



SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.—Although the much-needed rains of November and December brought long-sought relief from the extended drought, the rewards to birdlife were negligible. By the first week of December more than three-and-one-half inches had fallen in the Los Angeles Basin and snow levels in the southern California mountains were at times as low as 3500 feet. However, thawing spells interrupted the storms and the low snowfields melted quickly, leaving only patchy snow at the 5000 foot level and up to two feet of pack above 8000 feet. Precipitation was running slightly ahead of normal by mid-December and hopes were high for an end to the long drought. The effects of it, however, were sorely evident in many species during the fall migration. Generally, observers re-ported a good migration and an exciting number of interesting species throughout the fall and early win-

ter. However, throughout their reports threaded an ominous note of *scarcity* among some species. Many cooperators commented on the unusual variety of species seen and coming to their feeders—including a large number of mountain forms. However, many remarked that although there were many birds of many species coming to feeders, the populations of individual species were low, and birds generally were scarce away from feeders. This would reflect, I think, a rather low survival among some species during the past nesting season. As to the appearance of many mountain species in the lowlands, the Clark's Nutcracker remains the outstanding example as it was recorded from San Diego County to Monterey in many lowland and beach areas. Along with the nutcrackers came hordes of Steller's Jays and Robins. In fact, the Robin flight was memorable enough to warrant superlatives from various local newspapers. Investigation in the mountain areas revealed a paucity of pine and fir cones never before witnessed by this writer. The Yellow Pines (*Pinus ponderosa*) and the White Fir (*Abies concolor*) were almost completely devoid of cones, and lower on the slopes the Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggi*) had shed few acorns. Other seeds were equally scarce, and these conditions were reflected in lower natality and higher mortality among small landbirds. The searing heat wave of Oct. 13-15 set the stage for one of the most disastrous fires ever to sweep through this Region. The remarkable thing is that it did not happen sooner. The great fire that razed more than 13,000 acres of brush, grassland, and chaparral in the Santa Monica Mountains, Nov. 6-9, was almost bound to happen. The Santa Ana winds, which commenced blowing through the canyons from the deserts to the northeast on Saturday, Nov. 6 and lasted through the evening of the 7th, generated the fire into a holocaust. Happily, the fire did not start on Saturday when the strongest winds were blowing, or the devastation would have been even more enormous. As it was, the loss to residences exceeded 400 homes, and the toll taken of wildlife was immeasurable. Large numbers of reptiles and mammals appeared in the inhabited areas of the

Santa Monica Mountains during and after the fire. People who maintained aviaries were requested either to bring their birds with them when they evacuated or to set them free. Many chose the latter course, and as a consequence we have had a rash of reports of exotic landbirds in the western part of the Los Angeles area.

Loons through Cormorants—The fall migration of loons of all three species was poor. The migration of Western Grebes was one of the poorest in years and may be attributed to the scarcity of small bait fishes in our waters. Whereas in the past, flocks of thousands could be seen along the coast, flocks during the fall barely numbered in the hundreds—and there were few flocks of that size. Eared Grebes fared no better, and Horned Grebes were not up to their usual numbers. Remarkable were two reports of *Least Grebes*! One bird was picked up at Barton Flats in the San Bernardino Mountains in late November and was ultimately released on Shadow Lake nearby. Another was captured alive near Baker (in the Mojave Desert) and transported to a backyard fish pond from which it disappeared (*vide* Josiephine Vaughn). Numbers of the *Procellariiformes* during the fall were not quite as good as they have been in the years past. For example: on Aug. 30 Guy McCaskie and Richard Stallcup saw only 2 Black-footed Albatrosses, 7 Sooty Shearwaters, 3 Ashy and 1 Black Petrel near San Clemente Island. On Sept. 24, members of the Los Angeles Audubon Society pelagic trip to the waters near Santa Barbara Island recorded only 1 Sooty, 15 Pink-footed, and 1 Manx Shearwater plus 10 Black and 2 Ashy Petrels. However, the important development in populations of seabirds was the excellent flight of *Fulmers* which began to appear early in November with the sighting of 14 birds off Newport by G. Shumway Suffel. Thereafter the birds increased in numbers and many could be seen feeding about the several piers near Newport and Santa Monica. Suffel also found 4 Sooty and 4 Slender-billed Shearwaters in the San Pedro Channel, Nov. 4 and 5. White Pelicans were scarce everywhere except on Morro Bay where a nice flock of between 50 and 100 birds was present throughout the fall. Brown Pelicans seemed scarce along our coast during the fall, as did all of the cormorants. In fact, most of the cormorants seemed to have deserted our southern coast (south of Pt. Conception) for the fish-laden waters of central California.

Hérons and Ibises—Both Snowy and Common Egrets were slightly below normal numbers during the fall. A nice roost of Snowies with a few Common Egrets was seen by Don Bleitz near the northern end of the Salton Sea in mid-September. By far the most controversial heron to be found here in many years was one that was seen by literally scores of birders at Upper Newport Bay beginning Nov. 16. Careful observation ultimately revealed it to be a sub-adult *Reddish Egret*. The bird was present to at least the end of this reporting period. More than 300 Wood Ibis were present on the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge during late summer and more than 50 still remained by Sept. 2 (John Nowak, Ben H. Crabb). Some 150 White-faced Ibis were counted by McCaskie

and Stallcup at the south end of the Salton Sea, Aug. 31, but away from this area none were reported.

Waterfowl—Generally speaking, waterfowl were late arriving in the Region (owing perhaps to mild weather upstate) and some species were far below normal numbers—particularly the Redhead and Canvasback. Goose numbers were slightly below normal for this Region. Much excitement was caused by the appearance of a *Ruddy Sheld-duck* at the lagoon in Malibu early in October (Mrs. Theodore Jahn). The bird remained until at least the end of this reporting period, was seen by scores of observers, but was probably an escaped exotic. The only Whistling Swans reported in the Region were 3 at Morro Bay about Nov. 1 and thereafter for several weeks (Alma Stultz). A summary of the Imperial Valley is as follows: Canada Geese—a peak of 1100+ was reached by Oct. 13 and had dwindled to 330 by Nov. 30; a peak of about 8000 Snow Geese was reached late in November (which is about 2000 below normal for there); White-fronted Geese were first noted on Sept. 22 and had reached a peak of 400 by Nov. 8; a single *Blue Goose* was noted among the Snows. Peak numbers for other waterfowl on the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge were as follows: Am. Widgeon—4500, Pintail—5400, Green-winged Teal—5100, Cinnamon Teal—150, Shoveler—2250, Redhead—500, Canvasback—325, Lesser Scaup—400, Ruddy Duck—11,200, and Common Goldeneye—150. All of these figures are below normal. Pintail numbers dropped off after Nov. 30 as many of the birds moved into Mexico. At Upper Newport Bay, where wintering waterfowl usually number about 25,000 birds plus some 100 or so Canada Geese, there were about 17,000 ducks of several species. Gadwall were scarce everywhere, and numbers of Mallards were low. The population of Black Brant at San Diego Bay numbered only about 500 while those on Morro Bay (up to the time of the hunting season) numbered about 2000. All geese were very scarce except in the Imperial Valley. At Carlsbad Lagoon Russ and Marion Wilson reported that the burning of the tules there has had profound effects upon the waterbirds. They noted very few ducks in the denuded marsh, almost a complete lack of shorebirds, only 3 Black-crowned Night Herons, and no Great Blues, Common, or Snowy Egrets. An injured *Blue-winged Teal* was captured at 7000 feet in the Kratka Ridge of the San Gabriel Mountains, Sept. 14 (Richard Suter, *vide* Michael Jacobsen); 9 were found on the Coronado Golf Course, San Diego, about Oct. 7 (Scott Goodfellow). Two *Wood Ducks* were present on Johnson's Lake, Pasadena, for most of the summer and fall (GSS); another in Santa Barbara; one at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley, Sept. 24 (RHW); and 2 were found on a small lake at the terminus of Sunset Boulevard in Pacific Palisades early in December (Gene Rose). Most species of diving ducks were very scarce—notably Lesser Scaup, Redhead, Canvasback, and Ring-necks. However, Ruddy Ducks were abundant and Buffleheads were very good with more than 150 at Upper Newport Bay. Sea ducks were only fair. Generally, numbers of scoters were down, and White-winged were not as plentiful as they have

been in the past few years. Similarly, Common Scoters were very scarce after their phenomenal flights of the past few years. Only a few females or immatures were seen. A female *Oldsquaw* was found at Upper Newport Bay, Oct. 22 (Los Angeles Audubon Society); another was found at the Newport Pier, Nov. 18 (Josephine Bull, *vide* Francis Raymond) and remained until at least the end of this season; a third was photographed at the Santa Monica Pier, Dec. 24, by Herbert Clarke and myself. Red-breasted Mergansers were below normal and Common Mergansers, as usual, were very scarce. However, for the first time in a number of years we had a few *Hooded Mergansers*. A female was at Upper Newport Bay, Dec. 3 (Ed.) and 4 were found on Bonita Golf Course, San Diego, Dec. 3 (Art and Jean Morley). A few Common Goldeneye were on San Diego, Upper Newport, and Morro Bays.

Birds of Prey—One California Condor was observed over Chalome, Sept. 17 (Eben McMillan). The White-tailed Kite story is difficult to interpret as some observers reported them more numerous while others complained of reduction in numbers of this beautiful hawk. Generally speaking, kites were scarce and the large aggregations sometimes seen in the fall and early winter (as at Point Mugu) were not evident. The only fall report received of Swainson's Hawk was a single bird over Quail Mountain, Joshua Tree National Monument (Dale C. Thompson, *vide* James R. Youse). The southbound birds evidently drift southward singly and often escape notice. Two *Rough-legged Hawks* were encountered during the fall. One bird was at Borrego State Park, Nov. 24 (R & MW), and another was at Ramer Lake near the south end of the Salton Sea, Nov. 24 (Mimi and Arnold Small). Single Ferruginous Hawks were at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley, Sept. 25 (Roland Wauer), Santa Barbara, Nov. 4 (Waldo Abbott), and at Borrego State Park, Nov. 25 (R & MW). Golden Eagle reports were encouraging but no Bald Eagles were seen. Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains was almost completely dry and no eagles were found there. Large flights of Turkey Vultures passed through Twenty-nine Palms Oasis, Sept. 23 and Oct. 2. Between 300 and 400 were noted on Sept. 23; about 100 were seen, Sept. 28; and almost 300 were observed, Oct. 2 (JRY). A few Ospreys were noted in migration, and a single bird spent more than a month at Morro Bay until it was shot (AS). Prairie Falcons were reported from Mecca, Borrego State Park, Palmdale, and Elkhorn Valley (Kern County), and single Peregrines were noted at Upper Newport Bay, Sept. 10 (R. & S. Siproth), Santa Barbara Island, Sept. 24 (L.A.A.S.), and Santa Monica, Dec. 2 (Ed.). The only Pigeon Hawk reported in migration was at Twenty-nine Palms Oasis, Nov. 3 (*vide* JRY).

Quail through Shorebirds—Many California Quail were reported coming to feeders and water in residential areas, especially during the hot, dry days of mid-October. The shorebird flight generally was very good, especially along the northern and southern borders of the Salton Sea. There seems to be slight evidence of extension of range of the Black Oyster-

catchers southward along the coast of the mainland. Normally they do not occur farther south, in this situation, than Shell Beach. However, in September Eugene Anderson found a few at Point Sal, and a single bird was at Goleta, Sept. 15 (Joseph Kittredge). Semipalmated Plovers were reported in good numbers on the north shore of the Salton Sea during September. Some 150 Mountain Plover were on the Carrizo Plain, Dec. 11 (Ed., *et al.*) and smaller flocks were reported from coastal Orange County south of Santa Ana. The only *Am. Golden Plover* reported was a single bird near Silver Strand Beach, San Diego Co., July 14 (Ethel and Tom Brown). Numbers of Black-bellied Plover rose in late August and flocks were about normal in size. Surfbirds were scarce; 5 were reported from Laguna Beach, Sept. 19 (FR), and only about 20 arrived at the breakwaters of Ballona Creek near Playa del Rey; none were at Santa Monica (Bess M. Hoffman). Snipe were scarce, as were Long-billed Curlews, but more than 2000 Whimbrel had assembled at Pazusa Gun Clubs (Kern County) by Nov. 25 (GSS). Elsewhere Whimbrel were down. No Solitary Sandpipers were reported during the fall. Wandering Tattlers were reported as follows: 1 was at Santa Barbara, July 26 (JK); 3 were there on Sept. 8 (JK); 1 was at Malibu Lagoon, Sept. 9 (L.A.A.S.); 1 was at Laguna, Nov. 28 (FR); but the most remarkable of all was the single bird found at the mouth of the Alamo River on the south end of the Salton Sea, Aug. 31 (GMcC. RS). It is one of the very few inland records of this species, and possibly the first inland record for California. Willets appeared to be down, especially near Playa del Rey where most of their habitat has been destroyed. Lesser Yellowlegs were reported from a few localities during August and September. Two late Lessers were found by the Wilsons, Nov. 19, near Forest Lawn Cemetery. Only a small number of Knots were reported this fall. Two were at Malibu during the last half of October (Wilson), and 2 were at Upper Newport Bay, Dec. 3 (Ed.). The only Pectoral Sandpipers reported were from Malibu Lagoon: 1, Sept. 3 (Irwin Woldman), and 2 at Malibu Lagoon from Oct. 11 (Ed.) to at least Oct. 22 (R & MW). No Baird's Sandpipers were reported from the Region. Dunlins increased in numbers during the latter part of October, but in general the flocks were smaller than in past years. Similarly, both species of dowitchers appeared to be down. What must be regarded as a truly phenomenal number of *Stilt Sandpipers* for California was found by McCaskie and Stallcup on the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge, Aug. 31. They counted 66 in one flock, a single bird, and 32 others scattered among other shorebirds. *Am. Avocets* were numerous at Upper Newport Bay and the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge. More than 2000 were counted at the latter place, Nov. 30 (BHC, JN). Black-necked Stilts lingered at Upper Newport Bay well into December in numbers that exceeded 50 (Ed.). This is quite late for such a large group and other late birds were reported elsewhere. "Thousands" of Wilson's and "uncountable numbers" of Northern Phalaropes were at Carlsbad Lagoon, Sept. 24 (BMH), while smaller numbers of these phalaropes persisted at Upper New-

port Bay into mid-October. Some 500 Northern and more than 15 Red Phalaropes were counted on Sept. 24 between San Pedro and Santa Barbara Island (*L.A.A.S.*). A lone Ruddy Turnstone was at Upper Newport Bay, Sept. 8 (*Leo Best*).

Jaegers, Gulls, Terns, Alcids—There was a very fine flight of jaegers, but most of the birds stayed well offshore. Seventy Parasitic and 5 Pomarine Jaegers were counted on Aug. 30 in waters from Newport to San Clemente Island, where 40 Sabine's Gulls, 1 Arctic Tern, and about 50 Red Phalaropes also were found (*GMcC. RS*). Excellent flights of jaegers continued into October as 40 Pomarine and 1 *Long-tailed* were sighted between San Pedro and Santa Barbara Island, Sept. 24 (*L.A.A.S.*). Two Parasitic Jaegers were off San Clemente Beach, Oct. 21 (*R & MW*) and 8 Parasitics and 1 Pomarine were sighted off Huntington Beach, Oct. 22 (*L.A.A.S.*). John Bishop reported that jaegers "have been almost common" off Point Loma during the fall, and he reported all three species there on Sept. 30. The earliest Glaucous-winged Gull was reported from Santa Barbara, Oct. 19 (*JK*), Herring Gull, Nov. 1 (*JK*), and Mew Gull on Nov. 15 (*JK*). Elsewhere Mew Gulls were very scarce through mid-December at least. Bleitz reported "a few Laughing Gulls (in fall plumage)" from the north end of the Salton Sea in September. Fifteen Sabine's Gulls were seen between San Pedro and Santa Barbara Island, Sept. 24 (*L.A.A.S.*), and none were reported after that. Bonaparte's Gulls became very abundant, especially well offshore in late November and early December when flocks of thousands could be seen streaming over the water. Common Terns had one of the very best fall flights we have ever experienced. During late August and most of September their flocks numbered many thousands along the beaches and in the harbors. On Sept. 24 a great swirling mass of more than 3000 Common Terns (strongly resembling the spiraling action of Chimney Swifts entering a chimney) was encountered as our boat entered San Pedro Harbor at dusk. None were recorded after mid-November. Five Arctic Terns also were seen at sea near Santa Barbara Island, Sept. 24 (*L.A.A.S.*). Black Terns were scarce, even in the Imperial Valley. The flight of Elegant Terns was one of the poorest on record. Only about 60 were counted at Sunset Beach in late August (*Ed., IW*); 1 was at Malibu, Sept. 3 (*IW*); 2 were at San Clemente Beach, Oct. 21 (*R & MW*); 6 were at Upper Newport Bay, Oct. 22; and small numbers were reported from San Diego Bay during the fall. The only alcids reported were 6 Cassin's Auklets in the San Pedro Channel, Nov. 4 (*GSS*).

Doves through Hummingbirds—Flocks of Band-tailed Pigeons descended into lowlands and orchards for lack of acorn mast in the mountains. An active nest of Chinese Spotted Doves was under observation in Pomona from Sept. 12 to Nov. 6 when it was abandoned (*L. A. Shelton*). Single White-winged Doves were seen at Whittier, Aug. 18 (*Eben B. McGregor*), and Santa Barbara, Oct. 8 (*hide WGA*). The *Ground Dove* population at Indio and Mecca has greatly enlarged. Some 20 birds were found in a morning near Indio, Sept. 16 (*GSS*) and Bleitz re-

ported flocks numbering from 35 to 50 near Mecca during November. They were also reported as fairly common near Corona during the summer (*Norman H. Mellor*). A Long-eared Owl was present in a garden in Santa Ana from Sept. 14 to Oct. 15 (*Margaret Harding*) and 3 were found at Eagle Borax in Death Valley, Nov. 4 (*RHW*). A massive migration of Vaux's Swifts occurred between Sept. 20 and 24. Thousands were counted through Goleta (*MJ*), Corona (*NHM*), and Carlsbad (*BMH*). In addition, 12 Black Swifts were seen over Corona, Sept. 20 (*NHM*). Most of the Black-chinned Hummingbirds had departed by the end of August, and this was true also of Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds. Small numbers of Allen's and Rufous lingered well into September, however. A male *Broad-billed Hummingbird* (for which there is no record for California) appeared at a feeder in San Diego about Nov. 10, was seen and photographed by dozens of observers, and was present to at least Dec. 15 (*Maurine J. Heraty*).

Woodpeckers, Flycatchers, Swallows—A good migration of Red-shafted Flickers through the Date Palm groves of Mecca during early October was noted by Bleitz, and among them he found 2 *Yellow-shafted Flickers*. Another of this species was a regular visitor to a garden in Los Angeles (*Olive Alvey*). Except for those at Death Valley (which arrived Sept. 20—*RWH*), the only Lewis' Woodpeckers reported were single birds at Cuyamaca State Park, Sept. 26 (*BMH*) and Santa Ana, Sept. 24 (*MGH*). Another *Eastern Kingbird* was found, this one at Santa Barbara, Sept. 14 (*JK*). An unusual congregation of more than 50 Western Kingbirds assembled at Clark Bird Refuge, Santa Barbara, Sept. 2 (*E. A. Albertson*). An *Eastern Phoebe* appeared at Malibu Lagoon, Oct. 29 (*Ed., Don & Caroline Adams*). Three Olive-sided Flycatchers were noted at Malibu Lagoon, Sept. 3, where they are not usual (*IW*). The first Vermilion Flycatcher of the winter in Death Valley appeared at Furnace Creek Ranch, Sept. 25 (*RHW*). A good flight of Violet-green and Tree Swallows, interspersed with some 50 or so *very late* Vaux's Swifts, was sighted by Suffel over the Pt. Mugu gun clubs, Nov. 16. A very large flight of Barn Swallows moved through the Coachella Valley in mid-September (*DB*) and many more thousands were seen at Carlsbad Lagoon, Sept. 24 (*BMH*).

Jays through Thrashers—Cooperators' reports are replete with notes of Steller's Jays and *Clark's Nutcrackers* appearing in lowland areas in remarkable numbers. The Steller's Jays were located primarily in the foothill and lowlands immediately adjacent to the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains. The poor pine cone crop no doubt played a very large part in this invasion. Of special interest, however, was the flight of Clark's Nutcrackers, for they ranged much further from their mountain homes than did the jays (which frequently appear in lowlands and canyons from time to time). A partial list of localities at which they were observed during October, November, and early December is as follows: Sunland, North Hollywood, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Santa Ana, Arcadia, Rolling Hills (Palos Verdes), San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Twenty-nine Palms. A flock

of some 30 Piñon Jays remained near Cholame from Sept. 22 to about Nov. 28 (EMcM) and about 50 were seen south of Twenty-nine Palms, Sept. 18 (*fade JRY*). Bleitz reported single Red-breasted Nuthatches during the latter part of October and early November from Hollywood and near Franklin Canyon Reservoir. A *Winter Wren* was seen at Thorndike (7200 ft.) in Death Valley National Monument, Sept. 15 (RHW). A good flight of migrating Mockingbirds passed through Coachella Valley during the first two weeks of November (DB).

Thrushes, Waxwings, Starlings, Vireos—The Robin flight this fall has been nothing short of spectacular! Numerous observers reported flocks numbering in the thousands and almost all reports received contained comments on the "great Robin invasion." The birds began to arrive in large flocks toward the end of October, and the flocks have increased in size steadily since then. Varied Thrushes, however, were scarce and were reported only from Mill Creek Canyon and Santa Barbara. Reports of Townsend's Solitaires from lowland areas are as follows: Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley—fairly common during Sept. (RHW); Cottonwood Springs, Joshua Tree National Monument—1, Oct. 4 (*fade JRY*); Poway—1, Nov. 7-30 (John D. Kent); and Laguna Beach—1, Nov. 17-18 (*fade FR*). Cedar Waxwings arrived in good numbers, but their flocks could not rival those of the Robins. The number of Starlings reported this fall is greater than ever before and more localities were represented. They were seen at Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Los Angeles, El Monte, Ventura, Death Valley, Inyokern, Bakersfield, Westminster, Morro Bay, and Santa Barbara. Bell's Vireos were seen at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley, Sept. 22 (RHW).

Warblers—The fall flight of warblers was one of the best in years. Birds were numerous in coastal canyons, lowlands, and even in the Imperial Valley where McCaskie and Stallcup witnessed a small flight, Aug. 31. The best flights, however, occurred between Sept. 15 and 20. This migration was notable also for the large number of very rare warblers observed and collected. A *Black-and-white Warbler* was seen on Sept. 23 in San Timoteo Canyon (Merle J. Whitney). A *Black-throated Blue Warbler* was carefully sketched and identified near San Bernardino in November (Mrs. George Peterson). A *Northern Waterthrush* came to a bird bath in Poway, Oct. 3 (JDK). An *Am. Redstart* was at Mr. Kent's yard in Poway, Sept. 19. The only Myrtle Warbler reported was a single bird at Poway, Nov. 11 (JDK). Another *Am. Redstart* was at the Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens,

Sept. 19 (*fade WGA*). A *Black-throated Green Warbler* was taken in Mill Creek Canyon (John D. Goodman). Dr. Goodman also reported a male *Hooded Warbler* seen at the Desert Game Range, 40 miles north of Las Vegas, Nev., Oct. 19, by Mrs. Pat Hansen. Roland Wauer reported that *Am. Redstarts* were almost common at Saratoga Springs; 12 were located in about 30 minutes.

Icterids, Tanagers—Many reports were received of wintering Bullock's and Hooded Orioles as well as Scott's Orioles from Coachella Valley (DB) and Borrego Springs (R & MW). An immature male *Baltimore Oriole* appeared at Mrs. Harding's feeders in Santa Ana, Nov. 11, and was joined by a mature male Baltimore on Dec. 20. Both birds were present to at least the end of the month. Another male *Baltimore Oriole* appeared in Santa Barbara on Oct. 7 and remained at a feeder until at least the end of the season (Mrs. Russell Kriger, *fade WGA*). Suspicion must be leveled against these recent Baltimores since we have information of captive Baltimore Orioles brought into southern California and released here. A pair of *Rusty Blackbirds* was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch, Nov. 1 (RHW), but the observer was unable to secure a specimen. A female Western Tanager remained at a feeder in Los Angeles until at least the end of December (OA). A male *Summer Tanager* was found in the San Geronio area of the San Bernardino Mountains, Sept. 10 (Scott Goodfellow).

Fringillids—On Sept. 22 at Furnace Creek Ranch Wauer collected a female *Dickcissel* that had been there for about 10 days. Evening Grosbeaks were reported from Red Box in the San Gabriel Mountains during September and from a feeder in Azusa, Oct. 21 (Jere B. Stair). Purple Finches were fairly numerous in lowland areas and at feeders during the latter part of the fall season. Several reports of Red Crossbills from lowlands were received. A *Gray-headed Junco* was found at Silver Strand State Park, Oct. 15 (A & JM). A *Harris' Sparrow* was found at Furnace Creek Ranch, Sept. 29 and another at Santa Barbara, Nov. 16 (June Hopkins, *fade WGA*). White-crowned Sparrows arrived somewhat early, but numbers of birds never seemed to reach normal totals. Golden-crowned Sparrows arrived somewhat later and in normal abundance and a few White-throated Sparrows were at feeders. Wauer's most interesting find was a flock of 15 *longspurs* (of what he believes to be three species) in Death Valley, Oct. 18. Some birds were collected for identification.—ARNOLD SMALL, 3028 Cavendish Drive, Los Angeles 64, Calif.