detroit Sept. 16 (*vide* FZ). Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers were seen at Manning Provincial Park, Sept. 10 & 27 (VG). Eleven E. Kingbirds were counted at Pember-



Tropical Kingbird, Victoria, B.C., Oct. 22, 1972. Photo/Stuart Johnson. Record has not yet been formally accepted by local committee.

ton Aug. 17 (AL, *vide* WW). A bird at Victoria Oct. 16-22 proved, after careful study and photography, to be a **Tropical Kingbird** (RF, VG, SJ); excellent detailed notes were furnished independently by the latter two observers, along with two black and white prints; the bird constitutes the second record for British Columbia, the first also having come from s. Vancouver I. in 1923. An Ash-throated Flycatcher was found dead on the beach at Cannon Beach, Oreg., Aug. 8 (WH); an imm. was seen at Baskett Slough NWR Aug. 19

(*vide* FZ). A pair of E. Phoebes was reported near Ashland Sept. 20 (*vide* JH). A Violet-green Swallow was still lingering at Sooke, B.C., Nov. 27 (SJ *et al.*). On Sept. 2, there were 18 Bank Swallows at Iona I. (GAP, *vide* WW); on Sept. 21, a single bird was at Reifel Refuge (TW). Two late Barn Swallows were noted at Westham I. again, this time on Nov. 25 (WC, *vide* WW). One or two family groups of Purple Martins were reported the latter half of August or the first week in September from 4 localities in the s. portion of the Region. Movements of Steller's Jays into Finley NWR in October and into the Rogue R. valley in late September were very early. Two Black-billed Magpies were in Portland from Oct. 1 to the end of the period; one was at Glacier, Wash., Sept. 20 and another was on the Lummi Flats, Oct. 28 (JD, *vide* TW). Clark's Nutcrackers appeared, usually singly or in pairs, at several points near Vancouver and between Seattle and Bellingham, and then again in the vicinity of Corvallis after Oct. 10 and up to mid-November. Between Charleston and Bandon on the s. Oregon coast. however, flocks of up to 200 nutcrackers appeared in early October (HR)!

CHICKADEES, WRENS, MIMIDS AND THRUSHES — Several Mountain Chickadees were observed at Vancouver, at Bellingham and at points between after mid-October or in November. Three Boreal Chickadees were found n. of Vancouver, B.C. Oct. 18 (DHa, *vide* WW). An out-of-place Pygmy Nuthatch was found in W. Vancouver Oct. 17 (1R, *vide* WW). Thirteen Bewick's Wrens at Elk L., Vancouver I., Nov. 19 (MS) are of interest. A Rock Wren was found in Manning Provincial Park Sept. 27 (VG). Catbirds were again noted at Pitt Meadows, e. of Vancouver when two were seen Sept. 10 (BM & WW). Western Bluebirds were recorded in varying numbers at Finley NWR and at Medford from the last week of September until Nov. 30; they were reported elsewhere only from Wolf Creek, Josephine Co., Oreg., where two were present in early September (EP).

PIPITS, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES, VIREOS, WARBLERS — Migrant Water Pipits appeared the last few days of August, and then were seen increasingly throughout most of the Region, declining somewhat in numbers after mid-October. A Bohemian Waxwing was noted at M. Finleyson, 12 mi. n.w. of Victoria Nov. 11 (RS, *vide* VG); another was seen 6 days later at Dungeness, Wash. (VG). Cedar Waxwings were very much in evidence all fall in Oregon's Willamette Valley. Northern Shrikes staged the biggest influx ever into the Region, starting the last week of September at Pemberton; by mid-November, several had reached Medford while in the interval birds had been recorded all through the Puget Sound trough and the Willamette Valley, with numbers also reaching the coast both in Washington and Oregon. A Loggerhead Shrike was found at Finley NWR Oct. 7 (FZ). Single Red-eyed Vireos were seen at N. Vancouver Aug. 26 (GAP, *vide* WW), at Enumclaw, Wash., Sept. 3 and at Seattle Sept. 6 (EH). Orange-crowned Warblers evidently were migrating through the Vancouver-Victoria area the first week in September, with 55 at Vancouver

and 15 at Victoria Sept. 6 and 32 at Pitt Meadows Sept. 10 (SJ; BM, *vide* WW). A Nashville Warbler was observed at Vancouver Sept. 9 (BM, *vide* WW). Yellow Warblers at Victoria (MS, *vide* WW) and at Reifel Refuge both on Sept. 25 (RP, *vide* WW) were late stragglers, as was the one banded at Medford Oct. 8 (OS). Three Black-throated Gray Warblers at Vancouver Oct. 3 (ML) were late also. Palm Warblers turned up at Newport Oct. 16 (GB & RO, *vide* FZ), at Pt. Roberts Oct. 21 (MS & BM, *vide* WW), at Westham I. Oct. 31 (RK, *vide* WW) and at Saanich Nov. 19 (MS, *vide* WW). Two MacGillivray's Warblers and a Wilson's Warbler at Vancouver Sept. 30 (WW) were late. A Redstart was found at Westham I. on the surprising date of Nov. 2 (RK & ND, *vide* WW).

BLACKBIRDS, FINCHES, SPARROWS — A dead bird picked up at North Bend, Oreg., in early October was identified as a **Bobolink** (HR). Three ♂♂ Rusty Blackbirds were seen n. of Victoria Oct. 28 (RS, *vide* VG); another Rusty Blackbird was discovered at Westham I. Nov. 25 (WC, *vide* WW). A W. Tanager was still at N. Vancouver Sept. 25 (WW). Small groups of Evening Grosbeaks appeared at scattered points in the Region from Vancouver s. to Corvallis through the fall. Twenty-three presumably migrating Purple Finches were recorded at Finley NWR Aug. 31 (FZ). A pair of Cassin's Finches were seen at Manning Prov. Park Sept. 27 (VG). Two Pine Grosbeaks had been seen there the day before (VG); one more was found in the Park Nov. 11 (MS & BM, *vide* WW). Flocks of Gray-crowned Rosy Finches were at Crater L., Oreg., Oct. 8 (CG, *vide* FZ) and 1000+ were seen at the 6000 ft. level on the w. side of Mt. Baker Oct. 19 (RSa, *vide* TW). Pine Siskins were noted sporadically at a few places in the s. portion of the Region from September into November. Am. Goldfinches were noted as being uncommonly abundant from Vancouver s. to the Willamette Valley; and estimated 1500 were at Sauvie I. Sept. 20 (HN *et al.*). Red Crossbills, Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins were recorded sparingly and at random locations through much of the s. portion of the Region. Two Vesper Sparrows were recorded in Manning Prov. Park Sept. 27 (VG). Slate-colored Juncos were frequently noted in s. British Columbia, n. Washington, and to the Washington coast this fall. Harris' Sparrow, too, showed up surprisingly often, records coming repeatedly from Vancouver, Bellingham, Seattle and points between after mid-October; birds also were noted at Victoria and, in late November, at Medford. White-throated Sparrows showed up at Victoria, Sauvie I., Finley NWR, Eugene, Oreg., and Medford at various dates in October and November. Lincoln's Sparrows were found repeatedly at Pitt Meadows and in the vicinity of Victoria throughout September, at Pt. Roberts Oct. 28, at L. Sammamish e. of Seattle Nov. 5, and at Newport Nov. 4. Lapland Longspurs were seen at many of the Region's stopping points for this species, the high count being the 100 at Ocean Shores Oct. 13 (G & WHO); two sightings of particular interest were of 6 e. of Mt. Baker at 6000 ft. Sept. 13 (JD, *vide* TW) and of two at Manning Prov. Park Sept. 27 (VG). Snow Buntings were much more abundant than usual,

with 40-65 at Ocean Shores the latter half of November; 25 were at Tsawwassen, B.C. Nov. 24 (DH & EH), and up to 8 were seen from Seattle to Victoria and up to Ladner Oct. 14-31. A single Snow Bunting was also found at Lakecreek, Oreg., Nov. 14 (*vide* OS).

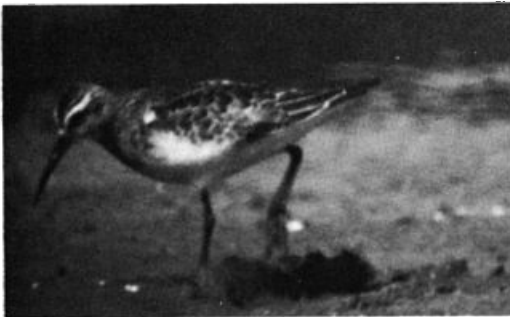
OBSERVERS — Frank Anderson, Richard Asher, Alex Benedict, Fred Bowen, Gene Burreson, Wayne Campbell, John Casteel, (JCa), Teresa Colby, John B. Crowell, Jr., A. R. Davidson, Brian Davis, James Duemmel, Neil Dawe, William Elliott, John Engbring, Roy Fisk (RF), F. Frank, Ralph Fryer, Sean Furniss, Vic Goodwill, Charles Grant, Al Grass, Dave Hawes (DHa), D. Heinemann, Joseph Hicks, Wayne Hoffman, Glen & Wanda Hoge (G & WHO), Stewart Holohan, Eugene Hunn, Laura Ingham, Francis Ives, Stuart Johnston, Richard Knapton, Norman Lavers, Richard Lindstrom, Al Luck, Michael Luz, Bruce Macdonald, Merle McGraw, Jim Micuda (JMj), Jim Morris, Harry Nehls, Michael & Carol Newlon, Robert Olson, Dennis Paulson, Bill Percy, Roy Phillips, G. A. Poynter, Eleanor Pugh, William Rae, Fred Ramsay, Hilda Reiher, Craig Roberts, Ian Robertson, Peter Rothlisberg, C. A. Saffell, Richard Sandberg (RSa), Ron Satterfield, Michael Shepard, G. G. Spragg, John Steeves, Andrew Stepniewski, Otis Swisher, J. Tatum, William Thackberry, University of British Columbia (U.B.C.), Terry Wahl, Wayne Weber, Joe Welch, Jack Williams (JWi), Fred Zeilemaker, *—Specimen.—**JOHN B. CROWELL, JR., 1185 Hallinan Circle, Lake Oswego, OR 97034 and HARRY B. NEHLS 2736 S. W. 20th Ave., Portland, OR 97202.**

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION / Dave DeSante and Van Remsen

Both readers and contributors should note that the boundaries of our Region have been extended to include all of northern California north of the line



exceptional numbers. Am. Golden Plovers were scarce this fall, particularly in Humboldt Co. (DE). A Ruddy Turnstone, very rare in the C.V. was at Davis Aug. 19-26 (TM, DAG). More than 1000 Long-billed Curlews were near Woodland Nov. 19, an outstanding concentration (TM, RS). Big numbers of Whimbrels were noted at four separate localities on Sept. 2: flocks of 150 and 120 flying s. at P.R.N.S. (LCB, RS, VR), 25 at Salmon Creek, Sonoma Co., (JH), 21 at the Pajaro Rivermouth (J&RW), and 60 at the Dumbarton Bridge (PM). More than the normal number of Solitary Sandpipers, very rare in this Region particularly along the coast, were reported: 1-2 at the Carmel Rivermouth Aug. 20 (DDeS, RS, VR) and Sept. 20 (BE), and singles at Honey L. Aug. 25 (B&RL), Woodland Sept. 2, 10 (B&RL, JH), Los Banos Sept. 8-12 (ROW), and Chico Sept. 17 (TM, BW). More than the normal number of coastal Lesser Yellowlegs reports were received. This species peaked inland at Woodland with 20 birds Sept. 16 (B&RL); the only other report of over 20 of this species was at the same place and date in 1968. Single Rock Sandpipers were reported from Pt. Pinos Nov. 5 (AB) and the Farallons in mid-Nov. (P.R.B.O.). At least 112 Pectoral Sandpipers were reported from the coast Sept. 7-Oct. 31 and at least 40 from the C.V. Aug. 30-Oct. 7 — two excellent falls in a row for this species. Thirty at Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Sept. 23 (PM) were the most ever reported from a coastal locality. A Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was caught and banded at Bolinas Lagoon, Marin Co., Oct. 4 (P.R.B.O.); there are now satisfactory records for this species from 4 of the last



Curlew Sandpiper, immature, Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Sept. 17, 1972, Photo/Doug Cheeseman.

7 fall seasons. An imm. Curlew Sandpiper was at Pescadero Creek Sept. 16-17 (TC, DDeS, PM); good photos were obtained for California's second state record. It was an excellent fall for Baird's Sandpipers: 44 coastal and 14 C.V. birds were reported, with the latest coastal bird at P.R.N.S. Oct. 15 (DDeS) and latest C.V. bird at Chico Oct. 17 (TM). Marbled Godwits, rare in the C.V. were at Chico Sept. 12-21 (TM) and Woodland Sept. 2 (B&RL). Red Phalaropes had an average-to-poor year offshore and very few birds were found along the immediate coast. Wilson's Phalaropes peaked at Chico Aug. 9 and Woodland Aug. 5, about 3 weeks earlier than N. Phalaropes at both places. (TM, B&RL). Shorebird peaks at Tule L. were 80,000 Least Sandpipers, 72,000 W. Sandpipers,

34,000 Am. Avocets, 18,000 Long-billed Dowitchers, 8000 N. Phalaropes, and 2000 Wilson's Phalaropes (EJO).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — Pomarine Jaegers were scarce along the coast (RS *et al.*) but were in average numbers offshore with a peak of 45 Sept. 23 off Monterey (AB *et al.*) Parasitic Jaegers, however, were very scarce offshore, no more than one being seen on any boat trip, but there were a number of reports from the immediate coast along with one at the San Mateo Bridge, S.F. Bay, Oct. 8 (BE), one at Palo Alto Nov. 22 (VR, TC, SB, BY), and one inland at Eagle L., Lassen Co., Sept. 22 (DS). A dead Long-tailed Jaeger was found at the mouth of the Salinas R., Monterey Co., Sept. 30 (DAI). Single Skuas were recorded on Monterey Bay 4 times this fall (AB, RS, RM *et al.*) and at least one was off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 (DDeS, RLeV, TC *et al.*).

Arrivals of the big numbers of gulls were late this year (DDeS). A first-winter Thayer's Gull at L. Tahoe Nov. 25 was probably a first record for that locality (GMcC). On Oct. 22 a migratory influx of 8000 California Gulls was in Drake's Bay and another 3000 were on Abbott's Lagoon (LCB, VR), and then on Oct. 24 they were suddenly all over Golden Gate Park (LCB). The first Mew Gulls were noted in the Region Oct. 18-22 (RS, BE, *et al.*), later than the normal first arrivals. Franklin's Gulls were at Chico Aug. 19 (BW, LT), Arcata Aug. 22-26 (RLeV) and Oct. 13 (DS), Palo Alto Sept. 16-24 (TC, BE) and Oct. 15 (WB), and Alviso, Santa Clara Co., Nov. 9 (RG). Of 800 Heermann's Gulls at Pt. Pinos Aug. 19, 25% were first-year birds, 75% second-year, and none were adults (VR). An adult was at L. Merced, San Francisco, Nov. 28 — a very late date for an adult. (BE). Black-legged Kittiwakes were virtually absent from the Region this fall and Sabine's Gulls were very scarce.

A Com. Tern at 10,056 at Saddlebag L. was at an unusual location (TC). Very few Arctic Terns were reported offshore. A carefully identified imm. was at Pt. Pinos and an adult at the Salinas Rivermouth both Oct. 8 (DDeS). Elegant Terns had another excellent year along the coast (LCB, DDeS, WB). The latest birds were 2 at Pacific Grove Nov. 17 (AB). As many as 26 were in Humboldt Bay Sept. 30 (TS). Single Black Terns, very rare along the coast, were at Santa Cruz Aug. 30 (WB), Moss Landing Sept. 15-17 (WB), and Arcata Sept. 22-Oct. 1 (TS, DE, RLeV *et al.*)

ALCIDS—Single Thick-billed Murres, possibly different individuals, were photographed and well-described from Monterey Bay Sept. 23 (RS, RLeV *et al.*) and Oct. 7 (GMcC, RS, TC *et al.*). Marbled Murrelets were reported from seven locations from Monterey to Crescent City. The only Xantus' Murrelets reported were 5-7 on Monterey Bay Sept. 23 (AB, TC *et al.*) and Oct. 18 (RS). A Craveri's Murrelet was photographed after flying onto a boat off Monterey Aug. 8 (RM) for only the second record in recent times (see Summer report). Small numbers of Cassin's Auklets were recorded on Monterey Bay until Oct. 7 (VR

Eagles, 2 Rough-legged Hawks, 1 Ferruginous Hawk, 1 probable imm. Goshawk, 1 unident. Buteo, and 1 unident. falcon. Noteworthy by their absence were Peregrine Falcons and Pigeon Hawks; whether they use a different migration route, are simply not detected at this observation point, or are just extremely rare has not been determined. Also noteworthy was the documentation of the migratory nature of Red-shouldered Hawks and White-tailed Kites, and that Rough-legged Hawks, Ferruginous Hawks, and Golden Eagles, while not uncommon as wintering birds in Marin and Sonoma Cos., seldom move farther south along the coast by this route. N. California had only 5-6 satisfactory records for Broad-winged Hawk prior to this fall (first record in 1967); thus the 18 Broad-winged recorded Sept. 21-Nov. 2 were amazing. The most on a single day were 5 on Oct. 5. The question as to whether this is an annual occurrence, previously overlooked, or an exceptional year will be unanswered until next fall.

INVASION OF MONTANE AND NORTHERN SPECIES — One of the prominent features of the fall was the outstanding invasion of most of our montane winter-invading species to the lowlands of our Region. The large numbers of these species that occurred along the coast in September and October suggested that our Region was about to witness the most massive invasion in recorded history. The influx, however, seemed to diminish rapidly in late November and we were left with an outstanding but not unprecedented number of birds. Foremost among the montane invaders were Evening Grosbeaks which were recorded virtually throughout the lowlands of the Region beginning in early and mid-September. The major influx along the coast occurred between Sept. 27 and Oct. 14 when they were recorded in at least 14 locations between Humboldt Bay and Big Sur. No less than 256 passed Pt. Diablo between Oct. 3 and Nov. 20 with the major influx Oct. 3-7 accounting for 192 (LCB). One even reached S. Farallon for the first island record on Oct. 3 (P.R.B.O.). A second major influx occurred in the latter half of October, perhaps peaking around Oct. 25, and brought more birds to the coast, particularly to the Bay Area and Monterey, but also supplied large numbers to the Central Valley (C.V.) from Davis (DAG) and Sacramento (BK) to Fresno (AC, R&KH). A third major influx to the central coast and C.V. occurred Nov. 17-24. The origin of these grosbeaks is, of course, an intriguing question. The fact that numbers of these birds were recorded moving in the Sierra during the fall and that most had disappeared by late November indicates that substantial numbers moved down from the Sierra. However, good numbers were seen moving south in the Cascades between Alturas and Tule L. Nov. 26 (DDeS, RS, *et al.*) indicating that a more northern origin is also possible.

Clark's Nutcrackers reached the coast in exceptional numbers during the early fall but were gone by the end of the season. At least 47 individuals were found at 17 locations between Prairie Creek (*fide* MK) and Monterey Sept. 21-Oct. 27, including singles on S. Farallon Oct. 5 and Oct. 27 (P.R.B.O.). As none

were seen after this last date, the question remains, did they return to the mountains, move further south or perish in the ocean? Red-breasted Nuthatches, after a two-year absence, staged a large but not massive invasion to the coast and lowlands. Interestingly, the arrivals of most individuals coincided with the major landbird waves, indicating that the same weather factors may influence the flights of both invading species and long-distance migrants. Exceptional numbers of Golden-crowned Kinglets occurred both along the coast and in the C.V. from Oct. 6 to November. At least 50 were present in Caswell Park, San Joaquin Co., in Oct. (MM), an unusually high count for the C.V. The main flight reached the coast during the Oct. 20-25 wave at which time they were the commonest migrant on Pt. Reyes (DDeS, VR, LCB).

A sizeable invasion of Purple Finches occurred along the coast in early and mid-October. At least 100 were on Pt. Reyes Oct. 3 (RS, GM *et al.*) while 1228 passed Pt. Diablo Oct. 5-Nov. 20 with a peak of 876 Oct. 13 (LCB). Better than average numbers were in the C.V. at Davis (DAG), Sacramento (BK) and Fresno (AC) after early October. Small flocks of Red Crossbills were seen along the coast, primarily during late October and early November — certainly not a major invasion. Only 7 passed Pt. Diablo Oct. 23-Nov. 8 (LCB) but 2 were in Sacramento Nov. 1 (*fide* BK). Pine Siskin numbers were greater than the past 2 falls, both on the coast and in the C.V., but were certainly not up to invasion standards: only 144 passed Pt. Diablo (LCB). Similarly, most observers felt Am Goldfinches to be in slightly better than average numbers, yet only 17 passed Pt. Diablo (LCB). Lesser Goldfinches were thought to be in average numbers, 179 passing Pt. Diablo may be normal for a fall (LCB).

Smaller numbers of several other montane species reached the coast or lowlands and were undoubtedly part of the same invasion. A down-mountain movement of Steller's Jays was recorded along the w. slope of the Sierra between Chico (TM) and Sacramento (BK) Between Oct. 15 and Nov. 3 as many as 70 in a day (Oct. 26) crossed an Auburn, Placer Co., hillside, an elevation of only 1000 ft. (MA). Piñon Jays invaded the crest and w. slope of the Sierra during the early fall: 20 were near Parker Pass, Tulare Co., Sept. 7 (AC) and 20 were at the Wawona Tunnel, Yosemite, on the same day (WB); 20 were at Saddlebag L., 10,056 ft., Yosemite, Sept. 9 and several were heard near Lion Pt., 35 mi. n.e. of Fresno, Oct. 6 & 13 (AC). A lone individual was at Pt. Diablo Oct. 7 (LCB, J&SL) for what may be only the fifth coastal record for the Region. Several Mountain Chickadees reached the lowlands on both the e. and w. side of the Sierra. Two Mountain Bluebirds reached the coast: 1 at Pt. Pinos Oct. 21-22 (RS, AB) and 1 at Pt. Diablo Nov. 8 (LCB, BE). Likewise, 2 Townsend's Solitaires reached the coast: 1 in Tilden Park, Berkeley, Sept. 30 (AP) and 1 at Pt. Diablo Oct. 3 (LCB). A Cassin's Finch was present in Oakland Nov. 5 (DE) for one of the very few coastal records.

Several other species of landbirds invaded the Region in good numbers this fall and, while they cannot generally be considered to be part of our Sierran montane avifauna, they may have been triggered by similar

conditions Band-tailed Pigeons returned to the Bay Area in large numbers this fall. No less than 20,241 passed Pt. Diablo Sept. 28-Nov. 30 with a peak of 4471 Nov. 5 (LCB). The origin of these birds? D.F.G. reported large numbers of pigeons leaving Oregon, Washington and British Columbia early this year (*S.F. Chronicle*, Sept. 24, 1972). The destination? D.F.G. reported 25-30,000 present in the Santa Cruz and n. Santa Lucia mts. by the end of Nov. (BE). Lewis' Woodpeckers were present in unprecedented numbers in the foothills surrounding the Sacramento Valley after mid-September. Noteworthy concentrations included at least 147 that passed over Auburn Sept. 13-17 (MA), at least 70 along 3 mi. of Putah Creek, Yolo-Solano Co., Sept. 19 (FB) and hundreds flycatching from the foothill oaks e. of Sacramento Nov. 5 (TM, DAG, BW *et al.*). Despite these amazing numbers, comparatively few reached the coast, these mostly in the Bay Area (JL, DDeS *et al.*). A massive invasion of Varied Thrushes inundated nearly all parts of the Region this fall, the first major influx occurring Oct. 1923. Noteworthy records were 30 at a single location in the Sierran foothills, Madera Co., and 50 along a small stretch of the San Joaquin R. near Fresno (AC, R&KH). A second influx in late November brought even more to the coast, especially Monterey Co., (AB) and saw singles at Mammoth Lakes and Lee Vining, Mono Co. (JF). Winter Wrens occurred in exceptional numbers along the coast, arriving as early as Aug. 29 at Pt. Reyes and Rodeo Lagoon (RS, VR). A single was along the Sacramento R. near Chico Nov. 4 where they are rare (TM).

In contrast to the above species, Robins were present in only fair-to-poor numbers throughout the fall until late November when the first large influx began. Similarly, Cedar Waxwings were present in below average numbers during the fall, the only sizeable influx occurring early-mid-October. Despite this scarcity of Cedars, 2 Bohemian Waxwings were noted this fall, the first very early, Sept. 18-19 at Inverness, Marin Co (G. Brady), the second Nov. 6 in Sacramento (GM).

LOONS THROUGH PETRELS — Loon migration followed normal patterns, although 20 Arctics and 5 Commons at Pt. Reyes Nat'l Seashore (P.R.N.S.) Sept. 2 was a large number for so early (LCB, RS, VR). An Arctic Loon, extremely rare inland, was at L. Tahoe Nov. 25 (GMcC). Very early Red-necked Grebes were at Rodeo Lagoon Aug. 29 (RS, VR, WMP) and Limantour, P.R.N.S., Sept. 5 (WMP). A Horned Grebe at Abbott's Lagoon, P.R.N.S., Sept. 2 (LCB, RS, VR) was also very early. An incredible concentration of Eared Grebes covered Mono L. Sept. 14 — perhaps 100,000 birds! This seems unbelievable, but a similar figure was arrived upon by a different observer (JF) last year at this location (*vide* HK). One thousand W. Grebes, a very large concentration, were on Drake's Bay, P.R.N.S., Oct. 22 (VR, LCB). Very late-nesting Pied-billed Grebes (pair with recently hatched young) were noted at Rodeo Lagoon Aug. 22 (WMP).

The only Black-footed Albatross noted s. of Humboldt Co. was one near the Farallons Sept. 6 (TM);

this species was virtually absent off the c coast this fall. Only very small numbers of Fulmars were reported. After mid-Sept., Pink-footed Shearwaters often outnumbered the normally more common Sooty Shearwater on boat trips. The very rare Pale-footed Shearwater was found off Monterey Aug. 20 (G. Hunn, LCB, *et al.*). New Zealand Shearwaters were scarce, peaked early, and left the region early (RS *et al.*) the largest sighting was 20 off Monterey Aug. 23 (RM) and the latest were 4 off Bodega, Sonoma Co., Oct 8 (BDP *et al.*). Five Manx Shearwaters were on Monterey Bay Oct. 15 and 7 on Oct. 18 (RS, RLeV). One or two Forked-tailed Petrels were found on Monterey Bay Oct. 2, 18 and 21 (J&RW, RS). The only Leach's Petrel was a white-rumped bird off Humboldt Co. Oct 1 (RS, TC, *et al.*). Thirty-five Ashy Petrels off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 were very far north (LCB, RS, DDeS *et al.*), as were 10 Black Petrels off Bodega Bay Oct 8 (BDP, GB). The usual petrel flock off Moss Landing in Monterey Bay comprised 4000 Ashy and 400 Black Sept. 23; built up to 6000 Ashy and 1000 Black on Oct. 8 and 4500 Ashy and 800 Black on Oct. 18; then decreased to 250 Ashy and no Black by Nov. 22 (AB, RS, J&RW *et al.*). Present in this flock was a Wilson's Petrel Aug. 18-Oct. 18 (AB, LCB, RS, *et al.*); this species has now been found there every fall since 1967. Also in this flock were 1-3 Least Petrels Oct. 8 (AB) and Oct. 18 (RS). Another was well-described off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 (DDeS, RS, RLeV *et al.*); this is the farthest north report on the Pacific Coast; however, there is still no specimen for N. Calif., although there are at least 5 well-documented sight records.

PELICANS THROUGH HERONS — White Pelicans were reported in normal numbers with a maximum of 800-900 in s. S.F. Bay Oct. 18-24 (HLC, BE) Coastal and S.F. Bay censuses showed Brown Pelican numbers were unchanged from last fall (D.F.G., BE) The high percentage of first and second-year birds (50-85%), as noted during the summer period, was evidence of a successful breeding season in Mexico (AB *et al.*) A Magnificent Frigatebird at Santa Cruz Oct. 20 (*vide* RGr) was a leftover from this summer's invasion. Heron and egret populations all appeared normal. Cattle Egrets invaded the Region this fall—reports were received from virtually every locality. Six birds from 4 localities were reported in Oct., with the earliest bird on the Farallons Oct. 12 (DAi); and then from Nov. 17 to the end of the period, 25 individuals, mostly imm., were found at 10 coastal and 3 inland localities. An ad. Yellow-crowned Night Heron appeared at San Rafael, Marin Co., Nov. 5 and is apparently wintering; this is the same locality where an ad. has summered for 5 consecutive years (ABu). There is no winter record for this Region.

WATERFOWL — D.F.G. reports showed that hunters at the wildlife refuges in the Region killed 86,484 ducks, 1,873 geese, and 2,833 coots this fall through Nov. 26; this is less than 2% of the total refuge populations. In the Tule L.-Lower Klamath refuges, "dark geese" (Canada and White-fronted) peaked at 560,450 and "white geese" (Snow and Ross') peaked at 315,150 all on Nov. 8 (D.F.G. aerial surveys). These

numbers are nearly the same as last fall. The main exodus of all geese and ducks from the Tule L. area occurred on Nov. 12 (EJO). Black Brant were very scarce along the coast this fall; almost no migrating flocks were detected (AB *et al.*); two were found inland at Tule L. Nov. 26 where they are very rare (DDeS, RS). Single sub-ad. or imm. Emperor Geese were near Chico Oct. 15 (TM, LT *et al.*, photos), Humboldt Bay Nov. 11 & 14 (different birds - DS, DE, TS, RM), and Big Lagoon, Humboldt Co., Nov. 11 (shot by hunter, *vide* DE). These are the first of this species in the Region since 1968. The only Blue Goose reported was 1 at Tule L. Oct. 21 (G. Peyton). A Ross' Goose found dead at Arcata Nov. 24 was the first Humboldt Co. record (DE).

Thirteen Fulvous Tree Ducks at Woodland, Yolo Co., Aug. 28 (DAG) and 15 there Sept. 2 (B&RL) were very large numbers for so far north. D.F.G. aerial surveys obtained the following peak numbers at Tule L. - Lower Klamath: Mallards — 138,200; Pintails — 992,000; Am. Widgeons — 306,000 and Shovelers — 221,000. The principal arrival date at Tule L. for Pintail was Aug. 6, for Shoveler Aug. 13 and for Mallard and Am. Widgeon Aug. 27 (EJO). Pintails apparently reach the C.V. earlier than other waterfowl; the percent increase from the Oct. 25 to the Nov. 22 census (about 25%) was very low compared with other species (D.F.G.). Single Eur. Widgeons were at Palo Alto Nov. 12-end of period (DDeS, TC, BY), Sacramento N.W.R. Nov. 18 (DDeS *et al.*), Humboldt Bay Nov. 24 (LCB, VR), and Tule L. Nov. 26 (RS). Eight Wood Ducks flying south over the ocean at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15 was an unusual observation (RS).

The big numbers of diving ducks were late in returning this fall and only small numbers had appeared by the end of the period (BE, LCB, DDeS). Redheads peaked at 2200 and Ring-necked Ducks at 400 at Tule L. (EJO). Numbers of Canvasbacks at Tule L. were about twice normal, peaking at 16,380 (EJO). Barrow's Goldeneyes were found inland at De Sabla Res., Butte Co., Nov. 8-17 (BW), Feather R. near Oroville Nov. 19-21 (GN), Honey L. Nov. 24 (GMcC), and Tule L. Nov. 26 (DDeS). They have wintered at the first two locations in previous years. Single ♀ or imm. Oldsquaws were at P.R.N.S. Oct. 22 (VR, LCB), Pt. Pinos Oct. 28 (AB), and on the Klamath R., Del Norte Co., Nov. 12 (DE, RM); an ad. ♂, very rare in this Region, was on Humboldt Bay from Nov. 16 to the end of the period (DE, TS, RM *et al.*). The resident Harlequin Ducks at Ano Nuevo (5-6♂♂, 1♀) were present all fall (WB, SB *et al.*). Twelve ♂♂ Harlequins were found together along the n. Sonoma Co. coast Oct. 1 (L. Lawlor, *vide* VR). Two imm. Surf Scoters, a rare species inland, were at De Sabla Reservoir Nov. 8-17 (BW, TM). A Com. Merganser along the Sacramento R., Butte Co., Aug. 16 was very early (TM).

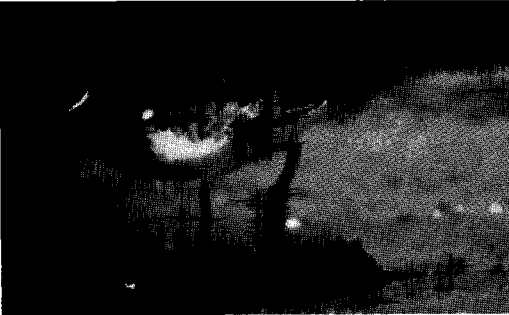
RAPTORS THROUGH RAILS — A large southward movement of Turkey Vultures involving at least 1000 birds was noted at Chico Sept. 28 (LT, TM). A few days later (Oct. 3-4) much farther south (Fresno Co.) hundreds again were noted moving south (RHG). White-tailed Kites were considered scarce this fall in Sonoma Co. (LWG) and in no better than average

numbers elsewhere. Four obviously migrating White-tailed Kites were noted together high above P.R.N.S. Sept. 2 (LCB, RS, VR). Four Goshawks were reported from the Sierra, 1 from the Warner Mts. Nov. 25 (DAG, RS) and 1 at Tule L. Nov. 26 (DDeS). A very probable Goshawk (imm.) was observed at Pt. Diablo Nov. 17 (LCB) - there are very few satisfactory coastal records. Three to four times the normal number of Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawk reports were received, but this reflected mainly the more thorough reporting by contributors. Last fall Sharp-shinned reports outnumbered Cooper's 3 to 1, but this year the ratio was nearly 1 to 1 (71 vs. 70 coastal reports). A ratio of 4 Sharp-shinned to 3 Cooper's was found at Pt. Diablo (see above), which agrees fairly well with the ratio from other localities. On Aug. 22, an albino Red-tailed Hawk returned to Ft. Barry, Marin Co., for the fourth consecutive year (WMP). An ad. **Harlan's Hawk** well-described from Loleta, Humboldt Co., Oct. 29 (RLeV) may be a first coastal record for Calif. In addition to the 18 birds recorded at Pt. Diablo, single imm. **Broad-winged Hawks** were found at San Francisco Sept. 20 (LCB) and the Big Sur Rivermouth, Monterey Co., Oct. 12 (RS). Normal to above-normal numbers of all other raptors were reported, including 15 coastal Peregrine Falcons and an unprecedented 20 Pigeon Hawks. Unfortunately, more thorough reporting by contributors was probably the sole reason for the increases, but perhaps next fall more valid comparisons can be made. Despite a fairly promising summer, one raptor definitely below normal this fall was Swainson's Hawk; this decreasing species should definitely be on the Blue List for Calif. Golden Eagles peaked at Tule L. Nov. 15 with 21 birds (EJO), and a few days later, Nov. 19, 11 immes. were migrating s. at Woodland (DDeS). Bald Eagles peaked at Tule L. Nov. 15 with 68 birds (EJO). A Prairie Falcon was at 10,056 ft. at Saddlebag L. Sept. 9 (TC). Between Sept. 9 and Oct. 15 at P.R.N.S. no ad. ♂♂ were found among 28 Sparrow Hawks, although 3 ♂♂ were seen on Oct. 21 (DDeS); the possibility of differential migration peaks or routes should be investigated.

Eleven Mountain Quail were noted at the s. edge of their coastal distribution at sea level near Jenner, Sonoma Co., Oct. 6 (LWG). A survey of Clapper Rail populations in the Dumbarton Bridge area of S.F. Bay showed no decline from a 1970-71 study; 60-70 were counted in one study area Nov. 21 (RG, BE). Single Black Rails unrecorded in the Region since 1967, were heard and seen near Tomales Pt., P.R.N.S., in Oct (G. Brady, DDeS); one was found near the Dumbarton Bridge Oct. 24 (BE) and was later seen by nearly every observer in the S.F. Bay area through the end of the period. D.F.G. aerial surveys showed that Am. Coots peaked at 93,500 at Tule L. Lower Klamath Oct. 25

SHOREBIRDS — Two Semipalmated Plovers were at Los Banos N.W.R. refuge, Merced Co., Aug 16 (ROW) and one was at Woodland Oct. 25 (BK); this species is a rare migrant in the C.V. Good numbers of Snowy Plovers were reported; 83 were at the Pajaro Rivermouth Nov. 10 — highest count last year, 33 (J&RW). One hundred were found at Bodega Bay Nov. 24 (ABu) and 200 at Limantour Nov. 19 (AP) — both

exceptional numbers Am. Golden Plovers were scarce this fall, particularly in Humboldt Co (DE) A Ruddy Turnstone, very rare in the C.V. was at Davis Aug. 19-26 (TM, DAG). More than 1000 Long-billed Curlews were near Woodland Nov. 19, an outstanding concentration (TM, RS). Big numbers of Whimbrels were noted at four separate localities on Sept. 2: flocks of 150 and 120 flying s. at P.R.N.S. (LCB, RS, VR), 25 at Salmon Creek, Sonoma Co., (JH), 21 at the Pajaro Rivermouth (J&RW), and 60 at the Dumbarton Bridge (PM) More than the normal number of Solitary Sandpipers, very rare in this Region particularly along the coast, were reported: 1-2 at the Carmel Rivermouth Aug 20 (DDeS, RS, VR) and Sept. 20 (BE), and singles at Honey L. Aug. 25 (B&RL), Woodland Sept. 2, 10 (B&RL, JH), Los Banos Sept. 8-12 (ROW), and Chico Sept. 17 (TM, BW). More than the normal number of coastal Lesser Yellowlegs reports were received. This species peaked inland at Woodland with 20 birds Sept. 16 (B&RL); the only other report of over 20 of this species was at the same place and date in 1968. Single Rock Sandpipers were reported from Pt Pinos Nov. 5 (AB) and the Farallons in mid-Nov. (P R B.O.). At least 112 Pectoral Sandpipers were reported from the coast Sept. 7-Oct. 31 and at least 40 from the C.V. Aug. 30-Oct. 7 — two excellent falls in a row for this species. Thirty at Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Sept. 23 (PM) were the most ever reported from a coastal locality. A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was caught and banded at Bolinas Lagoon, Marin Co., Oct. 4 (P.R.B.O.); there are now satisfactory records for this species from 4 of the last



Curlew Sandpiper, immature, Pescadero Creek, San Mateo Co., Sept. 17, 1972, Photo/Doug Cheeseman.

7 fall seasons. An imm. **Curlew Sandpiper** was at Pescadero Creek Sept. 16-17 (TC, DDeS, PM); good photos were obtained for California's second state record. It was an excellent fall for Baird's Sandpipers: 44 coastal and 14 C.V. birds were reported, with the latest coastal bird at P.R.N.S. Oct. 15 (DDeS) and latest C.V. bird at Chico Oct. 17 (TM). Marbled Godwits, rare in the C.V. were at Chico Sept. 12-21 (TM) and Woodland Sept. 2 (B&RL). Red Phalaropes had an average-to-poor year offshore and very few birds were found along the immediate coast. Wilson's Phalaropes peaked at Chico Aug. 9 and Woodland Aug. 5, about 3 weeks earlier than N. Phalaropes at both places. (TM, B&RL). Shorebird peaks at Tule L were 80,000 Least Sandpipers, 72,000 W. Sandpipers,

34,000 Am Avocets, 18,000 Long-billed Dowitchers, 8000 N Phalaropes, and 2000 Wilson's Phalaropes (EJO).

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — Pomarine Jaegers were scarce along the coast (RS *et al.*) but were in average numbers offshore with a peak of 45 Sept. 23 off Monterey (AB *et al.*) Parasitic Jaegers, however, were very scarce offshore, no more than one being seen on any boat trip, but there were a number of reports from the immediate coast along with one at the San Mateo Bridge, S.F. Bay, Oct. 8 (BE), one at Palo Alto Nov. 22 (VR, TC, SB, BY), and one inland at Eagle L., Lassen Co., Sept. 22 (DS). A dead Long-tailed Jaeger was found at the mouth of the Salinas R., Monterey Co., Sept. 30 (DAI) Single Skuas were recorded on Monterey Bay 4 times this fall (AB, RS, RM *et al.*) and at least one was off Humboldt Co. Oct. 1 (DDeS, RLeV, TC *et al.*).

Arrivals of the big numbers of gulls were late this year (DDeS). A first-winter Thayer's Gull at L. Tahoe Nov. 25 was probably a first record for that locality (GMcC). On Oct. 22 a migratory influx of 8000 California Gulls was in Drake's Bay and another 3000 were on Abbott's Lagoon (LCB, VR), and then on Oct. 24 they were suddenly all over Golden Gate Park (LCB). The first Mew Gulls were noted in the Region Oct. 18-22 (RS, BE, *et al.*), later than the normal first arrivals. Franklin's Gulls were at Chico Aug. 19 (BW, LT), Arcata Aug. 22-26 (RLeV) and Oct. 13 (DS), Palo Alto Sept. 16-24 (TC, BE) and Oct. 15 (WB), and Alviso, Santa Clara Co., Nov. 9 (RG). Of 800 Heermann's Gulls at Pt. Pinos Aug. 19, 25% were first-year birds, 75% second-year, and none were adults (VR). An adult was at L. Merced, San Francisco, Nov. 28 — a very late date for an adult. (BE). Black-legged Kittiwakes were virtually absent from the Region this fall and Sabine's Gulls were very scarce.

A Com. Tern at 10,056 at Saddlebag L. was at an unusual location (TC). Very few Arctic Terns were reported offshore. A carefully identified imm. was at Pt. Pinos and an adult at the Salinas Rivermouth both Oct. 8 (DDeS). Elegant Terns had another excellent year along the coast (LCB, DDeS, WB). The latest birds were 2 at Pacific Grove Nov. 17 (AB). As many as 26 were in Humboldt Bay Sept. 30 (TS). Single Black Terns, very rare along the coast, were at Santa Cruz Aug. 30 (WB), Moss Landing Sept. 15-17 (WB), and Arcata Sept. 22-Oct. 1 (TS, DE, RLeV *et al.*)

ALCIDS — Single **Thick-billed Murres**, possibly different individuals, were photographed and well-described from Monterey Bay Sept. 23 (RS, RLeV *et al.*) and Oct. 7 (GMcC, RS, TC *et al.*). Marbled Murrelets were reported from seven locations from Monterey to Crescent City. The only Xantus' Murrelets reported were 5-7 on Monterey Bay Sept. 23 (AB, TC *et al.*) and Oct. 18 (RS). A **Craveri's Murrelet** was photographed after flying onto a boat off Monterey Aug. 8 (RM) for only the second record in recent times (see Summer report). Small numbers of Cassin's Auklets were recorded on Monterey Bay until Oct. 7 (VR

et al.) and Oct 15 (RS) when 100 and 50+ respectively were seen, but then on Oct. 18 1000+ were noted (RS) and they were passing Pt. Pinos Oct. 17 at 40 per hour (BE). A Tufted Puffin, seldom reported away from breeding sites, was found on Monterey Bay Oct. 7 (GMcC, RS); 3 were off Bodega Bay Oct. 8 (BDP *et al.*).

PIGEONS THROUGH GOATSUCKERS — A White-winged Dove was at the Carmel Rivermouth Oct. 7 (RLeV, DDeS *et al.*) and Oct. 26 (*vide* AB). Two Mourning Doves that passed Pt. Diablo Oct. 13 were the only ones seen there during the entire fall, an excellent indication of the scarcity of this species on the n.w. coast (LCB). A Roadrunner near Ukiah, Mendocino Co. in October (*vide* MaAS) was at a new location for this species but was the only report of the fall. Large numbers of Barn Owls were reported throughout the Region and 18+ on outer Pt. Reyes during the fall (RS, VR *et al.*) may indicate a successful breeding season. A Great Gray Owl at Wawona Meadows, Yosemite, 4050 ft, during Oct. and Nov. (NM *et al.*) may have been part of the down-mountain movement. A very early Long-eared Owl was on S. Farallon Sept. 2-3 (TM); another migrant was at Pt. Reyes Oct. 21-22 (Eds. *et al.*). Fifteen reports of Short-eared Owls from the C.V. and coast are average for a fall but 20+ together in the Arcata Bottoms Nov. 24 was an unusually large concentration (VR, LCB). Several Poor-wills in the C.V. and on the coast, most in mid-October, provide probable migration records. Seven Common Nighthawks recorded as migrants over Chico Aug. 21-Sept. 12 (TM) were the only reports for the fall.

———— S.A. ————

Nocturnal species may be subject to a potentially serious danger in our Region: road kill. Two Screech, 1 Long-eared, 3 Short-eared, 4 Saw-whet and several Barn Owls as well as 2 Poor-wills were picked up dead along roads, mostly in the C.V., this fall (BM, RS *et al.*). Most interesting was the fact that the fatalities of each species were clumped at specific times during the fall coinciding with the timing of other migration records for these species. This suggests that fall dispersal or migration brings many young or inexperienced birds into fatal encounters with California's increasingly heavy traffic. It is likely that large high trucks are responsible for the heaviest toll. Reptiles and amphibians have already been shown to suffer dramatic losses at the expense of the "better and faster freeway" and as more and more of these roads are penetrating even the remote areas of our Region, we may expect this problem to become more serious.

SWIFTS THROUGH WOODPECKERS — Migrant swifts were reported in unusually good numbers this fall. Two Black Swifts were over S. Farallon Sept. 8 (P.R.B.O.), a flock of 60 passed Pt. Diablo Sept. 28, 9 passed there Oct. 13 (LCB) and 2 were over Pt. Pinos Oct. 14 (RS, AW, RLeV). While apparent migrations of Vaux's Swifts were noted in Prairie Creek and along the Klamath R. as early as Aug. 15-16

(MK, ODS), individuals and sizeable flocks were noted all along the coast between Sept. 17 and Oct. 20. At least 1275 passed Pt. Diablo during this period with the peak flight being 1018 Sept. 29 (LCB). Another 1000+ were seen at sundown at Chicken Pt., San Rafael, Sept. 30 (ABu). The concentrations of hummingbirds that can be attracted to a good feeder in our Region is astounding. Remsen began setting up feeders in the Berkeley Hills in mid-August and within 2 weeks attracted a stable population of 3-400 Anna's Hummingbirds of which 85% were ♂♂. *Selasphorus* hummers peaked at about 100 in early September; their numbers then quickly dropped as they left our Region but 3, probably Rufous, remained at the end of the period. Departure dates of *Selasphorus* hummers from other parts of the Region likewise fell between Sept 17-28.

Five "pure", 4 "hybrid" and 6 "undetermined" Yellow-shafted Flickers were found in the Region this fall. Pileated Woodpeckers have added a second location to their range in the Santa Cruz Mts.: several were heard and seen at Portola Park, San Mateo Co., in early September and 1, probably an imm. ♂, was picked up dead (BE). Acorn Woodpeckers were reported in excellent numbers throughout the Region, generally associating with a good acorn crop. Several along the coast in September and October may have been part of the montane invasion. Three "Red-naped" Sapsuckers — very rare in our Region — were found this fall: 1 at Pt. Pinos Sept. 25 (RS), 1 in Palo Alto Nov. 11 (TC) and 1 in San Mateo Co. Nov 19 (PM).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WRENS — Two E. Kingbirds were found this fall: 1 at Pt. Reyes Sept 2 (RS, LCB, VR) and 1 at Bodega Bay in mid-September (LWG *et al.*). Seven Tropical Kingbirds were found along the coast this fall, but all occurred somewhat earlier than usual, Sept. 17-mid-October Only 6 W. Kingbirds and 2 Ash-throated Flycatchers found along the coast during the early fall illustrate the scarcity of these species there. Two **Great Crested Flycatchers**, the sixth and seventh for the Region but the first on the mainland, were found this fall 1 at Rodeo Lagoon on the exceptionally early date of Aug 25 (WMP, BF *et al.*) and 1 at Pt. Lobos, Monterey Co., Sept. 17 (*vide* RS). An **Eastern Phoebe** was near the Spreckles Sugar Pond near Salinas, Monterey Co., Nov. 29-Dec. 2 (BG). While only the eighth fall or early winter record for the Region it falls at the time when the majority of these birds have been found Only 5 individuals Hammond-Dusky type flycatchers were recorded from the C.V. or the coast during the fall. At least 3 Least Flycatchers were banded on S. Farallon this fall: Sept. 1, Sept. 19 & Oct. 5 (TM, P.R.B.O.). There are now at least 13 fall records for the Region, nearly all on S. Farallon.

A major flight of Violet-green Swallows passed through the Region in early and mid-October and included 200 at Searsville L., Stanford, Oct. 10 (DDeS), 100+ at Olema March Oct. 14 (J&SL), 500 at the Carmel Rivermouth Oct. 14 (RS) and 1097 over Pt. Diablo during this time (LCB). A few swallows of most species lingered until late September and Barn Swal-

lows were in good numbers on Pt Reyes until Oct 15 (DDeS) but a Barn Swallow at San Luis N.W.R. Oct 29 (PM) and a probable Bank Swallow at Sacramento N.W.R. Nov. 4 (TM) were very late. A Black-billed Magpie, possibly a wild bird, was near Arcata after Nov. 22 (TS, DE et al.). Another returned for the second straight winter near Napa (BDP). Black-capped Chickadees may be spreading south into Humboldt Co.: 2 were at Fairhaven Aug. 26-Oct. 10 (RLeV, DE, TS et al.) and 2 were at Gold Bluff Beach, Prairie Creek Park, Nov. 12 (DE, RM). Three Chestnut-backed Chickadees at the Wawona Tunnel, Yosemite, Oct. 8 (S&KB) add another location to their known Sierran range. A Rock Wren was at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15-26 (RS, DDeS et al.); they are rare on the coast away from their breeding grounds.

MIMIDS THROUGH VIREOS — Four Sage Thrashers were found w. of the Sierra this fall: singles on S Farallon Sept. 8-15 & Oct. 3 (BW, P.R.B.O.), 1 at Volta W.A., Merced Co., Sept. 12 (ROW) and 1 near Kneeland for the first Humboldt Co. record, Oct 24 (DE, TS et al.). Hermit Thrushes were reported in much larger numbers this fall than last. The latest Swainson's Thrushes were 4 at Pt. Reyes Oct 15; with them was a **Gray-cheeked Thrush**, the fourth fall individual in the Region (DDeS). Encouragingly, good numbers of W. Bluebirds were reported throughout the Region during the season. A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was at the mouth of Jacoby Creek on Humboldt Bay after Nov. 7 for the Humboldt Co. record (RM, DE, TS et al.). At least 10 N. Shrikes from the Great Basin, 3 in the C.V. and at least 6 in Humboldt Co., all after Oct. 20 and most in late November, may be slightly above normal for the Region. The number of Starlings recorded in the Region, including the number of flocks in the tens of thousands, continues to increase at an alarming rate. A **Gray Vireo**, the first record for the Region, was carefully described from Pt. Reyes Sept. 17 (DE, LS). A **Red-eyed Vireo** was at Fairhaven Sept. 26-27 (RLeV, DE, TS et al.) and "lots" (?) of Red-eyed Vireos were reported from S Farallon in October (P.R.B.O.). There may be only 7 previous fall records for the Region.

WOOD WARBLERS — In marked contrast to last fall, most of our western warblers were present along the coast in better-than-average numbers. Both Yellow and Townsend's Warblers occurred in exceptional numbers, not only on the coast but also in such interior locations as Lafayette, Contra Costa Co., (LF). A minimum of 26 Hermit, 25 Nashville and 21 Black-throated Gray Warblers along the coast were many more than the usual sprinkling. A high count of 8 Nashville Warblers along with 200 Yellows at the Carmel Rivermouth Sept. 12 was exceptional (RS). Late Nashvilles were 4 around Humboldt Bay in November including 2 at Eureka Nov. 21-22 (DE, TS et al.). Late Black-throated Grays included 1 at Sacramento Nov 19 (RS, GM, TM) and 1 at Bodega Bay Nov. 25 (LWG). MacGillivray's and Wilson's Warblers, the earliest warblers to leave our Region, were the only species present in normal or less than normal numbers. Only 13 MacGillivray's were reported from the coast,

the latest being 1 at Belmont, San Mateo Co , Nov 1 (FN). A Wilson's Warbler at Lafayette Oct. 7 (LF) was the only report after Sept. 29; they had become very scarce on the outer coast by mid-September. The only chat reported was 1 on S. Farallon, Sept. 3 (TM).

Four Audubon's Warblers at the RCA Station, Pt. Reyes, Sept. 2 (RS, LCB, VR) and 2 there Sept. 7-8 (DDeS) were exceptionally early. Substantial numbers arrived on the coast Sept. 24-26 and during the Oct. 2-3 wave, but numbers did not arrive inland and in the C.V. until mid-October (LF, BK, DMS). The earliest Myrtle Warblers were 1 at Pt. Reyes Sept. 24 (LWG) and 1 at Pt. Pinos Sept. 26 (RS), but a massive influx, during which time they greatly outnumbered Audubon's, occurred along the coast south to the Bay Area Oct. 2-3 (RS, DDeS, MK). No further influx occurred until Oct. 20, after which time numbers increased steadily along the coast particularly in the Bay Area and Monterey (DDeS, RS, AB et al.). On the whole, Audubon's were considered to be in better numbers than last year but were still outnumbered by Myrtles in many locations along the coast. A detailed census in the Humboldt Bay Area Nov. 24-25 showed Myrtles in many locations along the coast. A tally in the Humboldt Bay Area Nov. 24-25 showed were very scarce in the C.V. this fall: only 4 were reported, all after Oct. 10.

No fewer than 21 species of vagrant warblers were reported this fall, 3 more than the previous record set in 1968 and 1971. As usual, Blackpoll Warblers predominated with at least 38 individuals on the mainland coast, 27 at Pt. Pinos and 11 at Pt. Reyes, all between Sept. 15 and Oct. 23. The major influx occurred Sept. 16-17 when at least 16 were seen, but substantial numbers also occurred rather late at Pt. Pinos where 8 were found on Oct. 16 (RS). Palm Warblers were also plentiful this fall with at least 24 individuals on the mainland coast Oct. 4-Nov. 25, including at least 10 at Pt. Pinos Oct. 4-Nov. 5 and 7 in the Humboldt Bay area Oct. 20-Nov. 25 (DE, TS et al.). "Gobs and gobs" were reported from S. Farallon Sept. 16-mid-November (P.R.B.O.). An excellent fall for Am. Redstarts produced at least 17 along the coast from Pt. Reyes to the Carmel Rivermouth, all between Aug. 24 and Oct. 15. At least 11 more were on S. Farallon Aug. 27-Oct. 1 (P.R.B.O.). A banner fall for Black-and-white Warblers saw 8 along the c. coast Sept. 14-Oct. 20, 1 on S. Farallon Sept. 9 (P.R.B.O.) and 1 in Eureka Nov. 21-23 (TS, DE et al.). An average or better-than-average fall for Tennessee Warblers produced at least 5 along the coast Sept. 3-Oct. 20 and at least 5 more on S. Farallon Sept. 2-Oct. 11 (TM, P.R.B.O.). Similarly, at least 6 N. Waterthrushes on the coast Aug. 20-Sept. 25 and 3 more on S. Farallon (P.R.B.O.) were slightly more than average.

A **Worm-eating Warbler**, the third fall record for the Region, was found in Pacific Grove in early November at the exact spot where 1 occurred 3 years ago (WR). Five **Virginia's Warblers** were found this fall: 1 at Rodeo Lagoon Aug. 23 (DR), 1 at Toro Park near Salinas Sept. 10 (BG), 1 on Pt. Reyes Oct. 3 (RS), 1 at Pt. Pinos Oct. 4 (AW, RS) and 1 on S Farallon Oct. 5 (BW). There have now been 11 individuals recorded in the fall in our Region. A **Lucy's**

Warbler at Pt Pinos Oct 14 (RS, AW) was only the fourth fall record for the Region. Two **Parula Warblers** were found this fall, a ♀ at Pt. Pinos Sept. 18 (V.L. Yadon *vide* RS) and a ♂ at a different location on Pt. Pinos Sept. 19-25 (RS, AB *et al.*). There are now 7 fall records for the Region. A **Magnolia Warbler** on S. Farallon Sept. 15-18 (P.R.B.O.), 1 at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15-16 (RS, DDeS *et al.*) and 2 there on Sept. 17 (WR *et al.*), 2 at Rodeo Lagoon Sept. 16 (WMP) with 1 remaining until Sept. 21 (LCB) and 1 at Pt. Reyes Sept. 16 (RGr, J&SL *et al.*) illustrates the wave nature of these vagrant occurrences. Another **Magnolia** was on S. Farallon Aug. 27 (P.R.B.O.). A **Cape May Warbler** was on S. Farallon Sept. 17 (P.R.B.O.), the seventh fall record for the Region. A ♂ **Black-throated Blue Warbler** was at Fairhaven Sept. 30 (RLeV, DA *et al.*), a ♀ was at L. Merced, San Francisco, Oct. 2 (NS), a ♂ was at Davenport, Santa Cruz Co., Oct. 4 (RS), another ♂ was at Tilden Park, Oct. 17 (VH *et al.*) and singles were on S. Farallon Oct. 2 & 19 (BW, P.R.B.O.)—a good number for this rare vagrant in our Region. A **Black-throated Green Warbler**, the fourth fall record for the Region, was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 20-21 (RS, AW *et al.*). A **Blackburnian Warbler** was on S. Farallon Sept. 3-5 (TM, P.R.B.O.), another was there Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O.); 1 was on Pt. Reyes Sept. 20 (*vide* ABu) and 1 was in Pacific Grove in early November (WR). An imm. **Chestnut-sided Warbler** was along Putah Creek near Davis Aug. 27 and an identically plumaged bird was at the same spot Sept. 16 (DAG). The fact that none could be found on intervening dates and that both dates were wave days on the coast suggests that 2 birds were involved. Another imm. was at Olema Marsh, Marin Co., Oct. 13 (JH). Single **Prairie Warblers** were on S. Farallon Aug. 30, Sept. 28 and Oct. 27 (TM, BW, P.R.B.O.), 1 was on Pt. Reyes Sept. 6 (RS, GM, J&SL), 1 was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 23 (WR) and 1 was at Eureka Nov. 21-23 (DE, TS *et al.*)—an amazing number for a single fall. At least 7 **Ovenbirds** were present on S. Farallon Sept. 3-Nov. 5 (TM, P.R.B.O.). This secretive species is apparently overlooked on the coast. A ♂ **Kentucky Warbler** was found in Eureka Nov. 21-22 (TS, DS *et al.*) and was collected by Dr. Harris, Humboldt State College, Nov. 23 for the first fall record for California. A ♂ **Hooded Warbler**, the fourth fall record for the Region was at Tilden Park Aug. 22 (RS *et al.*). Two **Canada Warblers** were on S. Farallon Sept. 1 with 1 remaining until Sept. 3 (TM, P.R.B.O.) another was there Sept. 16 (P.R.B.O.) and 1 was at Pt. Pinos Sept. 15-17 (RS, AW *et al.*). There are now 6 fall individuals for the Region.

ICTERIDS THROUGH SPARROWS—Five **Bobolinks** were at the Spreckles Ponds near Salinas Sept. 21 with 2 remaining until Sept. 24 (BG) and 2 were on S. Farallon Oct. 11 (BW). Singles were at Pt. Pinos Sept. 22 and Oct. 13 (RS *et al.*) and at Arcata Sept. 27-28 (BED, DE, TS *et al.*). At least 5 **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** were present on the coast where they are rare while late singles were at Honey L. Nov. 24-25 (GMcC, TC *et al.*). Several **Tricolored Blackbirds** were seen around Humboldt Bay during the fall (LCB, DE, TS *et al.*). They are virtually unknown

from the n.w coast of our Region. At least 6 **Orchard Orioles** were present on S. Farallon Sept. 1-Oct 24 (TM, P.R.B.O.) and a ♀ was at Pt. Pinos Sept 20 (RS, WR, *et al.*), an amazing number for a single fall. A **Hooded Oriole** on S. Farallon Sept. 2-3 (TM) was a first fall record for the island. A **Rusty Blackbird** was on S. Farallon Oct. 20-22 (P.R.B.O.), the first island record. Another was near Eureka Nov 16 (BED). There were only three previous records for the Region. The second **Regional** record of **Hepatic Tanager** was an imm. ♂ at Carmel Highlands Sept 9-10 (D. Graham, AB, *et al.*). Five **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** were found this fall: Mammoth L. Aug. 15 (fide JMF), Corte Madera, Marin Co., Aug. 17 (*fide* MAS), Manila, Humboldt Co. Sept. 30 (RLeV) and singles on S. Farallon Oct. 2 & 5 (BW). An imm. **Blue Grosbeak** was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 13 (RS) only the second Monterey Co. record. An **Indigo Bunting** was at the Carmel Rivermouth (RS, GM *et al.*) Oct 12. A **Dickcissel**, the sixth fall record for the Region, was in the Arcata Bottoms Nov. 12-17 (T. Osborn, DE, TS *et al.*). Lawrence's **Goldfinches** were nearly common at Pt. Pinos this fall: a maximum of 35 was present Sept. 20 (RS).

A **Green-tailed Towhee** along Putah Creek, near Davis, Aug. 27 (DAG), 1 photographed near Mill Valley, Marin Co., Sept. 11 (*fide* MAS) and 1 seen at Pt. Diablo Nov. 17 (LCB) were the only coastal reports. The only **Lark Bunting** was 1 at Spreckles Ponds near Salinas Sept. 21 (BG). The **Sharp-tailed Sparrow** returned to the e. end of the Dumbarton Bridge in November (BE). A **Black-throated Sparrow** was captured at Palomarin Ranch Oct. 7 for the first Marin Co. record (P.R.B.O.). Singles were on S. Farallon Aug. 18 and Sept. 4-16 (P.R.B.O.). Two ad **Sage Sparrows** at Volta W.A. Sept. 19 (ROW) probably represent the northern-most individuals of the race breeding in the s. San Joaquin Valley. **Oregon Juncos** were present in the lowlands in good numbers this fall and at least 20 **Slate-colored Juncos** were found with them. Single **Tree Sparrows** were on S. Farallon Oct. 4&5 (BW, P.R.B.O.) and another was in Bayside, Humboldt Co., Nov. 25 (*fide* DE). Four **Clay-colored Sparrows** were at Pt. Pinos Sept. 17-28 (RS, LCB *et al.*), several were on S. Farallon (BW) and 1 was banded at Palomarin Ranch Nov. 5 (P.R.B.O.) while another was seen in the Arcata Bottoms the same day (*fide* DE). The first island record of **Black-chinned Sparrow** was 1 present on S. Farallon Aug. 30-Sept 4 (TM, P.R.B.O.).

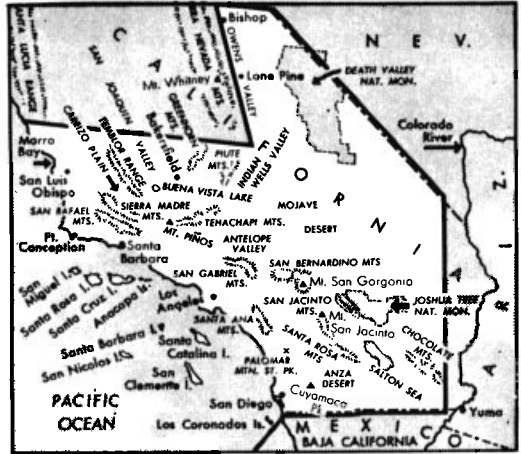
The first **White-crowned Sparrows** arrived during the Sept. 15-17 wave along with a very few **Golden-crowned**s but the major influx both on the coast and in the C.V. of both species occurred during the massive Sept. 30-Oct. 4 wave. Better than average numbers of both **Fox** and **Lincoln's Sparrows** were recorded this fall, their movements also coinciding with the major waves. Two **Harris' Sparrows** on the coast and 1 in the C.V., all in November, were noteworthy but 17 found in the Surprise Valley-Honey L. area Nov 24-25 (RS, DDeS, TC) indicate a massive invasion into the Great Basin. At least 33 **White-throated Sparrows** were recorded this fall, 10 more than last year's record-breaking number. Five **Swamp Sparrows** reported this

fall included 1 at Dry Lagoon Nov. 12, the first Humboldt Co. record (DE) and 1 at Honey L. Nov. 24, the first Great Basin record for our Region (TC). One or 2 Chestnut-collared Longspurs were with 50-75 Laplands at Honey L. Nov. 24-25 (GMcC, DDeS *et al.*). Lapland Longspurs were present on S. Farallon after Oct. 7 (P.R.B.O.), 2 were near Manila Oct. 13 (DE), 1 was at Pt. Pinos Oct. 22 (RS) and 1 was near Woodland Dec. 3 (DAG). Two Chestnut-collared Longspurs on S. Farallon Oct. 19 and a Snow Bunting there Oct. 26 (P.R.B.O.) were first island records. Another Snow Bunting was at the s. spit of Humboldt Bay Oct. 29 (RLeV) and, what may have been the same bird was there Nov. 11 (DE, DS, RM).

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION / Guy McCaskie

Southern California received more than average rainfall during October and November, with unknown effect on bird movements. In general the numbers of our regular migrants appeared higher than normal, but numbers of vagrants were probably down, even though a greater-than-normal variety was reported. With the increased interest in birdwatching there are bound to be more stragglers discovered, so relative abundance from year to year must be based on one's own observations within a regularly worked area.



The massive influx of Pelecaniformes last summer was still evident into September with continuing reports of pelicans, boobies and frigatebirds. Virtually all the herons ever recorded in California were found in the Region this fall indicating a movement. Acorn Woodpeckers appeared to stage a small invasion of the coast, and Lewis' Woodpeckers invaded the entire Region. A number of the Corvidae irrupted, resulting in many records of Piñon Jays and Clark's Nutcrackers far from their normal ranges, as well as a few records of Steller's and Scrub Jays, Black-billed Magpies and Com. Crows away from areas of normal occurrence. The Region experienced a massive flight of Red-breasted Nuthatches; apparent by a few White-breasted and Pigmy Nuthatches, Brown Creepers and Golden-crowned Kinglets were also involved. Varied Thrushes were much commoner than usual, occurring in many areas where normally absent. The numbers of Evening Grosbeaks found in the eastern portions of the Region were spectacular, and some even occurred west to the coast, indicating an exceptionally heavy flight during October; a few Purple and Cassin's Finches as well as Red Crossbills may have also been involved with this influx.

GREBES — Inland records of Horned Grebes include 2 at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley Oct. 9, one near Tecopa, Inyo Co., Nov. 4, and one on Hansen Dam in the San Fernando Valley Oct. 21-28; this species is rare away from the coast in California.

SHEARWATERS, PETRELS — A dead Fulmar found on the beach at the mouth of the Santa Clara R., Ventura Co. Nov. 4 was the only one reported this fall; numbers of this species reaching s. California waters vary greatly from year to year. The Pale-footed Shearwater is quite rare off California, however, 2-3 were seen during a boat trip off San Diego Sept. 9. A single Ashy Petrel found about 5 mi. off La Jolla Sept. 9 was the only one reported. Numbers of Least Petrels reaching California waters in the late summer

were probably high, for some 80 were encountered off San Diego Sept. 9, and at least 5 were seen between Dana Pt., Orange Co. and Catalina I. Sept. 17.

PELICANS, BOOBIES, FRIGATEBIRDS — On Oct. 15 over 1000 White Pelicans were seen flying south in the Owens Valley in small groups during a half hour of observing, undoubtedly birds migrating from colonies in the Great Basin; interestingly, a high count of 1450 was made at the s. end of the Salton Sea (henceforth S.S.S.) Oct. 20. Brown Pelicans continued to be conspicuous along the coast with most appearing to be immature. At the Salton Sea imm. Brown Pelicans were present from the major influx of July to Oct. 28 when the last bird was seen; 76 counted Sept. 15 was the largest number noted since mid-August, but 52 were still present Oct. 8. Numbers of Blue-footed Boobies at the n. end of the Salton Sea (S.S.N.) gradually decreased after mid-August with 3 last noted Sept. 24; at S.S.S. single birds were noted Oct. 8 & 26. A single imm. Blue-footed Booby, first noted on L. San Marcos, San Diego Co. in late August, was found killed by some mammal Dec. 14 (PMcB), and represents the only record of this species away from the Salton Sea this year. One of the two Brown Boobies at S.S.N. was found dead in late August, and the other remained until at least Sept. 4, the same day a third immature was found at Salton City on the w. shore of the Sea.

Immature Magnificent Frigatebirds continued to be noted along the coast until early September with 8 sightings involving 12 individuals — Goleta (one Aug. 28, one Sept. 5), Malibu (two Aug. 21), Newport Bay (one Aug. 30), La Jolla (two Aug. 31, two Sept. 7), San Diego (one Sept. 9), and Imperial Beach (two Aug. 27-28). At the Salton Sea, where individuals had been present since mid-June, 4 were seen together Aug. 15 & 26, and 2 were still present Sept. 1. This will be long remembered as the greatest year for frigatebirds in California.

HERONS, STORKS, SPOONBILLS — At least 3 **Little Blue Herons**, very rare stragglers to California, were present in coastal Orange County during the period, for an immature at Bolsa Chica Sept. 11 (CS) had been joined by an adult Nov. 6, and these two were accompanied by another immature in late November; in addition single immatures were noted on nearby Newport Bay Oct. 31 & Nov. 21 (CS). Cattle Egrets appeared more widespread and numerous this fall. Along the coast they were recorded at three localities in San Luis Obispo Co. in November, two localities in Santa Barbara Co., Nov. 4-30, one locality in Ventura Co. (13 at Pt. Mugu Nov. 25), four localities in Los Angeles Co. Oct. 26-Nov. 27, four localities in San Diego Co. Sept. 4-Nov. 13, for a total of 70 birds sighted, and even reached the Santa Barbara Is. (10 on San Nicholas I. in early November). Inland, and away from the S.S.S. where the Cattle Egret is a common resident, it was noted at Ridgecrest, Kern Co., (two Nov. 19), and near Rancho California, Riverside Co. (6 on Nov. 7). An imm. Reddish Egret that appeared at the s. end of San Diego Bay Sept. 19 was still present at the end of the period; this species

is a very rare straggler to California. As usual imm. Louisiana Herons appeared along the s. coast with one noted at Marina del Rey Aug. 25-27, one-three at Seal Beach after Oct. 25, one at Bolsa Chica Aug. 27, and another around Imperial Beach after Oct. 7, an adult at S.S.S. after Nov. 22 was most unusual since there are only two other records for the Sea Wood Ibis remained at S.S.S. later than usual with 50 present Sept. 22, and eight still there Sept. 29. The **Roseate Spoonbills** that appeared at S.S.S. in July remained until early October with 5 seen Sept. 15, and 4 thereafter to Oct. 8 (DVT); single birds were also noted at S.S.N. Aug. 20 & Sept. 8.

WATERFOWL — The only Whistling Swans reported were one near Big Pine in the Owens Valley Oct. 30, and a flock of 30 there Nov. 26. On Nov. 2 four Blue Geese were noted with some 12,000 Snow Geese at S.S.S., an area where this bird is regularly recorded. A Fulvous Tree Duck well seen at San Eljo Lagoon Sept. 10 (SS) represents the only modern day record for San Diego County. A few ad. ♀ Blue-winged Teal were found along the coast as usual; one was also seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14. The Harlequin Duck that summered at Marina del Rey moulted into ad. plumage during October and was still present Nov. 30; another ♀ was seen near Morro Bay during November at the exact spot where one spent much of last winter. The only interior record of Surf Scoter was that of two at China L., Inyo Co. Oct. 29 (JDo). Single Hooded Mergansers were found near Big Pine Oct. 30, at Malibu Nov. 3-6, at Santee, San Diego Co. Nov. 3, and at S.S.S. Nov. 14-17; the species is rare in s. California. A lone Red-breasted Merganser at Saratoga Springs, San Bernardino Co. Nov. 26 was unusual.

HAWKS — A Goshawk at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. Nov. 12 was in an area where the species may be expected, however, an adult seen near Hemet, Riverside Co. Nov. 19 (MSanM) was far south, but there are three recent sightings from around the 8000-ft. level of the nearby San Jacinto Mts. that suggest nesting (Willow Creek Aug. 26, 1971; Tahquitz Valley June 25, 1972; Skunk Cabbage July 11, 1972 — JF). Single Red-shouldered Hawks seen at Scotty's Castle, Inyo Co. Aug. 19, and near Mecca, Riverside Co. Sept. 8 were well to the east of their normal range in California. The only Broad-winged Hawks reported this fall were an immature on Pt. Loma, San Diego Co. Sept. 23 (JB), and an adult at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 18 (GMcC, SS, BB); this species is proving to be a regular migrant and winter visitor in California in limited numbers. The only report of a Swainson's Hawk away from the Owens Valley, where it nests, was one at Kelso, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 29. Most unusual was the presence of a **Zone-tailed Hawk** in Big Pine, Inyo Co. Aug. 27-28 (TH, GSS, LJ); there are less than a dozen reports of this species for California, and all but one of these are from the southern border; the exception is one reported without details in Death Valley, Jan. 11, 1934. Some 20 reports of Ferruginous Hawks were received with birds scattered throughout the Region in small numbers during

October and November The only Bald Eagle seen was an immature at S.S.S. Nov. 19. A few Ospreys were noted along the coast as usual, and 5 were reported from the interior including one at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 15. Only four reports of Peregrine Falcons were received, but one of these was of two together at Deep Springs Oct. 9. A dozen sightings of Pigeon Hawks were received, with most coming from the coast, as usual.

CRANES, RAILS — About 6000 Sandhill Cranes were present at Soda Lake on the Carrizo Plains Nov. 18 where numbers spend the winter each year; 18 at S S S. Oct. 25, and 2 more there Nov. 11 were unusual since few have been seen here in recent years; however, one seen flying overhead near San Pedro Oct. 4 was even more unusual. A single Black Rail was being seen off and on at Newport Bay during November.

SHOREBIRDS — An Am. Oystercatcher on Santa Cruz I. Dec. 2 (PJ) represents the third modern record of the species in California, one having been present on Anacapa I. from May, 1964 to the present, and another at Avila Beach in San Luis Obispo Co. from Oct 1964 to Feb. 1965. Single Black Oystercatchers seen at Malibu Nov. 27 and on Pt. Loma Oct. 7-8 were far from areas of normal occurrence. Five Snowy Plovers at Deep Springs Aug. 19 were the only ones reported from the n.e. portion of the Region where its status is unclear. A Mountain Plover near San Simeon Nov. 24 was at a coastal locality from which few records exist; single birds near Big Pine Sept. 24 & Oct. 7, one at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 23, and 2 there on Oct. 10 are sightings from the n.e. portion of the Region where it has been considered rare. Along the coast a single Am. Golden Plover was at San Luis Obispo Aug. 20-31, 3 were at Goleta, Sept. 5 with another there Sept. 23, one was at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Aug. 21, one was found in the San Fernando Valley Sept. 19, two at Newport, Sept. 7 had been joined by a third Sept. 15, lone birds were seen around San Diego Sept. 16 & Oct. 1, and another there Sept 10 was still present to Nov. 30; others were found near Imperial Beach Oct. 1 & 10; these are normal numbers for the coast in fall. A lone Am. Golden Plover was seen at S.S.N. where it is much less common, Sept 8. Twenty-three Solitary Sandpipers were found away from the coast between mid-August and mid-September with one very late at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct 14; along the coast 2-3 were around Goleta during September, 2 were at Malibu in late August, one was in San Pedro Sept. 20, 2 were near Newport Aug. 16, and 3-4 were near Imperial Beach in late August.

A Wandering Tattler at Sepulveda Dam in inland San Fernando Valley Sept. 1 (DL) was most unusual; the species is accidental away from the coast. The only interior records of Knots were one at S.S.N. Sept. 8, and 2 at Salton City Sept. 24. Over 90 Pectoral Sandpipers were reported during September and October from coastal localities where they occur regularly as fall migrants; the only inland sightings were one on Baldwin L. in the San Bernardino Mts., Sept. 23, and another near Calipatria, Imperial Co. Sept. 24 About 25 Baird's Sandpipers were seen along the

coast between mid-August and mid-September with a very late bird reported at Legg L. in Los Angeles Oct. 21; inland one was seen at Deep Springs Aug 19, two were at Furnace Creek Ranch Aug. 19 with another there Sept. 7, and one was found on Baldwin L. Sept. 23. A few Short-billed Dowitchers were identified by call in the n.e. portion of the Region where their status is undetermined, but should be expected as a migrant in small numbers. As usual Stilt Sandpipers were present at S.S.S. during September and October with a high count of 50 on Sept. 24; one at Newport Nov. 18 was the only one found away from the Salton Sea. A single Ruff was well seen at Morro Bay Oct. 6 (RW); there are now over a dozen records of this bird for California. Red Phalaropes were quite scarce along the coast this fall, and numbers seen from boats well offshore were lower than normal; the only inland records were of single birds seen at the Salton Sea Sept. 8 & 24. One at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Oct. 21 was most unusual because it was an ad. ♀ in full summer dress; never before has this editor seen a Red Phalarope at this time of the year with anything more than a trace of the red plumage.

JAEGERS, LARIDS—Parasitic Jaegers appeared more numerous than usual along the Santa Barbara and Ventura County beaches with 75+ seen by one observer. Single Parasitic Jaegers were seen inland at S.S.N. Sept. 8 & 24. An ad. Long-tailed Jaeger, by far our rarest jaeger, was noted between San Diego and San Clemente I. Sept. 9, and two more were seen near Anacapa I. Sept. 16. Western Gulls (*Larus occidentalis livens*) lingered at the Salton Sea to the end of September with 11 there Sept. 24. Laughing Gulls, too, remained at the Salton Sea until the end of September with 14 counted on Sept. 22. An imm. Laughing Gull followed a boat out of San Diego for 35 mi. Sept. 9, producing one of very few coastal records for this species. Franklin's Gulls were unusually scarce this fall with only 4 reported: one at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 10, one at S.S.N. Sept. 1, one in King Harbor, Los Angeles Co. Nov. 26, and another in nearby San Pedro Oct. 24. An imm. Heermann's Gull at S.S.N. Sept. 24 represents one of the few inland records for this species. Common Terns are numerous along the coast during the fall, with fair numbers present at the Salton Sea, but records from elsewhere in the Region are virtually nonexistent, so one seen near Big Pine Sept. 24, and another seen on Big Bear L. in the San Bernardino Mts. Sept. 28 are of interest. At the Salton Sea all 13 Black Skimmers were present Sept. 4, but were gone by Sept. 24. Along the coast a single Black Skimmer remained at the Santa Clara Rivermouth until at least Sept. 9, but 1-4 were near Imperial Beach Sept. 7-Nov. 11; it would appear this species has extended its range northward to include s. California, and it will be interesting to watch and document its spread in the next decade.

ALCIDS—A very early Com. Murre was seen off Imperial Beach Oct. 14, another was found dead at Mission Beach Oct. 29; a third was seen at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Nov. 6. A Marbled Murrelet, rare in s. California waters, was noted near Santa Cruz

I Oct 9 In recent years one or two Craver's Murrelets have been found annually off San Diego, however on Sept. 9 some 30 were seen during a round trip from San Diego to San Clemente I. A Tufted Puffin found dead at Ocean Beach in San Diego Sept. 11 was far south of its normal range.

DOVES THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS—Each year a few Band-tailed Pigeons wander away from their normal range; this year 2 were seen at Desert Center, Riverside Co. Aug. 27, one was found exhausted in Carpinteria Sept. 16, and another lingered around San Pedro, during October and November. A White-winged Dove was seen in San Pedro Oct. 23, another was found in La Mesa, San Diego Co. Sept. 28, and 3-4 were present around Imperial Beach during October; one on Santa Rosa I. Sept. 15 was unexpected. One at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14 was north of its normal range. Ground Doves continue to persist in the San Bernardino Valley with 2 seen in Riverside Aug. 23, and another near Corona Oct. 11; this species became established in that area some 20 years ago. A Ground Dove at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 10 was well to the north of its normal range. A single Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 3 gives us one of the very few modern fall records. A Saw-whet Owl banded near Duarte, Los Angeles Co. Oct. 22 was probably a migrant, since it was away from normal habitat. Most interesting was the report of 10 migrant Black Swifts in Sespe Canyon, Ventura Co. Oct. 4, and 6 more near Lebec, Kern Co. the following day; few fall sightings have been reported in the past. An Anna's Hummingbird remained in Big Pine, Oct. 6-24, east of its normal range in California.

WOODPECKERS—There were 18 Yellow-shafted Flickers reported from various localities in Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Diego, Inyo and Imperial Co. during October and November. Unexpected were the sightings of Acorn Woodpeckers along the coast, outside their normal range and habitat, with singles on the U.C.L.A. campus Oct. 22, at Redondo Beach Nov. 12, on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 26, in San Pedro Sept. 9, in Torrey Pines S.P., San Diego Co. Oct. 26, on Pt. Loma Sept. 8 & Oct. 8, and near Imperial Beach Sept. 10; what forced these birds to leave their beloved oaks is unknown. Lewis' Woodpeckers staged a flight into the Region this fall, being found in the Owens Valley and most of the e. portion of the Region south to Riverside Co.; in the coastal mountains they were present all the way south to San Diego Co. (Japatal Valley and Cuyamaca S.P.); along the coast individuals reached as far south as Los Angeles Co. (Malibu Nov. 14 and San Pedro Oct. 18), and San Diego Co. (Santee in Nov.), and even appeared on Santa Cruz I. A Williamson's Sapsucker at Yucca Valley, San Bernardino Co. Oct. 15 was at a desert oasis at the base of a mountain range in which the species nests, and another in Cuyamaca S.P. was in typical habitat but in a mountain range in which it does not nest; however, single birds on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 2-3 & 26, and another near Lakeside Nov. 25-30, were in coastal localities where the species

is virtually unrecorded. A lone Hairy Woodpecker at Oasis, Mono Co. Aug. 24-Sept. 2 was in the lowlands away from normal habitat. A White-headed Woodpecker at Pt. Fermin Sept. 19-29 was unusual since the species hardly ever wanders from its mountain home.

FLYCATCHERS — An E. Kingbird at Scotty's Castle, Inyo Co. Sept. 2-8 was the only one reported from the e. portion of the Region, and only 4 singles were found along the coast: Goleta Aug. 31, Santa Barbara Sept. 3 & Sept. 18, and near Imperial Beach Sept. 10. Tropical Kingbirds appeared scarcer than usual along the coast with only 4 reported: Goleta Oct. 30, Malibu Oct. 28-29, Imperial Beach Sept. 28-Oct. 1, and again Oct. 14-19. An E. Phoebe was present at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14-17 (GMcC, JF), one was seen at Kelso Nov. 24 (RW), and another was in San Pedro Oct. 17-18 (SW *et al.*); this species is a casual straggler to California. A *Coues' Flycatcher* at the Brock Ranch near Holtville, Imperial Co. Oct. 28 (SC *et al.*) represents the fifth acceptable record for California. The only Vermilion Flycatchers reported from along the coast were one in San Pedro Oct. 10-18, and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 14.

CORVIDS — Steller's Jays were found away from the mountains in Inyo Co. at such localities as Deep Springs from late September through October with some still present into November (one in the Saline Valley Nov. 24), but numbers were generally small, and the birds did not appear to push southward into s. California. In the Los Angeles area one seen in Claremont Nov. 5, and another seen near Beaumont Nov. 15 could well have descended from the local mountains. Several were seen on the Palos Verdes Pen., however the species is suspected of establishing itself as a resident there (*Am. Birds*, 26:907, 1972). Scrub Jays wandered from their normal habitat and range out onto the desert areas of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. with single birds seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 20 & Oct. 14, around Tecopa Oct. 13-14 & Nov. 5, a flock of 12 seen in Kelso Sept. 30, and another one there Oct. 10. In this Region Black-billed Magpies are resident in the extreme n.e. corner (Deep Springs) and along the Owens Valley south to Olanca and normally do not wander, however, 6 individuals were reported from s. Inyo Co. during November. A Com. Crow at the S.S.S. Nov. 5 and a flock of 36 there from Nov. 19-31 were most unusual. Piñon Jays dispersed widely, being found in many lowland localities of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos., as well as spreading westward in the mountains around L. Arrowhead, in the foothills at the n. end of the San Fernando Valley and even reaching the coast in Santa Barbara Co. In October Clark's Nutcrackers staged an invasion that produced records of the species throughout most of the Region. In the desert regions of Inyo, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Cos. reports included one at Cow Creek in Death Valley Oct. 4, 3 near Clark Mt. in extreme e. San Bernardino Co. Sept. 30, single birds at Kelso Oct. 10 & 15, three at Yucca Valley Oct. 4, singles at Morongo Valley Oct. 2-3 & Nov. 11, and Cottonwood Springs

Oct 19, and 2 at Agua Caliente Springs Oct. 8 Along the coast one was seen in Santa Barbara Nov. 12, two were at nearby Montecito Oct. 24, five were in San Pedro Sept. 29, and single birds were found on Pt Loma Sept. 17 & Oct. 29. Other out-of-range records include 25 near Tejon Ranch, Kern Co. Oct. 11-12, three or four at the n. end of the San Fernando Valley Oct. 3, one on the U.C.L.A. campus Oct. 13, one in Riverside Oct. 31, and one in Pine Valley Nov. 19

CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS — Mountain Chickadees descended into the coastal lowlands in September, being fairly common around Santa Barbara and commoner than usual in the Los Angeles Basin, but none were found in coastal San Diego County. White-breasted Nuthatches were present in small numbers throughout the coastal lowlands from mid-September onward, indicating a movement from the local mountains; they were also present at Big Pine throughout the period, and one was found far out on the desert at Kelso Sept. 30. Red-breasted Nuthatches spread across the entire Region during September and October, the species being present at every desert oasis from Inyo Co. south to Imperial Co but apparently absent in November; along the coast the species was most numerous late September — early October, with numbers much reduced by the end of November. The Pygmy Nuthatch is not much of a wanderer, however a number were reported from lowland localities this fall, including 15 in Big Pine Sept 1, one in Morongo Valley Aug. 22, six around Santa Barbara from Aug. 29 onward, a few around the Palos Verdes Pen. after Oct. 6, 7 in Hollywood Oct 15, 10 on the U.C.L.A. campus Sept. 17-Oct. 31, and up to 15 on Pt. Loma Oct. 15-Nov. 5. A few Brown Creepers also descended into the coastal lowlands, with 12+ being found around Santa Barbara during October and November, and at least 6 around San Diego.

WRENS, THRASHERS, THRUSHES — A Winter Wren at Scotty's Castle Nov. 23, and another near Oceanside Oct. 25 were both in areas from which few records exist. A Brown Thrasher at Deep Springs Oct 9 (LJ), and another in N. Palm Springs Oct. 9-10 (Paul & Violet Orr, *vide* GSS) were the only two reported this fall. A Sage Thrasher at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 14, one in Goleta Oct. 15, and another in Duarte Sept. 11 were all at somewhat unusual localities. Varied Thrushes were far more numerous and widespread than usual from late October onward. They were present throughout the Owens Valley and at all the desert oases of Inyo, San Bernardino and Riverside Cos. after Oct. 22 with 10 around China L Nov. 1-15, and 12 at Morongo Valley Nov. 19; they were also present in the Panamint Mts., as indicated by a count of 10 on Telescope Peak Oct. 22, and fairly common throughout the coastal mountains south to San Diego Co. Numbers also occurred along the coast and throughout the Los Angeles Basin, including Palos Verdes Pen., Riverside, and Lakeside. A Swainson's Thrush on the Palos Verdes Pen. Nov. 26 was exceptionally late. The only coastal reports

of Townsend's Solitaires received were of one in Goleta Nov. 15 and another in San Pedro Nov. 29

KINGLETS, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES — Golden-crowned Kinglets also staged an invasion into the Region occurring in many areas where their appearance is noteworthy. In the high desert areas of Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. they were found at Deep Springs (6 on Oct. 13 and two Oct. 22), Furnace Creek Ranch (3 on Nov. 4), China L. (one on Oct. 23), Tecopa (two on Oct. 15), and Kelso (one on Nov. 24). In the coastal mountains they pushed south to the Laguna Mts. (10 in Cuyamaca S.P. Nov. 26). Along the coast at least 20 were found in the Santa Barbara area, about the same number was found in the Los Angeles area, at least 3 were present on Pt. Loma after Oct. 17, and one was near Imperial Beach Oct. 26. Bohemian Waxwings were present throughout Inyo Co. in late November with 15 in Bishop Nov. 24, up to 65 in the Saline Valley Nov. 23-25, one at Scotty's Castle Nov. 23, 20 at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 19 and 6 more there Nov. 26, and 12 in Shoshone on the same day; numbers such as these indicate an invasion to the south of their normal winter range, a phenomenon experienced every 4-5 years. The only N. Shrikes reported were one near Oasis Nov. 25, one at Deep Springs Nov. 12, and another near Westguard Pass Nov. 25, all localities in the extreme n.e. corner of the Region.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — A Solitary Vireo present near Imperial Beach on Sept. 29 (GMcC) appeared to be of the eastern race *V.s. solitarius*, thus far undocumented in California. A Red-eyed Vireo at Scotty's Castle Sept. 2 (GMcC) and another at Finney L. in the Imperial Valley Sept. 4 (JF) were both well observed; this species is extremely rare in s. California. At least 16 Black-and-white Warblers, a rare but regular vagrant to California, were found along the coast (single birds at Goleta on Oct. 4, 15 & 30; one in Santa Barbara Sept. 21-23; one near Malibu Sept. 4; one on Pt. Fermin Oct. 10; singles on Pt. Loma Sept. 16, Oct. 3, 5, 8, 11 & 17; singles near Imperial Beach Sept. 8 & Nov. 5, and one near Otay Sept. 10-11), and 4 others were seen at desert oases in Inyo and San Bernardino Cos. (one at Scotty's Castle Sept. 2; single birds at Kelso Aug. 20 & Oct. 10, and one at Morongo Valley Oct. 2). A Prothonotary Warbler, a casual straggler to California, that remained in Coronado, San Diego Co. Oct. 25-27 was photographed by George Bauslaugh (GMcC). Reports of Tennessee Warbler, a regular straggler to California in limited numbers, included at least 16 individuals along the coast Aug 27-Nov. 5, as well as on the high desert, where it is rare, with one in Shoshone Sept. 23 and another in Morongo Valley Oct. 14. Virginia Warblers were more widespread than usual, although the numbers present in such well-worked localities as Imperial Beach were lower than expected; along the coast at least 6 were found in Santa Barbara Co. 20 in Los Angeles Co one in Orange Co. and 23 in San Diego Co. with most appearing in late August and early September. Inland, records of interest included birds at Oasis, Lancaster, Duarte, Desert Center, and Brawley. A single Lucy's

Warbler near Morro Bay Nov. 24-25 (EAC & SC), and another near Imperial Beach Aug. 31 were the only ones reported on the coast, where it is a very rare straggler. A Parula Warbler in Goleta Sept. 25 (JA & RW) was the only one found this fall; it is exceptionally rare during the fall. Single Magnolia Warblers were seen at Deep Springs Aug. 19 (JD & KG) and Aug. 27-Sept. 2 (GSS, LJ & GMcC) in the n.e. corner of the Region as well as at Goleta Sept. 20 (RW), Marina del Rey Sept. 15 (DAG), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 6 (TP). Sightings of Black-throated Blue Warblers include singles at Deep Springs Oct. 22 (LJ & GMcC), Tecöpa Oct. 14 (JT), and Morongo Valley Oct. 10 (LJ); all localities on the high desert, as well as along the coast at Santa Barbara Sept. 14 & 21 (RW), San Pedro Sept. 7 (SW), Pt. Loma Oct. 24 (FD), and near Imperial Beach Oct. 14 (L.A.A.S.). The Black-throated Green Warbler is normally very rare in California, however, this fall one was at Scotty's Castle Nov. 4 (MSanM & SS), one was present on Pt. Fermin Sept. 19-20 (EN & LJ), one was near Otay Sept. 30 (GSS & BB), and another was near Imperial Beach Oct. 20-21 (GMcC & EAC). A Blackburnian Warbler was in Goleta Sept. 14 (RW), one was present in San Pedro Oct. 22-23 (GSS & LJ), one was found in Costa Mesa Oct. 9-10 (CS), and another was located near Otay Sept. 30 (GSS, BB & LJ); this species is now found every year in limited numbers along the coast of California. A Yellow-throated Warbler discovered in the South Coast Botanic Gardens of San Pedro Oct. 21 (GM) was well seen by a number of observers and clearly determined to be of the form *albilora* since the entire eye stripe was white; this represents the fifth record for California. The only Chestnut-sided Warbler was one seen in Goleta Nov. 4 (RW); this species is a casual vagrant to California. As usual a number of Blackpoll Warblers appeared along the coast Sept. 10-Oct. 28. A Prairie Warbler, always a casual straggler to California, was present at Marina del Rey Sept. 6 (Larry Sansone, *vide* GSS). As usual a few Palm Warblers turned up along the coast in October and November with two in San Luis Obispo Co. 10 in Santa Barbara Co. 4 in Los Angeles Co. and 10 in San Diego Co. however 5 seen together near Imperial Beach Oct. 21 were unusual. A Palm Warbler at Deep Springs Oct. 13 (SS & RM) and another in Yucca Valley Oct. 2 (GSS) were the only sightings from inland localities this fall. An Ovenbird seen at Oasis Sept. 24 (KG), and another found on Pt. Loma Oct. 9 (RS) were the only two reported; this species is a regular straggler in very limited numbers. Northern Waterthrushes appear to be regular migrants in small numbers along the e. side of the Sierra Nevada Mts. during late August and early September with a few stragglers continuing into October; 23 individuals were noted at 8 localities Aug. 25-Oct. 29. Records from the coast and the Los Angeles Basin include one in Goleta Sept. 14-20, single birds at Malibu Sept. 2 and 14, one at L. Sherwood Oct. 28, and one banded near Duarte Oct. 1. A ♂ Hooded Warbler was well seen at Kelso Oct. 10 (LJ); there are now at least 15 records of this species for California. Single Canada Warblers, normally one of the rarer stragglers to California, were found at Rincon Pt., Ventura Co. Oct. 23 (RW), near

Malibu Sept. 9 (DAG), near La Jolla Sept. 15 (RM), and near Otay Sept. 25-26 (GMcC & RM). American Redstarts were found in small numbers along the e slope of the Sierras where they appear to be regular migrants: 37 birds at 9 localities Aug. 27-Oct. 13. Along the coast one was seen at San Simeon Nov. 24, 5 were noted around Santa Barbara Sept. 16-Oct 15, 4 were in the Los Angeles area Aug. 27-Oct. 13, one was in Costa Mesa Sept. 27, and at least 12 were around San Diego Sept. 10-Oct. 21. A Painted Redstart, an extremely rare straggler to California, was well seen near Imperial Beach Sept. 24 (Mrs. Shelton, *vide* GMcC).

BOBOLINKS, ORIOLES, TANAGERS — As appears to be normal, a few Bobolinks passed through s. California, with single birds at Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 7 & Nov. 4 being the only ones found in the e. part of the Region, and one near San Luis Obispo Oct. 6-8, two in Goleta Sept. 24, one in the San Fernando Valley Oct. 4, and up to 6 near Imperial Beach Sept. 10-Oct. 21. Reports of ♀-plumaged Orchard Orioles included singles at Deep Springs Sept. 6 (RW), Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 19 (GMcC), Shoshone Sept. 23 (LJ & KG), Pachalka Spring on Clark Mt Sept. 30 (EAC & SC), Goleta Sept. 21 (KA), and Encino Aug. 26 (JD); this species is proving to be of regular occurrence in limited numbers in California. A few Baltimore Orioles were noted as is now expected: singles from 6 localities Sept. 16-Oct 30. Two Boat-tailed Grackles at S.S.S. Nov. 17 provide us with another record of this species for the Imperial Valley. A ♂ Hepatic Tanager was seen at Scotty's Castle Sept. 6 (RW), and another was studied in Morongo Valley Oct. 13 (JF); this species is still very rare away from the very limited breeding area in the San Bernardino Mts. Single migrant or vagrant Summer Tanagers were seen at Oasis Aug. 30, Scotty's Castle Aug. 25, Furnace Creek Ranch Nov. 23, Corn Springs in e. Riverside Co. Aug. 27, at Goleta on Sept 16, and near Malibu Sept. 2; two at Brock Ranch in Imperial Co. Sept. 24 were probably birds that had nested locally.

FINCHES— Single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen at Kelso Sept. 23 (LJ) & 30 (EAC), Finney L. at S.S.S. Aug. 12 (LB), Brock Ranch Sept. 24 (EAC), San Pedro Sept. 24-26 (SW), and on Pt. Loma Oct 9 (RS); a few of these birds appear in California each fall. In the n.e. portion of the Region Indigo Bunting reports included one at Deep Springs Sept. 2, two at Scotty's Castle Aug. 25, one in Kelso Sept. 30, and one collected on Clark Mt. Oct. 1; along the coast one was seen in Goleta Oct. 1 and another was found near Lakeside Sept. 26. Most interesting were 3 reports of ad. ♂ Painted Buntings far from metropolitan areas with one in Los Osos, San Luis Obispo Co. Nov 18-28 (FT), one at Furnace Creek Ranch Nov 4 (GMcC & MSanM), and the other in Kelso Oct. 21 (Alfred Driscoll, *vide* EAC); ad. ♂♂ in metropolitan areas have been treated as escapes, however, specimens of immatures have been taken with the Region during the fall period, indicating that stragglers do reach California. A Dickcissel, a casual straggler to Califor-

nia, was seen in Kelso Sept. 13 (JA), another was noted at Yucca Valley Oct. 4 (SS & RM), one was studied on Pt. Loma Oct. 19 (TT), and another was seen near Imperial Beach Oct. 8 (GMcC).

Evening Grosbeaks swarmed across the n.e. part of the Region during October, being recorded at such localities as Big Pine, Deep Springs (20 on Oct. 9), Scotty's Castle, Furnace Creek Ranch (15 on Oct. 3-30), China Lake (18 on Oct. 8-15), Shoshone, Tecopa, Kelso, Clark Mt. and as far south as the Beaumont-Banning area (several Nov. 1-7). In the coastal mountains they were reasonably common, pushing south to San Diego Co. (one on Mt. Palomar Oct. 9 and 7 in Cuyamaca S.P. Oct. 22). Along the coast they were found in Santa Barbara Co., and throughout the Los Angeles Basin (two in San Pedro Oct. 13, 15 in W Los Angeles Oct. 11, one at U.C.L.A. Oct. 16, 20-30 Glendale in late Nov., 2-8 in Claremont Oct. 3-Nov. 5, and one at Riverside Nov. 4-5), with some actually reaching San Diego Co. (1-2 at La Mesa Oct. 31-Nov. 8). Purple Finches appeared to be more numerous than usual in the lowlands, and even reached such localities as Big Pine and Furnace Creek Ranch. A few Cassin's Finches descended into the coastal lowlands with at least 6 seen around Montecito during November, 1-2 found on the Palos Verdes Pen. and a number seen around San Bernardino in November. Grey-crowned Rosy Finches were present around Westguard Pass and vicinity in the White Mts. during November (1000+ on Nov. 11, 450 on Nov. 18, and 300 on Nov. 22) as may prove to be normal, and 200 were seen to the south in the Saline Valley Nov. 25. A single Gray-crowned Rosy Finch studied atop Mt. Pinos Nov. 12 (PJM) represents the southernmost record for the species in California. A few **Black Rosy Finches** were present with other rosy finches at Westguard Pass, with 2-3 noted there Nov. 11 (EAC & SC), 2 on Nov. 18 (GMcC *et al.*), and another nearby at Gilbert Pass Nov. 20 (GSS); there are only two previous records of the species for California. Pine Siskins were much more common than usual along the coast, and also appeared in numbers throughout the east, including the deserts of e. San Diego and Imperial Cos. Three Lawrence's Goldfinches at Deep Springs Sept. 6, and 2 on Santa Rosa I. Sept. 15 were at most unusual localities. A few Red Crossbills were on the move with one seen on the U.C.L.A. campus Oct. 17, about 10 were seen in San Pedro Nov. 25, and 6 were over Pt. Loma Nov. 5.

SPARROWS, LONGSPURS — Reports of Lark Buntings, a rare wanderer to California, included single birds at Deep Springs Sept. 2, Furnace Creek Ranch Sept. 6-9, Morongo Valley Aug. 27-28, and near Imperial Beach Oct. 8-21 with 2 present on the latter date. Single Grasshopper Sparrows at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 22, Kelso Sept. 30, Goleta Sept. 21, and at the Sepulvada Recreational Area Aug. 11 were all away from known breeding areas, and are assumed to be migrants. Two **Sharp-tailed Sparrows** found at Newport Bay Nov. 20 (CS) were still present Nov. 30; there are less than a dozen records for this species in California. Single **Black-throated Sparrows** in the San Fernando Valley Aug. 25, in San Pedro Sept. 14-15, and near Imperial Beach Aug. 29 were all west

of their normal range, 5 banded near Duarte Sept. 22-Oct. 1 were suspected of having been raised locally although they were somewhat west of their known breeding range.

At least 40 Slate-colored Juncos were reported from various points within the Region during October and November with one at Tecopa Oct. 14 being the earliest. In the e. desert regions Gray-headed Juncos were noted at Deep Springs, Tecopa, Yucca Valley, Morongo Valley, and at Brock Ranch; one was seen in the San Bernardino Mts. at Camp Angeles Oct. 7; along the coast single birds were seen in Quatal Valley, Ventura Co., on the Palos Verdes Pen., and on Pt. Loma. In recent years a few Tree Sparrows have been found in the northeast; this fall they were found near Deep Springs, Mesquite Springs in Death Valley, Furnace Creek Ranch, and Kelso. The only Clay-colored Sparrows noted this fall were one at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 9, single birds in Goleta Sept. 14 & Nov. 7-8, and another near Imperial Beach Oct. 21. The number of Harris' Sparrows found in the east was higher than usual with at least 40 at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 22-Nov. 13. (25+ on Nov. 26), and others at China L., Panamint Springs, Shoshone, Kelso, Deep Springs and Scotty's Castle. On the coast one was in Monrovia after Oct. 30, and two were discovered near Malibu Nov. 27. Only 9 White-throated Sparrows were reported seen in the Region this fall, but one at Westguard Pass on Sept. 24 was exceptionally early. A Swamp Sparrow at Gaviota Nov. 23 and another in Goleta Nov. 19 were the only two reported; a few of these birds normally occur in California every winter. A Lapland Longspur near Deep Springs Nov. 11, another seen at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 22, and 3 in the Cuyama Valley, Santa Barbara Co. Dec. 3 were the only ones reported; numbers are usually higher. Chestnut-collared Longspurs were not as numerous and widespread as last fall, however, 2 were at Furnace Creek Ranch Oct. 14 with 4 there Oct. 22, two were near Ridgecrest Nov. 19, 3 were in Kelso Oct. 1, 7 were near Big Bear L. Oct. 7 with 3 still present Oct. 10, one was noted at the Santa Clara Rivermouth Oct. 21, and another was seen near Marina del Rey Oct. 14.

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