



tion other than (being rather mild), contributing to the lateness of many of the migrants—especially the waterfowl. From July 1 to Dec. 31, Los Angeles County experienced the driest season in history as less than 0.12 inch of precipitation was recorded. The deserts, which normally receive some late summer rains and thunderstorms, received virtually none. All seemed in readiness for another devastating series of forest fires. These, happily, were not forthcoming. Temperatures during this period were slightly below normal, but coastal areas received much fog. The almost omnipresent fog tended to reduce the forest-fire danger index in the coastal chaparral and the Great Basin high pressure system was not stable enough to induce many days of hot, dry Santa Ana winds blowing southwestward through the canyons. Strong onshore winds blew a fog blanket many miles inland during October and especially November, and the overcast skies kept temperatures below normal and raised the humidity. Some little rain was received during the middle of October, but the storms that followed tended to dissipate before breaching the Tehachapis. By the end of this reporting season, virtually no snow had fallen in the higher mountain areas of southern California.

How was the fall migration unique in Southern California? Why was it paradoxical? In one sense, it was one of the poorest migrations on record from the standpoint of the *numbers* of migrants observed. Observers reported "birds much reduced in numbers," "fall migration . . . has been unusually light," "almost no birds here—a very faint migration," "birds have been very scarce in my yard this year," "crowned sparrows and Audubon's Warblers are certainly below their usual numbers," "—notable for rarity or absence of many species," "migration seems very late this year," and many, many, similar comments both in oral and written communications. The birds generally referred to in these comments were the smaller landbirds. It was quite true that the waterfowl flight was late, but later in the season it accelerated while the landbird migration did not. And yet, while the migrants seemed to trickle through our Region, with but a few "pushes" in September and

#### SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.—

The fall migration of 1962 should long be remembered as a paradox. In a number of ways it was one of the most unusual, while at the same time, exciting, sea-sons ever experienced by southern California birders. Even the weather was strange and seemed to have little influence upon the uniqueness of the fall migra-



October, some observers were scoring incredible finds among the smaller landbirds, including 4 additional species officially added to the state list by a specimen. A number of other second, third, and fourth sight and specimen records also were obtained as well as 4 well-authenticated first sight records for the state. Some rather special water and larger landbirds also were noted.

Continued "improvement" and "development" of coastal lagoons and tidal flats between Morro Bay and San Diego significantly altered the populations of marsh and shorebirds between these limits of our Region. Most of the changes were rendered in the coastal areas south of Los Angeles and may have accounted for the virtually unheard of "hundreds of thousands" of shorebirds that collected near south San Diego Bay and Imperial Beach.

**Loons through Cormorants**—The fall migration of loons was again very poor. No large concentrations were found and very few birds were observed in migratory flights along this coast. Generally, Common Loons were seen somewhat earlier in the season than either the Arctic or Red-throated species. All species of grebes, except Pied-billed, were low, and no significant concentrations of Western Grebes were found along the coast. A late summer visit to the waters near San Clemente Island yielded virtually no pelagic species on Sept. 5 (Ed., *GMcC. PDeB. FL*). However, as the boat proceeded farther south some forty miles, pelagics became increasingly abundant and the following species were found: Black-footed Albatross—13; Pink-footed Shearwater—100+; Sooty Shearwater—15; Manx Shearwater—21; Leach's Petrel—155; Ashy Petrel—3; Black Petrel—only 1; and 1 *Wilson's Petrel* (which constituted the 4th record for the west coast of the U. S.). In addition, 30 Pomarine and 22 Parasitic Jaegers were found as were 30 Sabine's Gulls and small numbers of Red and Northern Phalaropes. However, a *Red-billed Tropicbird* was found on Sept. 1 about six miles from the east end of San Clemente Island (*vide BBB*). White Pelicans, at the south end of the Salton Sea, reached a peak population of about 1500 by mid-October, but by the end of November all of those migrants had left the area (*RRP*). White Pelicans at Morro Bay numbered 78 (*CFT*) on Nov. 27 and single individuals and very small groups were noted near San Diego and Upper Newport Bay during the fall. Brown Pelicans were low in numbers from San Diego north to Point Dume, but large concentrations of these and other fish-eating species of birds were seen feeding just west of Ventura, Sept. 11 (*GSS*). On this date almost 500 Brown Pelicans were counted in this group and 263 were counted at Morro Bay, Nov. 27 (*CFT*). Since small baitfish were scarce near the coast of this Region during most of the late summer and fall, very few cormorants were found.

**Hérons and Ibis**—A *Reddish Egret* was found just north of Leucadia about Sept. 11 and remained there for at least a week (*B & MR*). An adult *Yellow-crowned Night Heron* found near Imperial Beach on Nov. 3 (*GMcC. JB*) constitutes only the second sight record for California. Sixteen Wood Ibis were

found at the mouth of the New River, Salton Sea, Sept. 3 (*GMcC. PDeB*), but again none were found in the coastal lagoons of San Diego County, where formerly they were quite regular in fall. There were 6 reports of White-faced Ibis in small numbers from near San Diego to Point Mugu, and the largest group noted away from the coast was 150 near the south end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 16 (*GMcC*). A pink *Am. Flamingo* was present near the south end of San Diego Bay from Oct. 19 to Oct. 25, when it was collected for blood studies by some members of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (*GMcC*).

**Waterfowl**—Generally speaking, the southward flight of waterfowl was both light and late. At the Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge the first geese did not arrive until Nov. 21 when 7 White-fronteds and 1 Canada appeared. The following list summarizes the waterfowl situation in this Region's most important waterfowl area: White-fronted Geese reached a peak of 2000 in mid-October and dropped to 300 by the end of November (this was a little better than normal); Canada Geese first arrived in numbers, Oct. 25, and reached a peak of 750 (slightly better than normal) by the end of November; Snow Geese first arrived on Oct. 16 and peaked at 10,000 (again up to about normal after a few lean years); an occasional Ross' Goose was located among the Snows, but no Blue Geese were reported; Mallards totaled 300 during the second week of October and 50 remained by the end of November; Green-winged Teal arrived on Aug. 29 and peaked at 3500 by the end of November; Cinnamon Teal were present in small numbers all year and their peak of 1600 was reached in mid-October; *Am. Widgeon* were first observed, Sept. 25, and 7000 were counted at the end of November; Redhead, Oct. 5—550; Canvasback, Nov. 23—200; Ring-necked Duck, Nov. 2—600; Lesser Scaup, Sept. 19—1700; Bufflehead, Nov. 2—50; Common Goldeneye, Nov. 17—75; Shoveler, Oct. 5—2285; Gadwall, Nov. 27—50; and Pintail which reached a peak of 6000 in mid-October fell to 1500 by the end of November (*RRP*). In addition, 2 Black Brant were located at the north end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 16 (*GMcC*). Elsewhere, an early Black Brant was at the mouth of the Santa Marguerita River, Aug. 25 (Ed.), and thereafter a few individual birds were noted elsewhere in the Region. The first large flock of Black Brant arrived at Morro Bay, Nov. 1, and by Nov. 15, more than 500 were there (*CFT*). Their numbers, however, were much reduced from former years both at Morro Bay and San Diego and Mission Bays. A single White-fronted Goose was found near Whittier, Nov. 3 (*TC*). The only Blue-winged Teal reported was a single male at Bonita from Nov. 17 to at least Nov. 30 (*GMcC*). On Nov. 25 a count of waterfowl at Upper Newport Bay barely exceeded 10,000 where 25,000 is more nearly normal; however, Bufflehead numbered more than 100 there, which was excellent. Elsewhere, as at San Diego, Bufflehead numbers were also very good. Three Common Goldeneyes were found at San Diego, Nov. 9 (*GMcC. EP*) and at least 6 were at Bolsa Chica and Upper Newport Bay, Nov. 25 (Ed., *L.A.A.S.*). A female *Oldsquaw* was on San Diego



Bay from Nov. 19 until at least Nov. 18 (GMcC, EP). The southward flight of scoters gained momentum during the third week of October, but numbers of White-wings and Common Scoters were far down. Numbers of Red-breasted Mergansers were low, and the only Common Mergansers reported were 13 near Hesperia, Nov. 8 (FR). The rare (for us) *Hooded Merganser* was found at Upper Newport Bay, Nov. 25 (Ed., L.A.A.S.). The *Ruddy Sheld-duck* reappeared at Malibu Lagoon about Nov. 17, after apparently migrating somewhere for the summer (EG).

**Birds of Prey**—Two California Condors were reported from the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada at Olancho during early November (VC, *fade MW*). Five White-tailed Kites were feeding in the cultivated fields near Upper Newport Bay, Nov. 25 (Ed., L.A.A.S.), but elsewhere they were virtually unreported. The only migrant Swainson's Hawk reported was a single bird in the Tia Juana River Valley, Oct. 13 (GMcC, MM). Two Am. Rough-legged Hawks were at these same fields near Upper Newport Bay, Nov. 28 (JL). Ferruginous Hawks were seen as follows: 1 for a week each during October and November near Poway (JDK); 1 near Temecula, Nov. 25, and 1 near Borrego Airport, Nov. 24 (R & MW); 1 arrived in the San Diego area, Sept. 14, and up to 3 birds were noted in the Tia Juana River Valley after Oct. 20 (GMcC, EP). Reports of Golden Eagles were very encouraging and 6 Bald Eagles were found at Lake Cachuma, Dec. 2 (TH). There were more than a dozen reports of migrating Ospreys during the fall, and this was more birds than have been reported for several years. Prairie Falcons were seen near Pazusa, Oct. 13 (GSS), Hidden Valley, Joshua Tree National Monument (R & MW), and another flew over Upper Newport Bay, Nov. 25 (Ed.). Single Peregrine Falcons were noted at Morro Bay, Oct. 5 (CFT) and in the San Diego area, Nov. 4 (GMcC). Pigeon Hawks were seen as follows: 1, Nov. 1 near Whittier (EMcG); 1, Sept. 29 near Orange (TC); several from Oct. 21 and thereafter near San Diego (GMcC, EP).

**Quail, Cranes, Shorebirds**—Mountain Quail were far down in numbers at Stubby Spring in Joshua Tree National Monument during the early autumn, while Gambel's Quail were more numerous than usual there. More than 20 Mountain Quail were found in Plum Canyon of Anza-Borrego State Park, Nov. 23 (R & MW) and the presence of these birds at this lower elevation may have resulted from the extreme dryness of that area during late summer. Two Sandhill Cranes were seen circling low over the southern San Joaquin Valley, Oct. 31 (GSS). From Morro Bay, Tolman reported that "shorebirds seemed below their normal numbers," especially "peep" and dowitchers; however, at Upper Newport Bay and south San Diego Bay, their numbers were good. Early September marked the peak of shorebird movements through the Morro Bay area, but it wasn't until the end of September that the great flocks numbering more than one hundred thousand birds had built up at south San Diego Bay. It is probably safe to say that no other area in California (with the possible exception of Humboldt Bay) held as many shorebirds as this area. McCaskie

stated that "in the Salt Works, immense 'carpets' of the commoner species congregated during the high tides." It is likely that destruction of other feeding and loafing areas in this Region has been responsible for the enormous build-up which took place at south San Diego Bay this year. Happily, there yet remain there large areas of excellent tidal flats and dikes for loafing. Three *Am. Golden Plovers* were found: 1 at the north end of Salton Sea, Sept. 2, and another there on Sept. 16 (GMcC), and another appeared on the golf course at Morro Bay State Park, Nov. 17 (CFT). On Nov. 29, more than 2000 Long-billed Curlews were censused on the Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (RRP). Black Turnstones were very scarce, and only a very few Ruddy Turnstones were found away from south San Diego Bay where they numbered more than 500 in September. Common Snipe were abundant at Benita, Solano Beach and Pazusa after mid-September. Fair numbers of Lesser Yellowlegs were reported between Sept. 2 and the end of October. The appearance of *Knots* this season was especially noteworthy. Two were first found at south San Diego Bay, Aug. 24; by Sept. 6 their numbers had reached 75 and thereafter between 500 and 1000 were present during most of the fall (and 700 were actually counted, Oct. 27, in only a portion of the suitable habitat for this species); in addition, 2 were found at the north end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 2, and 50 were found near Camp Pendleton, Sept. 6 (GMcC). An additional 20 were at Upper Newport Bay, Sept. 11 (Ed.). Three Surf-birds were at Goleta, Sept. 11 (JK); this species was scarce everywhere during the fall. Another incredible find was the two *Bar-tailed Godwits* at Upper Newport Bay, Sept. 9. The first was found there on Sept. 2 by Paul Cope and a week later 2 were very carefully observed in the same area (R & GS). The birds could not be found after this latter date, and this was the first sighting of the species in California. Pectoral Sandpipers were seen at Bonita, 1, Sept. 6 (GMcC, PDeB); at south end of San Diego Bay, 1, Sept. 15 (GMcC, EP); at Silver Strand, 1, Oct. 16 (EP); and up to 8 were present at Solano Beach between Sept. 21 and Oct. 19 (GMcC). Baird's Sandpipers were at Solano Beach, 1, Sept. 6 and at Upper Newport Bay, Sept. 6, 1, (GMcC, PDeB); 4 at Upper Newport Bay, Sept. 11 (Ed.); and another at Solano Beach, Sept. 21 (GMcC). Solitary Sandpipers were found as follows: 1 at Solano Beach, Sept. 4-6 and Sept. 21; 2 in Tia Juana River Valley, Sept. 14-18 and Sept. 30-Oct. 14 (GMcC). The flight of Dunlins was light at first, and somewhat late, although their numbers swelled steadily after mid-October. A few Wandering Tattlers were noted along the coast between the third week of August and the end of September. A *Ruff* (probably a female) was found at Solano Beach, Sept. 21; McCaskie succeeded in showing it to several others before it left. This represented the third record for California (and all in 1962). Two *Stilt Sandpipers* were found at the south end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 2-3 (GMcC, PDeB); 1 was at Solano Beach, Sept. 21, and again on Oct. 21. These appear to be the first records for coastal southern California (GMcC).



The fall flight of phalaropes was excellent at Upper Newport Bay and Point Mugu, but was reported as below normal at Carlsbad Lagoon and San Diego. Sixty-five hundred Am. Avocets were censused at the Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Nov. 29 (RRP).

**Jaegers, Gulls**—The coastal jaeger flight was fairly good. Four Parasitic Jaegers flew directly over the sand at Cabrillo Beach, Sept. 23 (L.A.A.S.); a number of jaegers were seen at Morro Bay between Sept. 16 and Oct. 24 (CFT); and a few Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were seen in San Diego Bay from mid-Sept. to Nov. 30 (EP, GMcC). Small groups of Glaucous-winged Gulls began arriving during the last week in October, and Mew Gulls were first noted about three weeks later. As many as 5 *Laughing Gulls* were found at the north end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 2 and 16 (GMcC, PDeB) and another was found at San Diego Bay, Oct. 7 (EP). Two immature *Franklin's Gulls* were at the north end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 16, and another was found in an alfalfa field 10 miles north of Holtville, Nov. 11 (GMcC). The large flight of Bonaparte's Gulls began about the fourth week in October, and thereafter flocks of hundreds could be seen along the coast and at some distance offshore. The only Black-legged Kittiwake reported was an immature bird on San Diego Bay, Nov. 16 (GMcC).

**Terns, Skimmer, Alcids**—Large flocks of Common Terns began moving south along our coast in late August and early September (with as many as 700 in one flock at south San Diego Bay). The flight tapered off during September and numbers began to drop off by the end of October; most had departed by the end of November. A single Arctic Tern was located at south San Diego Bay, Sept. 13 (GMcC). At least 2 Gull-billed Terns were still near the south end of the Salton Sea by Sept. 3 (GMcC, PDeB). North of San Diego the flight of Elegant Terns was spotty and ill-defined. The flocks were small and they began drifting northward early in September. Small numbers were recorded as far north as Morro Bay in our Region, but the best flight did not venture much farther north than San Diego. In all areas the peak of the flight came during the third week in September and the highest numbers counted were 1150 near San Diego, Sept. 18 (EP). By the end of October the majority had retreated southward but stragglers were still reported from Santa Barbara as late as Dec. 6 (JK). Most of the Least Terns had departed by early September. Few Caspian Terns were seen after mid-October and the northward movement of Royal Terns became evident during October. Small numbers of Black Terns were noted along the coast during the first half of September, and more than 1000 were seen moving south across fields in the Imperial Valley, Sept. 3 (GMcC, PDeB). Another astonishing bird for California, the *Black Skimmer*, was found at the mouth of the Santa Ana River, Sept. 8 (TC). This represents the first-known sighting of this bird on the Pacific coast of the United States, and certainly the first sighting for California. The only alcid reported in our Region (south of Morro Bay) was a Common Murre that was captured alive in San Diego during the first week of November

(*vide* GMcC).

**Doves, Owls**—A single White-winged Dove, far west of its normal range, was at Solano Beach, Sept. 22 (Ed., *et al.*). Ground Doves were numerous in certain areas. At Corona, at least 12 pairs and numerous young were present until Nov. 21 (NHM); and there at least, the bulk arrive in April and leave by the third week in November (even earlier, if it rains); up to 20 were noted in the Tia Juana River Valley during the fall (GMcC, EP); and they also were found in numbers up to 40 in the Imperial Valley, Sept. 2, 3, and 16 (GMcC, PDeB); a single bird was found at Thousand Palms, Nov. 4 (IW, HK). A good crop of piñon nuts (the first in 5 years) provided a rich food supply for the Band-tailed Pigeons during the nesting season. Production of these birds was above normal and very large flocks were reported in the Tehachapis (GSS), near Big Bear Lake (LAS), and near Santa Barbara where they fed upon an infestation of Oak Moth larvae (Mrs. TH). A Spotted Owl was heard in Morongo Valley, Oct. 20 (IW, *et al.*), but no Short-eared Owls were reported.

**Swifts, Hummingbirds**—The fall migration of Vaux's Swifts appeared to be rather well dispersed both in time and place, with the peak coming possibly during the first week in October. One Black Swift was seen migrating with Vaux's and White-throated Swifts over Corona, Oct. 29 (NHM). The southward flight of hummingbirds was reported as rather light. A male *Broad-billed Hummingbird* was found in the Tia Juana River Valley, Oct. 14 (MM, EP, GMcC). This constituted the second sight record of this species in the state. A single male Costa's Hummingbird lingered at a feeder in Pacific Palisades until at least the third week in November (FL).

**Woodpeckers, Flycatchers**—The only Lewis' Woodpeckers reported were a few at the Salton Sea Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Oct. 3 (RRP) and 2 near Fawnskin in the San Bernardino Mountains, Oct. 12 (LAS). An *Eastern Kingbird* was found at the Santa Barbara Bird Refuge, Sept. 23-25 (Mr. & Mrs. TH). An *Eastern Phoebe* was located near Silver Strand, Oct. 16-17 (GMcC, EP). Vermilion Flycatchers were located as follows: 3 at Morongo Valley, Sept. 2 (GMcC) and at least one there, Oct. 20 (R & MW); 1 in the Tia Juana River Valley, Sept. 30-Oct. 1 (GMcC, EP); and 1 at Bonita, Nov. 12 to Nov. 30 (GMcC). Five *Tropical Kingbirds* were noted in the San Diego area during the early fall: 1 was at the Coronado Golf Course, Sept. 13-16 (EP); 2 were in the Tia Juana River Valley, Oct. 8 (GMcC); another was at a different area in the Tia Juana River Valley, Oct. 11 (GMcC); and still another remained along the Silver Strand, Oct. 16-18 (GMcC, EP). These occurrences, coupled with the regular mid-October sightings of this species in central California, certainly suggest a coastwise northward fall movement.

**Swallows, Tits, Nuthatches, Thrashers**—A heavy southward migration of swallows moved through the Imperial Valley about mid-September (GSS). Barn Swallows were last seen in the San Diego area, Nov. 2 (GMcC). Three *Verdins* were found among a



flock of Bushtits in the Tia Juana River Valley, Sept. 14 (GMcC). This species is not known to occur west of the desert in this state. Three migrant Red-breasted Nuthatches were present in the Tia Juana River Valley, Nov. 4 (GMcC). A single *Bendire's Thrasher* was also found there, Nov. 16 (GMcC) and this appears to be only the second occurrence away from its limited breeding area in California. Sage Thrashers were found on two occasions near San Diego this fall. One was seen feeding with House Sparrows, Oct. 1, and another was found in the Salicornia marsh, Oct. 20 (GMcC).

**Thrushes, Kinglets, Gnatcatchers**—By the end of November, the Robin flight was one of the poorest on record. Many observers reported seeing none at all. Similarly, the flight of Hermit Thrushes was very sparse as was the flight of Swainson's Thrushes. Near Poway, Kent reported Hermit Thrushes as 20 per cent of normal and Ruby-crowned Kinglets as 10 per cent of normal. There was a small movement of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers through San Diego, Oct. 1-10 (GMcC), during which time Black-tailed Gnatcatchers were observed on three occasions among the Blue-grays (GMcC).

**Waxwings, Starlings, Vireos**—Only a few small scattered flocks of Cedar Waxwings were located during the fall, and their flight appeared to be as poor as that of the Robins. A small number of Starlings was reported from Morro Bay, Nov. 14 (CFT) and a group of more than 200 was found in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Oct. 1 (DR, *vide MW*). The main movement of Warbling Vireos was during September and early October. McCaskie collected a *Red-eyed Vireo* in the Tia Juana River Valley, Oct. 19, for the third record for southern California of this species.

**Warblers**—The southward flight of warblers was most astonishing. It was notable not for the abundance of birds (which on the whole was rather low), but for the number of species observed. *No less than 27 species of warblers were identified*, as compared with the usual 11 or 12 to be expected in migration! Another fact that emerged from this past season was that the inland flight of warblers in the fall is very meager, while the coastwise flight is very good. Most of the exceptional warbler finds were made by Guy McCaskie in the Tia Juana River Valley south of San Diego. By devoting many hours to the task, by patience and skill in observation, and with the aid of careful notes, he added another page to California ornithology. Now whether this season was unique in some unknown way, or whether these finds were merely the result of careful and skillful field work, only time will tell. I suspect that it was a combination of both, since a number of other unusual finds were made by others away from the Tia Juana River Valley—but likewise, along the coast. Certainly, as a result of this year's observations, coastal areas of a similar sort should be scoured thoroughly next year. However, there seems to be little doubt (after the work that was done both along the coast and in the desert oases this fall) that the heaviest migration of warblers, at least, is coastal in the autumn. Various observations then revealed that along the coast the largest movements occurred this season on Sept. 18,

Sept. 23, Sept. 27, and Sept. 30. These movements were mainly of Orange-crowned and Yellow Warblers, with smaller numbers of Townsend's, Black-throated Gray, Wilson's and a few other species mixed in. A strong movement on Oct. 4-5 included the first big wave of Audubon's Warblers, although they had been noted as single birds or in small numbers since Sept. 18. Between Oct. 18 and 23 another good movement occurred. Another influx on Nov. 4 signaled almost the end of the fall warbler flight. In his analysis of the work done in the Tia Juana River Valley this fall, McCaskie noted that Nashville Warblers, Hermit Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chats, and MacGillivray's Warblers were scarce—even less common than Am. Redstarts this year! This suggests that these species may follow a slightly different route in their southward flight, and the appearance of so many rare species of warblers along the coast (and almost none inland) suggests that these rare ones had followed a coastal tack. With but few exceptions, the following warbler sightings were made by McCaskie in the Tia Juana River Valley: *Black-and-white Warbler*—a male in the Tia Juana River Valley, Sept. 23, and an immature or female in the same place, Oct. 18 (GMcC); *Tennessee Warbler*—a total of 7 individuals noted by McCaskie with one in the TJRV, Sept. 18-20; 1 on Oct. 4, 2 on Oct. 8 (one of which remained until Oct. 12); 1 at Solano Beach, Oct. 19, and another, Oct. 28; 1 at Silver Strand on Nov. 9; other Tennessee Warblers were found at Duarte, 1, Oct. 19 (EC); 1 at feeder in Santa Barbara, Nov. 10-27 (Mr. and Mrs. TH), and 1 captured in Topanga Canyon (DB); *Virginia's Warbler*—about 35 were noted in the TJRV between Sept. 14 and Oct. 21 with the largest number seen during the last half of September (this number is really incredible when one examines the breeding range of this species and finds it to be the Great Basin Ranges and the Rocky Mountain states with a very limited breeding range in California); *Parula Warbler*—one in TJRV, Oct. 4 (GMcC); *Magnolia Warbler*—one in TJRV, Oct. 5 (EP); *Black-throated Blue Warbler*—an immature male was collected in the TJRV, Oct. 20, and two others were noted at different places in the TJRV, Nov. 6 (GMcC, EP) with a single bird remaining until Nov. 9 (GMcC); *Myrtle Warbler*—first noted in TJRV, Oct. 11, then one or two noted occasionally until Nov. 30 (EP, GMcC); other Myrtle Warblers were seen in Santa Ana late in November (JL); *Blackburnian Warbler*—an immature bird was collected in the TJRV, Oct. 21, after having been present since Oct. 19 (GMcC) and represents the first record for this species in California; *Chestnut-sided Warbler*—an adult male was found in the TJRV, Sept. 25 (EP) and was collected, Sept. 26 (GMcC) for the second southern California record; *Blackpoll Warbler*—a total of at least 9 birds was found in the TJRV as 2 on Sept. 25 (of which 1 was collected—GMcC), 3 on Sept. 27 (of which 1 was collected—GMcC), 1 on Sept. 28 (EP), 1 on Sept. 29-30 and still another at a different location on Sept. 30 (GMcC), 1 on Oct. 10 (EP), and 1 on Oct. 21 (IW); these were the first specimens taken in California and prior to this fall, only three other sight observations had



been made of this species in California: *Prairie W. Warbler* four individuals were found during the fall as an immature was collected in TJRV, Sept. 23 (GMcC), another immature male was collected, Oct. 13 (GMcC, MM), another individual was seen on Oct. 23 (GMcC), and a fourth bird was at Solano Beach, Oct. 19-28 (GMcC); these records represent all of the known appearances of this species in California; *Palm W. Warbler*—a total of 7 was noted in the TJRV as an immature male was collected, Sept. 30 (GMcC), 1 on Oct. 13 (MM, GMcC), 1, Oct. 21-23 with 2 present, Oct. 23 (GMcC), 1 from Oct. 27-30 (GMcC), 1 from Nov. 3-4 (GMcC), 1 from Nov. 4-9 (GMcC), and one additional bird was found, Oct. 12, at Solano Beach (MM); *Am. Redstart*—14 individuals were reported in southern California: 1 adult male in Morongo Valley, Sept. 2 (PDeB, GMcC), 1 immature male at the south end of the Salton Sea, Sept. 2 (PDeB, GMcC), 1 adult male in Santa Barbara, Sept. 7 (GMcC, PDeB), 1 at Poway, Sept. 11 (JK), 1 at Santa Barbara, Sept. 18 (Mr. & Mrs. TH), 1 immature male in TJRV, Sept. 26 to 29 (GMcC), 1 female, Sept. 28 to Oct. 5, with two present, Sept. 30, in TJRV (GMcC), 1 adult male collected, Sept. 29, in TJRV, 2 females in TJRV, Oct. 13 (GMcC), 1 immature male, Oct. 21 to Nov. 3, in TJRV (GMcC), 1 female in TJRV, Oct. 30 (EP, GMcC), and 1 immature male at Torrey Pines State Park, Oct. 17 (EP); *Northern Waterthrush*—one trapped in Topanga Canyon (DB); *Golden-winged W. Warbler*—an adult male came to a feeder in San Bernardino, Dec. 8, and a lifelike drawing was submitted to your editor for what is probably the first sighting of this species in California (Mrs. EGP); *Cape May W. Warbler*—a male in full plumage sighted at Buena Vista Lagoon, Nov. 23 (HAB). Some speculation might be in order regarding the origin of some of these errant birds. Weather factors did not seem to play a role in their arrival here and it is evident that a large percentage of the strays were immature birds that might more easily become disoriented than adult birds which had flown the correct route at least once. Some of the species breed in Alaska and western Canada and because of some unknown factor, may have chosen to fly a southward rather than a south-eastward course. But how to explain the appearance of such typically eastern species as the Parula and Blackpolls? Or even more astonishing—the appearance of the Prairie Warblers which typically are birds of the south-central states? The Virginia's Warblers would have only to alter course about 70° to reach coastal southern California, but in doing so would have been compelled to traverse several imposing mountain ranges. Certainly additional and even more intensive coverage of similar areas, with some mist-netting perhaps, is called for during the fall of 1963.

**Blackbirds, Orioles**—Some 60 Tricolored Blackbirds were found in the Coachella Valley, Oct. 20 (IW). Most of the Hooded and Bullock's Orioles

had departed by the end of September; a late Bullock's Oriole was still coming to a feeder in Santa Ana on Dec. 8 (MH). A *Baltimore Oriole* returned to a feeder in Santa Barbara, Oct. 16—the one at which another (or the same) bird spent the winter of 1961-62 (Mrs. TH). Another *Baltimore Oriole* was seen in a yard in central Los Angeles, Nov. 4 (C & FT). McCaskie collected an adult male *Orchard Oriole* in the TJRV, Oct. 19, for what is probably the second specimen for the state, although there have been several sight records. What was probably a female *Orchard Oriole* was at Solano Beach, Oct. 28 (GMcC, Ed., et al.). The third and fourth records of *Scarlet-headed Orioles* were secured when on Sept. 22 an adult male flew into a tree before our startled eyes in the Tia Juana River Valley (Ed., GMcC, HC) and another was almost collected there (this one, an immature male), Oct. 13 (GMcC, MM).

**Tanagers through Sparrows**—Most of the Western Tanagers had moved through our Region by the end of September. A female *Summer Tanager* was found at Tamarisk Campground, Anza-Borrego State Park, Nov. 22 (R & MW) and another came to a feeder in Santa Barbara, Dec. 3 (Mrs. TH). An adult male Cardinal was seen in the TJRV, Oct. 13-16 (EP, MM, GMcC) and most interesting was the report of 5 (2 adults plus 3 juveniles) seen in Recreation Park, Long Beach during July (BE). A male *Indigo Bunting* was found in the TJRV, Oct. 10 (EP) and McCaskie found 3 *Painted Buntings* there, the first on Sept. 14-15, the second on Oct. 11; and the third, an immature male, was collected for the first California record on Nov. 10. White-crowned Sparrows arrived in small numbers as early as Sept. 10, but their numbers increased steadily thereafter. Golden-crowned Sparrows followed closely behind. Two White-throated Sparrows were found in Morongo Valley, Nov. 4 (IW, HK).

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