



rado, Durango, had normal precipitation (Reames). In the Great Basin things were very dry indeed. Worst hit was Malheur in eastern Oregon, where waterfowl breeding was about 10 per cent of normal with the poorest water conditions in 25 years (Marshall). The changes in water made great mud flats with excellent shorebird concentrations; since the carp are overpopulating Malheur itself and destroying the duck food, 20,000 White Pelicans came to feed on the carp. This produced the first nesting of White Pelicans there in years; the nesting was a failure because the water was so low that coyotes got to the nesting islands and promptly cleaned out the nests.

At Klamath, waterfowl production was the poorest in 15 years (Abney). The dryness concentrated the birds in the refuge and they should have had a tremendous year. However, the water for the Lower Klamath-Tule lake area is used for irrigation before it gets to the refuge. Owing to the heat and drought the irrigation water was used early; consequently more water than usual poured into the refuges early and drowned out the nests, destroying what would have been a banner year.

Bear River on Great Salt Lake is not a sump as are Klamath and Malheur. Although their water intake was low, the huge dike ponds held up well and the production was almost up to normal (Bolwahn).

Ruby Lakes in eastern Nevada had the driest year on record but this concentrated the birds on the refuge as everything else was dry, so waterfowl production on the refuge itself increased. The refuge managed to maintain adequate water (Clair Aldous). At Stillwater in western Nevada the story is much the same; there were good conditions on most of the refuge but not around it, consequently an overall decline although the refuge itself held up well (John H. Kiger).

Insecticides.—The city of Casper, Wyo., was sprayed with malathion and in June a large group of Cedar Waxwings were paralyzed for about 48 hours. If the birds were protected during this time they survived. One small boy had 40 that he played with in his bed. How many of the birds actually died is not clear, but the percentage was probably high. No Cedar Waxwings were seen in town thereafter, and the songbird population, except for the seed eaters was very low (OKS).

GREAT BASIN, CENTRAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.—This was a hot dry season as the weather bureau predicted. Only southwestern Colo-

L. M. Baylor reports that many people in Pocatello in southern Idaho, including the newspaper editor, think there is a decrease in birds in that area, but they have no idea as to the cause. Insecticides were not considered.

Ducks.—The fall migration began early in August at Bear River Marshes on the Great Salt Lake in Utah. By the end of this period there were 247,300 ducks there, of which 176,000 were Pintails (Bolwahn).

Hawks.—Mrs. Crews at Hotchkiss in the mesa country of western Colorado has had a Sparrow Hawk nesting for years in one of her trees. In the past the diet of the young has been mice, lizards, and small snakes but this year with things hot and dry and overrun with insects the young hawks had an insect diet.

Shorebirds.—Gelb Kashin had 10,000 Northern Phalarope on the Great Salt Lake, Aug. 1, an unusual concentration for that time of year. They do not migrate down the coasts by any means.

Owls.—Kashin reported finding the nest of a Saw-whet Owl near Salt Lake. Young were seen peeping out the hole on June 6.

Woodpeckers.—The Downy Woodpecker is reported absent on the western slope of Colorado around Gunnison (Hyde). They also were reported scarce near Logan in northeastern Utah (Follett). The reason for this is not clear.

Swallows.—Dennis Carter reported a pair of Purple Martins at the Bar HL Guard Station in the White River National Forest on July 7 and 8 in northwestern Colorado. This is the first report from western Colorado.

Warblers.—Prof. Mickey had a Hooded Warbler on June 1 in his yard in Laramie in southern Wyoming. This is the first record for the state.

Orioles.—E. T. McKnight and T. B. Nolan report Scott's Oriole feeding young on Ruby Hill at Eureka in central Nevada, Aug. 9. This is a remarkably far north record. Otherwise, no trends in land birds have been observed in this Region.—DR. OLIVER K. SCOTT, 437 East 13th St., Casper, Wyo.