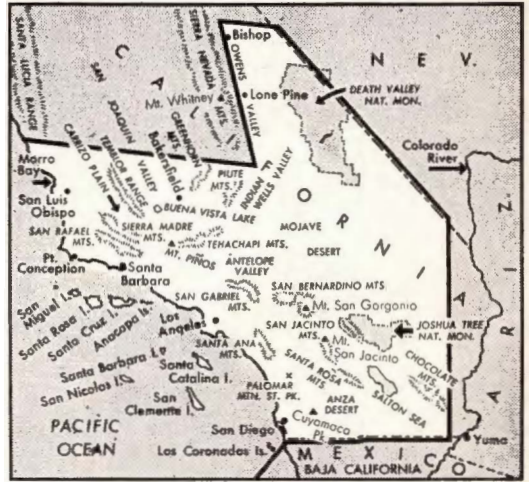


SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.—This winter, characterized by a dearth of precipitation between November and late January, was a warm and



dry one. It seemed that this may have partially explained the wintering of many unseasonal birds. Orioles—of four species—were the most conspicuous and were widely recorded. But there were also White-winged Doves; tanagers, including Hepatic Tanagers; several vireos and warblers; and a Blue Grosbeak. Costa's and Allen's Hummingbirds remained, perhaps giving the plentiful Anna's Hummingbirds some competition.

Paradoxically, this winter was also notable for the variety and numbers of northern birds that stayed on. The continued presence of montane species carried out the theme of the fall prelude, still involving as major species the Red-breasted Nuthatches and Pine Siskins. However, more Red Crossbills put in an appearance and Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches were evident in some areas. As expected, Red-breasted Nuthatches, although greatly diminished in numbers from the outstanding fall flight, were seen right through March as far south as San Diego. Pine Siskins were noted along the coast in good numbers, and comments such as, "common all winter," "many flocks all season," "large flocks," and "unusual numbers" were commonplace among contributor's letters. Limited numbers of Steller's Jays, Townsend's Solitaires, Winter Wrens, Mountain Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Brown Creepers also were present.

Reporters everywhere found Robins, Hermit Thrushes, and Cedar Waxwings back to normal numbers, the bulk arriving in late January. A widespread abundance of the two wintering *Zonotrichia* brought with them a number of White-throated Sparrows, a Harris' Sparrow, and 2 Tree Sparrows.

February, usually the wettest month of all, resumed the dry warm routine of the earlier winter, concluding its day with a period of strong gusty dry

winds, locally called Santa Anas, that lasted off, and mostly on, for more than two weeks. Gale force winds, approaching 90 m.p.h. in the Los Angeles area on March 22, caused severe and widespread tree damage and even whipped disastrous fires through expensive residential areas. Almost mercifully, rains "rescued" spring during the latter half of March, bringing the coastal hills to green growth, and the deserts to wonderful flowering again—just in time for the real mass migration of all groups of birds.

During February, Fulmars and Black-legged Kittiwakes were often seen along the Regional coastline; wintering ducks at the Salton Seas reached peak numbers; and some of the rarer species were "staked out" or were settled down at feeding stations for all who were interested in seeing them.

Observing birds in February and March offers a confusing state of avian affairs—but an interesting one. A variety of species are beginning the nesting cycle of activities, winter residents have just reached their maximum numbers, and the earliest of migrants, the hummingbirds begin their return. During the last week of February and throughout March, swallows and hummingbirds are conspicuously feeding "en route;" some wintering birds, such as Cassin's Kingbirds, Western Meadowlarks, and goldfinches, now move vociferously to their breeding grounds, paired off and ready for defense of chosen sites. Meanwhile, just offshore, one finds that loons are grouped into pre-migration gatherings, offering the best views, perhaps, of the entire winter as they feed near shore and in coastal lagoons. Some Royal Terns sport black caps for about a week in early February, and then they are gone, leaving only the non-breeding birds to cruise the coastline.

However unrealistic it appears to have these diverse activities all taking place simultaneously, this offers a true challenge: to be aware of them, to interpret them as correctly as possible, and to find delight in them as many of our contributors have.

Loons, Grebes—Most observers reported all three species of loons scarce, but Red-throated Loons became more conspicuous in the early spring flight. All species of grebes seemed normal in numbers. The only Red-necked Grebe reported was 1 seen at Doheny State Beach, Orange County, on Feb. 7 (EP).

Pelagic Species—One of the major highlights of the winter season was the heavy flight of Fulmars and Black-legged Kittiwakes into the Region; both species were easily seen from any pier along the coast. The highest counts of Fulmars were 42 seen from a boat off Newport, Orange County, on Feb. 2 (LS), at least 40 off Santa Monica on Jan. 25 (DG & LS), and 22 seen from Newport Pier in mid-January (WH & JL); some birds were still present at the end of the period. Likewise, the Black-legged Kittiwake was present throughout the period; 150 were seen from a boat off southern California on Jan. 11 (PDeB), up to 30 were seen at the Santa Monica Pier during late March (LS & DG), and a few were found in San Diego Bay in late February and March (DC & GMcC); many observers also reported small numbers coastally through the season (O & HC, GSS, IW, BB, FZ, GH, EP). Four Black-

footed Albatrosses were seen beyond San Clemente Island on Jan. 11 (PDeB). A Pink-footed Shearwater was seen off Newport Pier on Jan. 13 (VP & FZ). Manx Shearwaters were seen: 1 off Corona Del Mar, Orange County, on Dec. 27 (WH) and about 30 circling a fishing boat about 9 miles off Santa Monica on Jan. 12 (DDeS). Both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers lingered around Newport, Orange County, until January (WH & JL); a Parasitic Jaeger was seen off San Clemente Island on Jan. 11 (PDeB) and a Pomarine Jaeger was seen to fly inland at Solana Beach, San Diego County, on March 6 (GMcC).

Pelicans, Herons—About 160 White Pelicans, including 3 green ones marked at Pyramid Lake, Nev., were present from November until Feb. 15 at Morro Bay (LP); only 10 were left by March 22 (LP). Three green White Pelicans also were noted through November at the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge (JN). Otherwise the Region had few to report. Nesting of Great Blue Herons and Black-crowned Night Herons (about 30 nests each) commenced during February near Morro Bay State Park; the first nest repair work was noted on Feb. 1 (LP). Cattle Egrets have now arrived on the Pacific Coast. The first recorded was on the Orange County (central and coastal) Christmas count, Dec. 27, 1962 (AFN 17:2). Three were seen at the south end of the Salton Sea in early November 1963, and another bird was seen in the San Gabriel Valley during the second week of December (Western Tanager 30:5). Five were carefully identified near Westmorland, Imperial County, on Jan. 22 (MW). Two appeared near Imperial Beach, San Diego County, on March 7; 1 was collected, and the other is still present (DC & GMcC); it is felt that they most probably arrived via the west coast of Mexico. Louisiana Herons remained through the season, with up to 4 at a time at Solana Beach, San Diego County (M & BR); and 2 or 3 at Imperial Beach and San Diego Bay (DC & GMcC) in San Diego County; 2 were at Seal Beach, Orange County, between Dec. 27 and Feb. 15 (LS, et al.). Small flocks (up to 9) of White-faced Ibis were present in coastal lagoons throughout the period as is normal.

Swans and Geese—Whistling Swans, scarce in this Region, were reported: 2 at Solana Beach, San Diego County, on Dec. 6 (GMcC); 1 at San Dieguito Reservoir, San Diego County, on Dec. 15 (M & BR); and 1 at Death Valley on Jan. 12 (BBP). Waterfowl populations at the Salton Sea Refuge were on the increase again this year, although a slight decrease was recorded in the winter count for the total Pacific Flyway. The outstanding increase was in the Snow Geese population—a 300 per cent increase. In the Imperial Valley peak populations were: Canada Geese, 4500, and Snow Geese, 53,000 (the highest numbers on record) (JN). Three Blue Geese were present with the Snow Geese on Nov. 29 (WH & GMcC). The largest reported flocks of Black Brant were 3000 at Morro Bay (LP) and 1000 at San Diego; smaller numbers were found in other coastal localities. An *Am. Brant* was seen on San Diego Bay between Jan. 25 and 30 (RS & GMcC), and 3 were

present after March 22 (*PDeB*, *DC*, *GMcC*); there is only one previous record for the Region.

Ducks—Duck populations reached a peak during the first week of February on the Salton Sea Refuge; at this time counts were: Am. Widgeon (54,000), Pintail (85,000), Green-winged Teal (7500), Shoveler (5000), Canvasback (1700), Lesser Scaup (2600), Am. Goldeneye (900), and Bufflehead (750). At one time the total number of Ruddy Ducks on the entire Salton Sea approached 100,000 (*JN*). Along the coast diving and dabbling ducks appeared to be about normal. Small numbers (6) of Blue-winged Teal in San Diego County during the winter were normal; in March others were noted, apparently on the move with Cinnamon Teal along the coast (*LP*, *PD*, *DC*, *M* & *BR*). One European Widgeon was present in San Diego from Nov. 27 to Feb. 1 (*DC* & *GMcC*). A few Wood Ducks, rarely reported in this Region, were in the Santa Barbara area during December and January (*JH*, *NM*, *MM*). A male *Barrow's Goldeneye*, the second record for the Region, was at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, on March 7 (*DC* & *GMcC*). The only Oldsquaw was a female seen at Buena Vista Lagoon, San Diego County, on Feb. 1 (*GSS*) and March 12 (*M* & *RW*). Common Scoters were seen as follows: 1 off Newport Pier, Orange County, between Dec. 27 and Feb. 9 (*WH* & *JL*); 2 in San Diego Bay, on Jan. 4 (*DC* & *GMcC*); a male off Corona Del Mar jetty, Orange County (*JL*) and a female in Upper Newport Bay, Orange County, on March 3 (*NM*). The only Hooded Merganser was seen in Peter's Canyon, Orange County, on Jan. 1 (*WH* & *JL*).

Hawks, Eagles—At least 1 *Goshawk* was noted in the San Bernardino Mountains between Dec. 15 and 28 (David DeSolve, *J* & *JG*), and another was seen at close range as it captured a California Quail on Feb. 1 about 8 miles east of Covina, Los Angeles County (*DDeS*)—among the very few records for the Region. Two Rough-legged Hawks were noted: 1 at the Orange County airport between Dec. 22 and 29 (*JL*) and the other at Point Mugu, Ventura County, on Feb. 16 (*WGA*, *et al.*). The normal number of Ferruginous Hawks occurred along the coast and in the dry foothills. A Bald Eagle remained at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, until late December (*DC*) and one was at Lake Mathews, Orange County, on March 7 (*JL* & *WH*)—the only reports. An Osprey was on Irvine Lake, Orange County, during December (*JL* & *WH*), and one was at Cachuma Lake, Santa Barbara County, on Feb. 18 (*NM*).

Cranes and Rails—The normal 1000 Sandhill Cranes were present on the Carrizo Plains, San Luis Obispo County, during December (*LP*) and apparently left about Jan. 5 (*vide S.B. A.S.*). Four Black Rails were seen between Dec. 12 and Feb. 29 in the marshes of San Diego County where they are probably normal (*DC*, *GMcC*), and one, surprisingly, was on the San Bernardino County desert, at Little Lake, during February and March (*vide AS*). The Am. Coot population on the Salton Sea Refuge was about double that of last year, peaking at 20,000 (*JN*).

Shorebirds—Most species seemed to be present in normal numbers, with the general impression that the

rock-frequenting species—Black Turnstones, Surfbirds, and Wandering Tattlers—were more often seen than in recent years. An Am. Golden Plover was seen at Newport, Orange County, on Dec. 18 (*EP*), and 1 was at Playa Del Rey, Los Angeles County, on Dec. 29 (*O* & *HC*); 11 at Newport Bay on Dec. 27 is, however, the largest flock ever recorded in the Region (*JL*, *et al.*). Mountain Plovers (at least 200) were found as usual in the Carrizo Plains, San Luis Obispo County; they were considered abundant in Orange County (*JL* & *WH*); and 6 were seen near Imperial Beach, San Diego County, on Jan. 16 (*M* & *BR*). A *Pectoral Sandpiper* found at Malibu Lagoon, L.A. County, on Feb. 28 (*IW*) is the first winter record for the Region. Ten Stilt Sandpipers at Ramer Lake, Imperial County, on Feb. 8 constitute one of the few winter records (*GMcC*, *et al.*). A Sanderling on Legg Lake, Los Angeles County, on Feb. 23 provided an inland record (*M* & *RW*). A Wilson's Phalarope, rare in winter, was seen at Solana Beach, San Diego County, on Jan. 5 (*VP*, *BB*, & *FZ*).

Gulls, Terns, Alcids—A second-year Glaucous Gull was seen with Glaucous-winged Gulls in San Diego on March 23 (*GMcC*). Glaucous-winged and Mew Gulls were conspicuous as far south as San Diego. An adult *Laughing Gull*, very rare along the coast, was in San Diego on March 23 (*GMcC* & *PDeB*). An immature *Franklin's Gull* was at Santa Barbara on Dec. 29 (*NM*, *et al.*), and another was found at Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, on Jan. 13 (*LS*)—the first winter records for this Region. Common Terns have now proved they can survive throughout the winter in this Region—1 or 2 were often seen at San Diego Bay (*DC* & *GMcC*). A few of the northern alcids reached southern California waters this season. A Common Murre was at Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, on Jan. 15 and 17 (*LS* & *DG*), and 1 was seen in Santa Barbara County, near Goleta, Feb. 11 (*JK*). A Pigeon Guillemot was seen at Santa Barbara on Dec. 29 (*NM*), 1 was seen off Newport Pier, Orange County, on June 10 (*FZ*), and 1 was found far off the coast on Jan. 11 (*PDeB*). Two Xantus' Murrelets were noted off Santa Monica on Jan. 25 (*DDeS*) and Ancient Murrelets were seen as follows: 1 at Santa Barbara on Dec. 29 (*WGA*); 2 at Corona Del Mar and Newport, between Jan. 11 and 21 (*WH* & *JL*); 1 far off the Coast on Jan. 11 (*PDeB*); and 1 off Santa Monica, on Jan. 22 (*LS* & *DG*). Four Rhinoceros Auklets seen were far off the coast on Jan. 11 (*PDeB*). Eight Cassin's Auklets were seen off Santa Monica on Jan. 25 (*DDeS*) and 10 dead Cassin's Auklets were found along the beach near Solana Beach, San Diego County, on Jan. 21 (*vide FR*).

Doves, Owls—The fall wandering of White-winged Doves apparently induced some to winter along the coast: 3 were near Goleta, Santa Barbara County, (*JH*), and one was at Encinitas, San Diego County, throughout the winter (*M* & *BR*); 1 was in Montecito, Santa Barbara County, between Dec. 28 and 31 (*MN*); 1 was in Santa Barbara on Jan. 16 (*JH*); and 1 was in the Cheviot Hills District of Los Angeles between March 1 and 11 (*DG* & *LS*).

The largest breeding number of Ground Doves since their discovery at Corona, Riverside County, left an estimated 3 pairs per square mile during the fall, and 16 individuals remained all winter for the first winter residence (NHM); between 1 and 7 were seen daily at Garden Grove, Orange County, after Jan. 2 (BB). Fifteen Short-eared Owls at Imperial Beach during January and February was the largest group noted, although others were seen in suitable habitat; 1 in Joshua Tree National Monument on March 25 (M & RW) was completely out of habitat.

Swifts, Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers—A Vaux's Swift at Solana Beach, San Diego County, on March 6 and 22 (GMcC) was either a wintering bird or at least one month early on its spring flight. A few Costa's Hummingbirds successfully wintered at Imperial Beach, and adult males were seen displaying as early as Jan. 4 (DC & GMcC); a pair was seen in Death Valley after Jan. 20 (BBP)—unusually far north at this season. One or 2 Allen's Hummingbirds wintered in the Santa Barbara area (S.B.A.S.). The main flight of Allen's Hummingbirds occurred during mid-February, followed two weeks later by Rufous Hummingbirds. An adult male *Broad-billed Hummingbird*, the fourth for the state, was present at a feeder in Redlands, San Bernardino County, between Jan. 2 and mid-February (Mr. and Mrs. F. Adams), and was seen by many people. Six Lewis' Woodpeckers were found again in the Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara County, during January (NM & MM).

Flycatchers, Swallows—An Eastern Phoebe was seen at 1000 Palms Oasis, Riverside County, on Dec. 28 (RS, AW & J. Kroesen) and Dec. 29 (JR); another was seen near El Toro, Orange County, between Dec. 29 and Jan. 3 (TG, WH). The only Ash-throated Flycatcher reported was from Tule Elk Reserve State Park, Kern County on Jan. 12 (M & RW). Two Vermilion Flycatchers at the Tule Elk Reserve, on Jan. 12 were somewhat north of where they normally occur (M & RW, L.A.A.S.). The non-wintering swallows arrived during late February and were moving throughout March. A Bank Swallow at the south end of the Salton Sea on Feb. 8 may be the first winter record for the Region (LS & GMcC). Two or 3 Rough-winged Swallows successfully stayed in the San Diego area throughout the period (DC, GMcC). A Cliff Swallow was with wintering Tree Swallows and Violet-green Swallows at Point Mugu, Ventura County, on Jan. 11 and Feb. 16 (JF).

Jays, Tits, Creepers—The *Blue Jay* in Mill Creek Canyon, San Bernardino County, was still present at the end of March (J & JG). Two Steller's Jays in the lowlands of Orange County on Dec. 29 (MW, et al.) were the third ever found in the county. About 200 Piñon Jays at Herlsy Creek, Riverside County, on Dec. 22, were the only flock reported (LS & DG). Two Verdins were seen at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, on Dec. 29 (RS, AW & J. Kroesen). Five Mountain Chickadees were reported from the Los Angeles area between late February and March 20 (LS, DG, RHN). A Brown Creeper was present in Santa Barbara throughout the winter (C & AR), and one was in Topanga Park, Los Angeles,

March 14 (DG).

Wrens, Thrushes, Kinglets—There were four reports of the rare Winter Wren: 1 in Silverado Canyon, Orange County, between Dec. 22 and Feb. 8 (WH, JL, BB, FZ); 1 in Mill Creek Canyon, San Bernardino County, on Feb. 7 (LS & GMcC); 1 in Cold Springs Canyon, Santa Barbara County, on Feb. 23 (JH); and 1 at 1000 Palms, Riverside County, March 29 (LS). Likewise, Varied Thrushes were located on 4 occasions: 1 in Elizabeth Canyon, Ventura County, on Dec. 14 (M & RW); 1 near San Marcos Pass, Santa Barbara County, on Dec. 28 (ME); 1 in Silverado Canyon, Orange County, between Dec. 29 and Jan. 5 (WH & JL); and 1 in Griffith Park, Los Angeles, on Jan. 26 (M & RW). Townsend's Solitaires were recorded from 6 lowland locations. Two Golden-crowned Kinglets were in Silverado Canyon, Orange County, between Dec. 29 and Jan. 5 (WH & JL).

Vireos and Warblers—More than the usual number of species that are normally present only during the summer, or are considered vagrants from the east during migration, were present in the Region. A Solitary Vireo, very rare in winter, was at Rancho Park, Los Angeles, between March 6 and 8 (DG). A Bell's Vireo seen at Ramer Lake, Imperial County, on Dec. 28 (RS, AW & J. Kroesen) and again on Feb. 8 (GMcC & LS) constitutes the second winter record for California. Normally, only five species of warblers are found in California during the winter. This winter, however, we have reports of 11 species in addition to those five. A Nashville Warbler was seen at Santa Barbara on Dec. 6 (C & AR), possibly a late fall migrant, and another successfully wintered at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, (DC, GMcC). A Yellow Warbler was noted at Imperial Beach on Dec. 31 (GMcC). As many as 3 Black-throated Gray Warblers were seen in Mill Creek Canyon, San Bernardino County, during December (RS, GMcC); 1 was in the Borrego Valley, San Diego County, on Dec. 21 (M & RW); 1 was at 1000 Palms Oasis, Riverside County, on Dec. 29 (JR); 4 were at Ramer Lake, on Feb. 8 and 9 (LS & L.A.A.S.); and 1 spent the entire winter in Santa Barbara (C & AR). A Hermit Warbler was near Indio, in Riverside County, on Dec. 29 (JR), and another was at Lake Mathews, Orange County, on March 7 (WH). A *Blackpoll Warbler* at Santa Barbara on March 30 was in breeding plumage (NM); if this was a spring migrant it would be the first for the Region, and one of the earliest for the U.S.; it was therefore felt to be a wintering bird. A *Chestnut-sided Warbler* at 1000 Palms Oasis, on Dec. 28 (RS, AW & J. Kroesen) and Dec. 29 (JR) was most likely a very late fall vagrant—the fourth record for the Region. A *Northern Waterthrush* first seen on Feb. 29, was still present at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, at the end of the period (GMcC)—probably only the second winter record for California. An *Ovenbird*, present at the feeder of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Wilson in Bellflower, Los Angeles County, between March 1 and 27, was photographed and seen by at least 13 observers—the second winter record for the state. A MacGillivray's Warbler was at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, on Jan. 18 (GMcC). A Wilson's

Warbler was present in the Santa Ynez Valley, Santa Barbara County, on Dec. 29 (MB). An adult male Am. Redstart spent the entire winter in San Diego (DC, GMcC); 1 was at Imperial Beach, San Diego County, on March 28 (GMcC); and 3 were at the south end of the Salton Sea on Feb. 8 (RHN & GMcC); this species is becoming a regular wintering bird in limited numbers.

Orioles—Orioles have become regular in winter in this Region; some remain at feeding stations, while others find a surplus of food in the flowering eucalyptus. There are two instances of 'flocks' of orioles this season—12 birds together on Point Loma, San Diego County, all winter, and 27 birds together at Rancho Park, Los Angeles, after mid-February. An adult male Orchard Oriole spent the entire winter in Santa Barbara at Mrs. Vern Plank's feeder (fide NM); an immature male, showing some chestnut, was accompanied by a very probable female of the same species on Point Loma from mid-February until the end of the period (GMcC). Hooded Orioles were noted as follows: 5 wintering on Point Loma (DC & GMcC); 1 in Claremont, Los Angeles County, all winter (EWK); 2 at Rancho Park after mid-February (LS & DG); 8 in Santa Ana, Orange County, for the season (RDB); and 1 at Dana Point, Orange County, on Jan. 11 (EP). Bullock's Orioles were noted as follows: "several" wintering in Santa Barbara (S.B.A.S.); 1 at Igo's, San Bernardino County, on Dec. 26 (RS); 20 at Rancho Park after mid-February (LS & DG); 2 in Santa Ana all winter (NH); and 5 wintering on Point Loma (GMcC). Ten Baltimore Orioles were found in the Region indicating that it is becoming more common as a wintering species: two were seen intermittently throughout the winter at a feeding station in Montecito, Santa Barbara County (J. Krieger); as many as 5, including one adult male, were present with the orioles at Rancho Park, after Feb. 18 (LS & DG); a single bird was present throughout the winter in Santa Ana (MH); and 2 were present until mid-March on Point Loma (DC & GMcC).

Tanagers—A Western Tanager was noted in Santa Barbara on Dec. 29 (MM) and another on Feb. 21 (C & AR); a female was seen at Rancho Park, on Feb. 20, and a male was seen there on March 10 (LS & DG); another was seen in a different area of Los Angeles on March 15 (LS & GMcC); a bird remained in a San Diego park all winter, and 2 others (1 found dead) were noted in other residential parts of the city during Feb. (GMcC). One to 3 Summer Tanagers were present on Point Loma, after Feb. 1 (DC & GMcC), and a single bird was at Bonita, San Diego County, on Feb. 23 (DC & GMcC)—regular in small numbers to this area in winter. On Feb. 3, an immature and adult male *Hepatic Tanager* were discovered coming to roost at Rancho Park, and were seen by numerous people before the birds finally departed on March 13 (DG & LS)—the third record for California.

Grosbeaks through Red Crossbill—An immature Rose-breasted Grosbeak was present at the feeder of Mrs. A. Carpenter in San Diego between Jan. 19 and Feb. 5; another male appeared at a feeder in

Los Angeles on Feb. 15 and was seen by many before it departed on March 28 (RHN). A Black-headed Grosbeak was present at a Los Angeles feeder after Feb. 1 for the remainder of the winter (RHN). A *Blue Grosbeak* was noted near San Ysidro, San Diego County, on Jan. 29 (GMcC), and another was seen at Solano Beach, San Diego County, on Feb. 22 (RS, AW, & J. Kroesen) and March 13 (GMcC)—there is but one previous winter record for California. A *Dickcissel* was present at a feeder in San Diego between Dec. 2 and March 16 (Mrs. V. Stone, DC, GMcC)—the first winter record for California. As many as 24 Evening Grosbeaks were to be seen in San Bernardino after Jan. 23 (JV, et al.). Bob Blackstone found "dozens" feeding on the ground in Bakersfield, and 45 were found at Herlsy Creek, Riverside County, on Dec. 22 (LS & DG). Purple Finches were found in large numbers in the Santa Barbara area (C & AR) and a few were found as far south as San Diego. Many reporters commented on the presence of Lawrence's Goldfinches during the period; some of the more unusual numbers were 1000 at Lake Mathews, Orange County, on March 7 (WH & JL), 500 to 700 near Imperial Beach, through the winter (DC & GMcC), and over 100 at Laguna Beach, on March 31 (LAS). Red Crossbills were noted as follows: 25 at Morro Bay on Dec. 14 (LP), 3 in Santa Barbara on March 16 (JK), 2 or 3 noted at Rancho Park, L. A., between Jan. 26 and March 17 (LS & DG), and 4 in another section of Los Angeles between March 15 and 20 (RHN); 2 or 3 in a section of Santa Ana, Orange County, between Feb. 17 and March 27 (Mrs. R. O. Smith), and 8 noted in a different part of Santa Ana on March 14 and 21 (VP, FZ).

Towhees and Sparrows—Two or 3 Green-tailed Towhees were present at Imperial Beach and 1 was at Bonita, San Diego County, throughout the winter season; another was noted at Aguanga, Orange County, on Feb. 15 (WH & JL). Two *Tree Sparrows*, the fifth and sixth Regional records, all from this N.E. corner of the Region, were seen in widely separated areas of Death Valley on Nov. 22 (photographed) and Dec. 11 (BBP.) Slate-colored Juncos were noted frequently along the coast and 1 was in Death Valley Dec. 18 (BBP). One or 2 Gray-headed Juncos were seen in Mill Creek Canyon, San Bernardino County, throughout the winter (DC, RS, GMcC), and 2 were at Cottonwood Springs, Riverside County, on Dec. 29 (JR). There were 13 reports of White-throated Sparrows from along the coast with flocks of White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows. A Harris' Sparrow, rare in this Region, was seen in Death Valley on Jan. 6 (BBP). Swamp Sparrows were present in the San Diego area in unprecedented numbers: 1 to 4 (1 collected) were at Imperial Beach between Dec. 21 and mid-February; 2 or 3 were in the Bonita Area between Dec. 21 and the end of March; and at least 2 were near San Ysidro between Feb. 12 and the end of the period (DC & GMcC); the Swamp Sparrow probably is becoming a rare winter visitor.

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