

of March. Many of the migrants sought refuge at the desert oases and these literally teemed with migrating warblers, Lazuli Buntings, tanagers, orioles and other species during late March and April. Since the deserts were relatively dry in early spring and the mountain areas were under a blanket of snow, foothill areas swarmed with birdlife. The dry spring was accompanied by slightly below-normal temperatures early in the season and above-normal temperatures towards the end of the season. An attempt was made to survey migrants at the height of the spring migration on April 29 by a Los Angeles Society group with the cooperation of other interested parties. The survey, conducted within a circle of 100-mile diameter extending from Victorville on the north, Palm Springs on the east, Seal Beach on the southwest, and Oceanside on the southeast, tallied 228 species within a 24-hour period. Included in this group was the first specimen for California of the Parula (subsp.) Warbler which was taken near Palm Springs. In general the landbird migration was slightly tardy with the major flights occurring during the second week of May. The waterbird migration, particularly that of the shorebirds, was dull. This may have been due in part to the fast disappearing habitats suitable for feeding shorebirds. It is superfluous to recount all of the drained, ditched, diked, and dumped marshes and mudflats in southern California, especially those recently sacrificed to the cause of congestion. This program is proceeding at an accelerating pace in this part of the country. Few are the areas remaining which retain the conditions suitable for supporting migrating shorebirds. Last to be added to the list were the excellent flats and marshes of the Lower Newport Bay.

**SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.**—Winter rainfall tapered off during January and the season continued to be dry throughout the spring migration.



in duck trap; April 1—10 Snow Geese, 2 Canada Geese; April 26—no geese, 7420 ducks, 4010 coots. A single Fulvous Tree-duck was at Fisherman's Retreat about May 20 (*vide* EW). Several hundred Brant were at Morro Bay on May 7 (resting on the sand bar) and 3 were at Malibu Creek at the late date of June 5 (RDR). A single female Am. Goldeneye was still at Malibu Creek, April 15 (RDR). Two pairs of Redheads were at the Lt. Maxton Brown Sanctuary on May 15 (Francis Raymond).

*Vultures and Hawks.*—There was a marked influx of Turkey Vultures to the Imperial Valley on Jan. 15, and about 1000 were present on Feb. 26 (EJO'N). The main flight of Swainson's Hawks must have passed through our Region during the first two weeks of April, although the large flight went unobserved and only small scattered groups were reported. Eight were seen down in a field near Perris following a heavy rain- and hailstorm (Jack Hagan, *vide* FR). What must have constituted the tail end of the flight season were a group of 40 Swainson's Hawks seen migrating just north of Blackwell's Corners, April 16 (RDR, Vivian Ross). A single Goshawk was seen in Little Sespe Canyon, April 15, and on the same day a migrating Pigeon Hawk was near Oxnard (RDR). A lone Golden Eagle was present near the south end of the Salton Sea, March 10 (EJO'N).

*Shorebirds, Gulls, Terns, and Alcids.*—The shorebird migration was widely timed. Most of the wintering species had left for northern nesting grounds by the end of March. Some 200 Hudsonian Curlews arrived in the Imperial Valley's Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge, Jan. 28. By April 1 only 40 remained (EJO'N). On April 15 there were still 20 Surf-birds, 20 Black Turnstones, and 4 Ruddy Turnstones on the Breakwater at Playa del Rey (RDR). Three Wandering Tattlers were on the beach at Playa del Rey, May 12 (RDR). Two Black-necked Stilts, a rare visitor there, were at Malibu Creek, May 12 (RDR). Almost no Northern Phalaropes were reported this spring and Wilson's Phalaropes appeared in only a few localities. Seventeen Wilson's Phalaropes were at Upper Newport Bay, April 15 (FR) and three still remained near Morro Bay, May 7 (Mabel Gillespie). Black Terns were first noted in the Imperial Valley, April 21; Gull-billed Terns arrived there on March 20; and Caspian Terns were first noted, April 7 (EJO'N). Bonaparte's Gulls arrived in the Imperial Valley about April 8 (EJO'N). A single Heermann's Gull was at Shell Beach, April 21 (MG); also there on that date was a single Pigeon Guillemot. Pigeon Guillemots were noted as "common" near Santa Cruz Island in late April (James F. Clements).

*Owls, Doves, Swifts.*—A pair of Elf Owls was still present at the oasis of Cottonwood Springs in the Joshua Tree National Monument, April 14 (JH). The Long-Eared Owl was reported from 29-Palms on the same date (JH). Three Ground Doves were near Brawley, March 10 (JH). A single Inca Dove was noted on the lawn of the Needles Hospital during May (Burgess W. Heacox). The spring flight of Vaux's Swifts passed almost unnoticed this year. Perhaps this was due to the fine clear weather during the latter part of April and the early part of May. Spring Vaux's Swift flights are most spectacular during overcast days in spring.

*Passerine Landbirds.*—The migration was about normal and possibly somewhat late in the mountains for some species. There were no "wave days" as experienced last year due to unusual weather. The San Diego Audubon Society is again to be commended for conducting a most successful spring migration count on May 5 and 6. The count was supervised by James E. Crouch and was participated in by 53 counters. As opposed to last year's count, this one was confined to the limits of San Diego County and included coastal areas inland as far as the 2000 foot level, Palomar, Laguna, and Cuyamaca Mountains, and Borrego and other desert areas; 223 species, including 24,514 individuals, were counted. Cedar Waxwings remained in the Region at Escondido as late as May 22 (Frank F. Gander). Vermilion Flycatchers were reported from Morongo Valley (1), April 14 (JH), and again on April 29 (3) in the same locality. A male Vermilion Flycatcher was in Death Valley National Monument, March 3 (RDR, VR). A Black and White Warbler was carefully studied by Fern and Alice Zimmerman in Santa Ana during early May (*vide* FR). A single Myrtle Warbler was near Mitchell's Caverns State Park, April 8, and a male Am. Redstart was in the same place, May 21 (BWH). A male Scott's Oriole was near Escondido, April 23-24, a first for that area (FFG). A male Bobolink in spring plumage was carefully identified at Malibu Creek, June 5, by R. Dudley Ross and Ruth Emery. A single Cassin's Finch was at Mitchell's Caverns State Park, May 1 (BWH). Don Bleitz reported a pair of Varied Buntings at a feeder near Cottonwood Springs in Joshua Tree National Monument in April while a male (singing) Indigo Bunting was carefully observed near Ramona, May 23 (Eleanor A. Pugh). An immature Harris's Sparrow was in Death Valley National Monument, March 3 (RDR, VR). Golden-crowned and White-crowned Sparrows were last seen in this Region during the first week of May.—ARNOLD SMALL, *Audubon Camp of California, Norden, Calif.*