

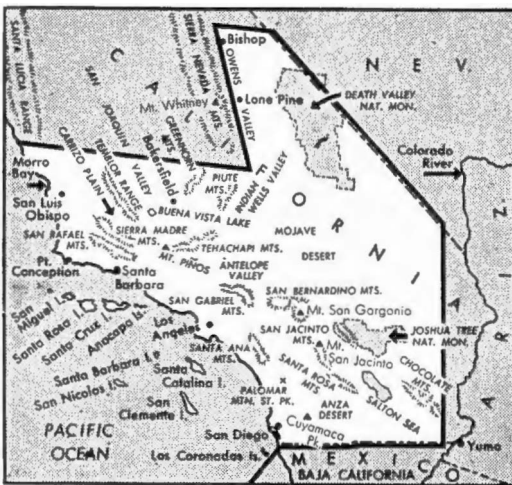
last half of November a couple of storms that pushed south along the coast produced the first measurable rain since the storm of July 28th. There were extended periods of strong, dry east winds along the coast, which are known locally as "Santa Ana" conditions, and there appeared to be less than the normal amount of coastal fog. In general, there was what would appear to have been excellent weather for migrants throughout the period.

No large concentrations of migrants were detected, however. The Region probably is located too far to the southwest to be in any usual fall flightline for landbirds that normally winter in Mexico and farther south. Small numbers of all the regular West Coast migrants were reported, and we had the now-expected variety of vagrants from farther east and from the south. Three species new to California were found, and their occurrences were documented.

By the end of the period there were indications that we were going to have Fulmars offshore during the winter. Bohemian Waxwings came far south in larger numbers than have been reported in recent "flight years." Sparrows were more numerous than usual, and a good number of the scarcer species of sparrows were reported.

**Pelagic Birds**—This season organized pelagic trips were made off Morro Bay on Sept. 1 and Nov. 30, off Santa Barbara on Sept. 8, off Ventura to Anacapa Is. on Oct. 27, off San Pedro into the Santa Barbara Channel on Nov. 22, and off San Diego to San Clemente Is. and beyond on Sept. 14 and to the Los Coronados Islands on Nov. 24. These trips produced a number of interesting observations, and it is hoped that they will continue, thus increasing our very limited knowledge about the distribution of pelagic birds. Two Black-footed Albatrosses were found off San Diego on Sept. 14. Fulmars appeared off the coast in November: 20 were found off San Pedro on Nov. 22, 10 off San Diego on Nov. 24, and 10 off Morro Bay on Nov. 30. This species is somewhat sporadic in occurrence this far south. Pink-footed Shearwaters and Sooty Shearwaters were found on every trip, as is to be expected. A *Pale-footed Shearwater* was seen off Ventura on Oct. 27, and a minimum of 6 (3 collected, specimens to L.A.C.M. and L.B.S.C.) were seen off San Pedro on Nov. 22; this species previously was considered very rare in Southern California waters. Unexpected were 175 New Zealand Shearwaters found off Ventura on Oct. 27; there has been only one previous sighting of this species in Southern California waters (see *Audubon Field Notes* 12:58). Slender-billed Shearwaters were seen off San Diego on Nov. 24 (JJ); apparently the species is very rare off the California coast although there are some old records of large concentrations in the late fall. Three Manx Shearwaters, a regular northward wanderer from Mexican waters in the fall, were seen off San Diego on Sept. 14 and 10 were seen there on Nov. 24. Petrels were found only off San Diego on Sept. 14 when 50 Leach's, 30 Black and 5 Least Petrels were seen.

**SOUTHERN PACIFIC COAST REGION.**—The fall period remained dry throughout September, October and the first half of November. During the



**Tropicbirds, Pelicans, Booby, Frigatebirds**—On Sept. 14, 3 Red-billed Tropicbirds were found at the south end of San Clemente Is. (GMcC. PD. AC. *et al.*), the same area where 9 were seen on July 27; on the same day 1 was seen 20 miles west of Point Loma, San Diego Co. (John Vitalich, *vide JJ*). Up to 9 Brown Pelicans remained at the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. through at least Sept. 8; the species is apparently regular at this inland locality. An immature Blue-footed Booby seen at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 1 (RM) was probably the same individual as that seen there on Aug. 10. An immature Magnificent Frigatebird also was seen at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 1 (RM), and there were a number of other sightings from the Salton Sea during the late summer. Along the coast, where the species is very rare, an adult ♀ Magnificent Frigatebird was seen at La Jolla, San Diego Co., Aug. 10 (RML).

**Hérons, Ibis**—Our regular wintering species of herons and egrets were present in the coastal lagoons after mid-September, as usual. Up to 28 Cattle Egrets were continually present in the Imperial Valley, Imperial Co. throughout the period; along the coast, 1 was present around Goleta, Santa Barbara Co. after Nov. 11 (*vide NM*), 2 were present at Point Mugu, Ventura Co. on Nov. 17 (GSS), and up to 4 were present at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. after Oct. 13 (GMcC. AC. *et al.*). This is now a regular winter visitor to the Region. Two immature Reddish Egrets, quite scarce in California, were found and photographed (copy to S.D.N.H.M.) at Torrey Pines Slough, San Diego Co. on Sept. 2 (LT); 1-2 were seen there regularly until at least Nov. 16 (LS); 1 seen at San Elijo Lagoon, San Diego Co. on Sept. 29 (PD) was probably one of the Torrey Pines Slough birds. An immature Louisiana Heron was observed at Newport, Orange Co. on Sept. 29 (RB), and 2 were seen there on Oct. 27 (*vide GSS*); 1 was seen at San Elijo Lagoon on Oct. 27 (JG & RG); 1 was noted in San Diego on Nov. 16 and 17 (LT & CL); and 1-2 were continually present at Imperial Beach after Sept. 28 (GMcC. *et al.*). The species is a rare fall and winter visitor to the coast of Southern California. An Am. Bittern seen at Saratoga Springs, San Bernardino Co. on Sept. 1 was at an interesting locality. As usual, a few White-faced Ibis were present in some of the suitable coastal lagoons throughout the period.

**Waterfowl**—Geese and ducks were again late in arriving in the Region, but by the end of the period good numbers were present. Black Brant arrived during the second week of November, with 600 present at the mouth of the San Diego River on Nov. 14. By the end of the period there were about 13,000 Snow Geese at the south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial Co.; at least 1 Blue Goose was with this concentration. A Ross' Goose arrived in Pasadena, Los Angeles Co. in late October and was still present at the end of the period (GSS. *et al.*); the species is very rare along the coast in this Region. A Blue-winged Teal was seen at Newport on Nov. 16 (TS); earlier in the fall this species, which is scarce but

regular, cannot be separated safely from the much more numerous Cinnamon Teal. An European Widgeon was present at Goleta after Nov. 11 (RW. *et al.*), and another was present in San Diego after Nov. 12 (PD. *et al.*); the species is scarce but regular with flocks of Am. Widgeon. Wood Ducks were reported only from the Santa Barbara area. A Harlequin Duck, a very rare species in the Region, was present near Goleta, Sept. 29–Oct. 6 (AL. *et al.*). The main influx of Surf Scoters occurred during early November when large flocks could be seen flying south along the coast.

**Hawks, Eagles**—By early September White-tailed Kites were again using their winter roosts along the coast; 60 were counted in one roost near Cambria, San Luis Obispo Co. in late August; 1 seen near Lancaster, Los Angeles Co., Oct. 26 (EAC) was outside the species' normal range. An adult Broad-winged Hawk was well observed on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles Co., Nov. 6 (SW'e & AS); this species has only recently been added to the state list, but it appears that it is probably regular here during the late fall and winter. A few Swainson's Hawks were reported, including 12 over Rose Hills Cemetery in Los Angeles on Sept. 29 (RHN), 8 near Buena Vista, Orange Co. on the same day (JS), and 1 near Whittier, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 11 (JHC); this is a species that has been becoming increasingly scarce in the Region. Ferruginous Hawks appeared to be more numerous this fall than they have been in recent years, with reports from San Luis Obispo, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego Counties. An immature Bald Eagle was present on Lake Cachuma, Santa Barbara Co. on Nov. 30 (KA), and another immature was noted near Ventura on Nov. 16 (JD). A few Ospreys were reported from along the coast during the period, as is normal. Prairie Falcons remained scarce, and Peregrine Falcons were even scarcer. A few Pigeon Hawks were found along the coast during October and November, and 2 were found in the Imperial Valley during the same period.

**Cranes and Rails**—By the end of the period, only about 75 Sandhill Cranes were to be found on the Carrizo Plains, San Luis Obispo Co., a known wintering area for a large flock of these birds. A Sandhill Crane was seen flying over Santa Barbara on Oct. 27 (LC) and another was seen flying over the north end of the Salton Sea, Riverside Co. on Oct. 23 (GSS); both are unusual localities for this species. A Black Rail was captured alive at Morro Bay, Nov. 30 (EAC. *et al.*).

**Shorebirds**—Two Black Oystercatchers were found at Dana Point, Orange Co., Oct. 12 (PLS); the species is very scarce on the coast this far south. A count of 789 Mountain Plovers was made at Blackwell's Corners, Kern Co. on Nov. 17 (AB); up to 40 were present at Imperial Beach after late October, and 2 were found at Owen's Lake, Inyo Co. on Sept. 13 (JS). A few Am. Golden Plovers were found along the coast, including 1 at San Pedro, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 11 (RB), 3 at Newport on Aug. 23 and 2 there on Sept. 28 (JA & RM), 1 at

San Elijo Lagoon on Aug. 22 (CL), 1 in San Diego after Nov. 13 (GC), 2 at Imperial Beach on Aug. 28 and 4 there on Oct. 27 (GMcC). This species is a scarce but regular fall migrant. Ruddy Turnstones are still to be found in large numbers only on San Diego Bay; elsewhere they appear to be quite scarce. Along the coast, Solitary Sandpipers were found between Aug. 10 and Oct. 9, with most occurring in coastal San Diego County during September when as many as 4 were seen together; inland, they were found at Oasis, Mono Co., at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, and at both ends of the Salton Sea during late August and early September. Only small numbers of Knots were found along the coast away from San Diego Bay; inland, where the species is very scarce during the fall, 2 were found at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 9 (RM & GSS). A Rock Sandpiper was seen on the breakwater at San Pedro on Nov. 21 (JS & AS); this species is now found in the Region every fall and winter but still has not been recorded south of Los Angeles County. Pectoral Sandpipers were reported between Aug. 31 and Oct. 27; along the coast they were found at Capistrano, Orange Co. and at various places in San Diego County; inland, where they are less frequently found, 1 was seen at Oasis on Sept. 4 (MP). A few Baird's Sandpipers were found along the coast, Aug. 10–Sept. 23; inland, where the species is probably much more numerous, 7 were seen near Big Pine, Inyo Co. on Sept. 14 and 15 (JS), 8 were noted near Panamint Springs, Inyo Co. on Aug. 17 (RM), 3 were found at Big Bear, San Bernardino Co. on Oct. 5 (EAC), and 2-3 were seen on the Salton Sea during late August and early September (RM, GSS, *et al.*). Two Stilt Sandpipers were found at the south end of the Salton Sea, Imperial Co. on Aug. 24, 25 were present there on Sept. 9, and 23 were seen near Brawley, Imperial Co. on Nov. 28 (GMcC); this area is the only place in California where the Stilt Sandpiper appears to be regular. A *Ruff* was present near Imperial Beach, Sept. 12–Oct. 6 (JJ, *et al.*); 1 was present there after Nov. 2 (GMcC, *et al.*) and was joined by a second individual on Nov. 30 (RM). This species is now recorded almost annually in the Region, mostly from the San Diego area where 7 individuals have been found since 1962.

**Jaegers, Gulls and Terns**—Pomarine Jaegers were the most numerous jaeger species off the coast: 100 were seen off Ventura on Oct. 27, 50 off San Pedro on Nov. 22, and 40 off San Diego on Sept. 14. Only 1-2 Parasitic Jaegers were seen offshore. A few were reported from along the coast, however, as is normal; 1 was seen inland at the north end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 8 (GMcC, RM & GSS). Two Skuas, a scarce species in this Region, were seen off Morro Bay on Sept. 1 (EAC). Up to 4 Western Gulls (all yellow-legged) were present at the south end of the Salton Sea until at least Sept. 8 (GMcC, RM & GSS); the species is regular at this inland locality. Birds of the *thayeri* race of the Herring Gull were first seen in the San Diego area on Nov. 9, indicating that they arrive much later than the regular Herring Gulls. A maximum of 40 Laughing Gulls were found at the south end of the Salton Sea on

Aug. 24; 1 at the north end and 1 at the south end of the sea on Oct. 23 (GSS) were the latest reported. This is a regular postbreeding wanderer from farther south. Along the coast, a Franklin's Gull was seen at Seal Beach, Orange Co., Sept. 10-12 (JS); 1 was seen at Bolsa Chica, Orange Co., Sept. 12-20 (RB & GSS); and 2 were seen at Imperial Beach, San Diego Co. on Nov. 9 (PD & GMcC). At the south end of the Salton Sea, 2 were seen on Aug. 24 (GMcC & EAC), 1 was seen on Sept. 8 (GMcC), and 4 were seen on Oct. 24 (GSS). The species is a regular but scarce migrant. A *Little Gull* was found on a small pond near Mecca, Riverside Co. on Nov. 16 (EAC) and remained there until Nov. 21; it was seen and photographed by numerous people, and photographs were placed on file at the San Diego Natural History Museum. This observation constitutes the first record of the species for California and the entire West Coast. A few Black-legged Kittiwakes were to be found offshore by the end of the period. Thirty Sabine's Gulls were seen off San Diego on Sept. 14, but the species was unreported on other boat trips. At the south end of the Salton Sea, 2-3 Gull-billed Terns were present until at least Sept. 8. Arctic Terns were reported only from off San Diego on Sept. 14, when about 30 were present. Numbers of Elegant Terns remained low, but the species was found in small numbers along the entire coastline of the Region, and a few were still present in the San Diego area at the end of the period.

**Alcids**—A few Com. Murres were seen along the coast close to shore, including 1 off Santa Barbara on Nov. 11 (RW), 1 off Point Fermin, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 12 and Nov. 22 (SW<sup>e</sup>), and 1 off La Jolla on Nov. 13 (JJ); farther to the north where they are regular during the winter, 25 were seen off Morro Bay on Nov. 30 (EAC). Two Xantus' Murrelets were seen off Ventura on Oct. 27. Two Craveri's Murrelets were well observed off San Diego on Sept. 14 (GMcC, JJ, *et al.*); this species has not often been reported in United States waters in recent years but undoubtedly is still regular here in the fall. At least 10 Ancient Murrelets were seen off Morro Bay on Nov. 30; the species is probably regular south to this latitude. Cassin's Auklets were found on every trip off the coast, as was to be expected. A Rhinoceros Auklet off Ventura on Oct. 27 was the only one reported, but they should be more numerous than this.

**Doves, Owl, Hummingbirds**—A Band-tailed Pigeon at Imperial Beach on Sept. 6, 1 on Point Loma on Sept. 21, and 1-2 on Point Fermin during September were all in coastal localities where they do not normally occur. One or two White-winged Doves were present on Point Fermin, Sept. 18–Oct. 23 (SW<sup>e</sup>); 1 was seen at La Jolla on Sept. 10 (PD); 2 were noted on Point Loma on Oct. 20 (JA); and 1 was found near Imperial Beach on Nov. 3 (CL & PD). A few birds of this species reach the coast every fall. A Short-eared Owl seen on the desert at Saratoga Springs, San Bernardino Co., Sept. 1 (CL) was an early migrant. Fifty Black Swifts over the Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 23 (KG) were the only ones reported; this is a large flock for Southern



Little Gull present on a small pond near Mecca, Riverside Co., Calif.,  
Nov. 16-21, 1968. Note the dark undersurfaces of the wings.

Photograph by Keith Axelson.

California. The main movement of Vaux's Swifts occurred during late September, as appears to be normal. An Anna's Hummingbird near Westmoreland, Imperial Co. on Sept. 29 (EAC) was a little east of its normal range, but they are known to wander in the fall. An adult ♂ *Broad-tailed Hummingbird*, seen near Imperial Beach on Sept. 8 (JJ & GMcC) represents the first sighting of this species along the coast.

**Woodpeckers**—Two Yellow-shafted Flickers were seen at Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. on Oct. 19 (EAC), and a male was banded at Point Loma on Nov. 11 (GC); the species is regular in very limited numbers. An Acorn Woodpecker was found away from the oak belt in saltbush near Maricopa, Kern Co. on Oct. 13 (JS), and 2 were present on Point Fermin, Oct. 26–Nov. 2 (SWe). This woodpecker is most unusual away from the oaks. Nine Lewis' Woodpeckers in the Santa Barbara area after Oct. 20 were the only ones reported away from the northeastern portion of the Region where they are regular.

**Flycatchers**—Single E. Kingbirds were seen at Sandyland, Santa Barbara Co. on Sept. 3 (GSS), near Malibu, Los Angeles Co. on Sept. 6 (SWo), and at the south end of the Salton Sea on Aug. 4 (TT); this species is regular in limited numbers. At least 7 Tropical Kingbirds were found around Imperial Beach, Sept. 22–Oct. 16, including 4 seen together on Oct. 13 (AC, LS, EAC & GMcC); 1 was present at Cabrillo Beach, Los Angeles Co., Oct. 9-15 (SWe); and 1 was seen at Goleta on Oct. 6 (GSS & BB). This is a regular northward wanderer along the coast during the fall. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, a casual stray in California, was seen near Imperial Beach on Oct. 16 (JJ & GMcC). An *Olivaceous Flycatcher* was collected (specimen to D.V.M.) at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Nov. 23 (BB, GSS, *et al.*), establishing the first record of the species for California. Gray Flycatchers were found along the coast at Point Fermin and on Point Loma. Two Vermilion Flycatchers were present in El Monte, Los Angeles Co. after Nov. 6, and about 10 were found in the San Diego area during the period; the



species is regular in limited numbers along the coast. Two Vermilion Flycatchers were observed on Nov. 10 near Mecca, Riverside Co. (JA) where they have not been found in recent years.

**Parids, Thrashers, Thrushes**—Mountain Chickadees were found in the lowlands at Pasadena after August, as is apparently normal. Verdins appear to be regular in very limited numbers along the coast near Imperial Beach, the only locality in the Region away from the desert where they have been found. A Bendire's Thrasher was found along the coast on the Palos Verdes Peninsula on Sept. 18 (RS, SWe & GSS); another was found in Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co. on Nov. 17 (JS & RM). In September, 2-3 Sage Thrashers were seen along the coast, as is normal. The main influx of wintering Robins occurred in late November. A Varied Thrush was seen at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Nov. 23 (GMcC), and another was seen on Point Fermin, Nov. 28 (RS); the species is scarce in this Region, but numbers vary from year to year. A Townsend's Solitaire was present near San Marcus Pass, Santa Barbara Co., Oct. 3-22 (NM); another was seen at Point Fermin on Oct. 15 (SWe). Both are coastal localities; on the desert east of the mountains this species occurs regularly during the fall and winter.

**Kinglets, Waxwings**—Two Golden-crowned Kinglets were found in the New York Mountains, San Bernardino Co. on Nov. 9 (EAC), 2 were found in Morongo Valley on Oct. 19 (EAC), and 2 were found about 10 miles east of Holtville, Imperial Co. on Oct. 20 (AC, PD & CL)—all localities away from the species' breeding range. In late November a few Bohemian Waxwings, a species that rarely reaches the Region, were found in Inyo and San Bernardino Counties; 40 were present at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Nov. 30 (JG & RG); 1 was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Nov. 22 (VDAc) and 2 more were seen there on Nov. 29 (JG & RG); 8 were noted at Shoshone, Inyo Co. on Nov. 24 (RM, GSS & BB); 1 was at Morongo Valley on Nov. 17 (JS & RM); and 15 were found near Big Bear, San Bernardino Co. after the third week of November (fide EAC). These are good indications of an exceptionally heavy flight far to the south of the species' normal range. A large influx of Cedar Waxwings also occurred in late November.

**Vireos and Warblers**—The fall flight of our common western vireos and warblers was prolonged and did not involve any large numbers. The largest numbers occurred during the last half of September, as is normal, but even in this period it was hard to find any significant numbers, and away from the points of concentration only single individuals of a few of the most abundant species were to be found. It seems quite likely that all of the vireos and warblers that occur along the coast of this Region—and that do not normally winter there—are, in fact, lost birds off their normal migration routes. Vagrants from eastward appeared in fair numbers, as was to be expected, and a total of 30 species of warblers was recorded in the Region this fall. A Red-eyed Vireo was

seen at Deep Springs, Inyo Co. on Sept. 3 and 4 (MP); this is a very scarce but regular vagrant. A few Bell's Vireos were found in the San Diego area during September, as appears to be normal; a very late individual was seen at 1000 Palms Oasis, Riverside Co. on Nov. 18 (SWe). Single Black-and-white Warblers were seen at Goleta on Oct. 6 (MR) and at Imperial Beach on Sept. 18 and 19 (AC), and another was present at Imperial Beach, Oct. 9-13 (GSS, et al.); this warbler is scarce but regular. Although the Tennessee Warbler is regular in limited numbers every fall, more than the usual numbers were found this year: single birds in Goleta on Nov. 4 (JP), in Santa Barbara on Oct. 15 (RW), at Dana Point on Sept. 28 (RM) and Oct. 23 (TS), near Imperial Beach on Oct. 5 and 6 (AC, LS & TT), and near San Ysidro, San Diego Co. on Sept. 21 (JJ) and Oct. 26 (GMcC, et al.), with 1 banded on Point Loma on Oct. 9 and 2 more banded there on Oct. 11 (AC). Along the coast, 2 Virginia's Warblers were present on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Sept. 18-23 (RS & RM) and another was present there, Oct. 6-8 (SWe); 1 was seen at Dana Point on Sept. 28 (JA & RM); 1 was seen at Point Loma on Oct. 2 (GC); and about 6 found around Imperial Beach, Aug. 29-Sept. 28 (JJ, AC, GMcC, et al.). Inland, 1 was seen at Ramer Lake, Imperial Co. on Aug. 17 (GMcC). This species is now considered a regular fall migrant in the Region. A Lucy's Warbler, a very rare species along the coast, was present near San Ysidro, Aug. 25-28 (GMcC, CL & JJ), and 1-2 were continually present near Imperial Beach, Sept. 29-Oct. 27 (AC, LS, TT, et al.). A Magnolia Warbler, a scarce vagrant in the Region, was banded on Point Loma on Sept. 27 (GC), and another was seen there on Oct. 1 (AC). More than the usual number of Black-throated Blue Warblers, a regular fall vagrant in the Region, were reported: 1 at Point Fermin, Oct. 4-8 (SWe, et al.), 1 in Pasadena on Nov. 15 and 16 (GSS & RM), 1 at Point Loma on Oct. 15 (AC), 1 banded at Point Loma on Nov. 1 and 1 banded there on Nov. 6 (AC), 1 near San Ysidro, Oct. 9-12 (GSS, et al.), and 1 seen inland at the south end of the Salton Sea on Oct. 13 (LJ). A Grace's Warbler was banded and photographed (copies to S.D.N.H.M.) at Point Loma on Sept. 8 (AC); this is the second record for California. A Bay-breasted Warbler was seen at Furnace Creek Ranch, Death Valley Nat'l Monument on Nov. 23 and 24 (GMcC, PD, et al.); the species is very scarce in California. Two Blackpoll Warblers were seen on Point Fermin, Sept. 22-24 (RM & SWe), 1 at Dana Point on Sept. 29 (AF), 1 on Point Loma on Sept. 13 (AC), and 6 around Imperial Beach, Sept. 24-Oct. 13 (JJ, TT, GSS, GMcC, et al.); this warbler is now considered a regular fall migrant along the coast. Single Palm Warblers, a regular fall vagrant, were found at Goleta on Oct. 6 (BB & GSS) and Nov. 27 (JP), near Azusa, Los Angeles Co. on Nov. 5 (MSanM), on Point Loma on Nov. 19 (TT), near Imperial Beach on Oct. 26 (GMcC); 2 were seen near San Ysidro on Oct. 12 and 13 (JJ, CL, et al.). An Ovenbird, a somewhat scarce vagrant in the Region, was present in Fullerton, Los Angeles



Another view, taken against a dark background, of the Little Gull  
observed near Mecca, Riverside Co., Calif., Nov. 16-21, 1968.

Photograph by Keith Axelson.

Co., Oct. 7-9 (CG); another was seen on Point Loma on Oct. 27 (LS, *et al.*). A N. Waterthrush was seen at Deep Springs on Sept. 4 (MP); 3 were found at Furnace Creek Ranch on Sept. 1 and 2 more at Saratoga Springs, also on Sept. 1 (GMC & CL). This species is probably a regular migrant through eastern California. A Mourning Warbler was collected (specimen to M.V.Z.) at Deep Springs on June 12 (*vide* JR), furnishing the first record for California. On Oct. 3, an immature female of this species was trapped on Point Loma (GC) and was retained as a specimen (to S.D.N.H.M.). Outside of its normal range, this warbler should be identified

only in the hand. A ♂ Hooded Warbler banded and photographed (copy to S.D.N.H.M.) at Point Loma on Oct. 26 (AC) constituted the third record for the Region. Two Canada Warblers were found at Barton Flats in the San Bernardino Mountains on Oct. 5 and 1 was collected (specimen to S.D.N.H.M.) on Oct. 6 (EAC); this constitutes the seventh record of the species for California. Single Am. Redstarts were seen at Deep Springs on Sept. 4 (MP), at Santa Barbara on Sept. 10 (CK), on Point Fermin on Sept. 11 (JWe) and at the Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Nov. 28 (GMC); 2 were observed about 70 miles west of San Diego on the open ocean on Sept. 14 (JJ); 5

were found in Death Valley Nat'l Monument on Sept. 1 (GMcC); 6 were noted in Tapia Park, Los Angeles Co. on Oct. 4 (SWo); and at least 9 were found in the San Diego area, Sept. 6-Oct. 27 (AC, TT, GC, et al.). This species is regular in limited numbers in the Region and is probably normal in the eastern portion of the state. The Painted Redstart is very scarce in California and is not recorded every year; this fall one was seen on Point Loma on Sept. 18 (GMcC & AC) and another was collected (specimen to S.D.N.H.M.) near Imperial Beach on Aug. 28 (JJ).

**Blackbirds, Orioles, Tanagers**—Only 3 Bobolinks were reported this fall: single birds seen at Dana Point on Oct. 5 (PLS) and at Imperial Beach on Sept. 28 (GSS) and Oct. 13 (GMcC). This species can easily be overlooked. An Orchard Oriole, a rare but regular stray to California, was seen at the south end of the Salton Sea on Sept. 9 (GMcC, GSS, et al.), and a male was present at a feeder in San Diego after Nov. 10 (Helen Morris). Along the coast, where it is scarce, a Scott's Oriole was seen at Point Loma on Oct. 7 (GC) and another in Santa Barbara on Nov. 17 (LC); a very late individual was seen within the species' normal range at Agua Caliente Springs, San Diego Co. on Nov. 11 (AF). A Baltimore Oriole was seen in Santa Barbara on Nov. 11 (JH); 1 returned to a feeder in Montecito, Santa Barbara Co. on Sept. 24 and was still present at the end of the period (JK); 1 was seen near Imperial Beach on Oct. 13 (GSS, et al.) and another was seen there on Oct. 16 (GMcC). This oriole is now found every fall and winter in California. A Rusty Blackbird was seen on Nov. 29 at Furnace Creek Ranch (JG & RG) where the species is possibly regular. A Scarlet Tanager was banded and photographed (copies to S.D.N.H.M.) at Point Loma on Oct. 29 (AC), furnishing the sixth record for California. A ♂ Hepatic Tanager was found at Rancho Park, Los Angeles Co. on Nov. 1 (LS) and apparently is wintering there again for the fifth consecutive year. A Summer Tanager was observed on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, Sept. 29 (RS); 1 was found in Tapia Park on Oct. 22 and had been joined by 2 others by the end of October (SWo); single birds were banded at Point Loma on Oct. 14 and 25 (GC); and 1 was found at Imperial Beach on Oct. 26 and 27 (GMcC). This species is regular in limited numbers along the coast.

**Grosbeaks, Finches**—Single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen at Scotty's Castle, Death Valley Nat'l Monument on Nov. 23 (PD & GMcC), in Montecito on Oct. 10 (WA) and on Point Loma on Sept. 15 (GMcC); this is a regular vagrant in the Region. A late Black-headed Grosbeak was seen in Encino, Los Angeles Co. on Nov. 16 (JD). The only Dickcissel found was 1 near San Ysidro on Nov. 2 (GSS); the species is a regular fall vagrant. Single Lark Buntings were seen near Taft, Kern Co. on Oct. 13 (JS) and at Dana Point on Sept. 1 (JA); this species is much scarcer in California today than 50 years ago.

**Sparrows, Longspurs**—As usual, a few Green-tailed Towhees were found along the coast. In

general, our more common wintering sparrows arrived early and were more numerous than usual. At least 16 Slate-colored Juncos, a rare winter visitor, were found in the Region this fall. Single Gray-headed Juncos, the Region's scarcest junco, were found at Furnace Creek Ranch on Nov. 29 (JG & RG), in the San Bernardino Mountains on Oct. 5 (EAC), near Holtville on Oct. 20 (PD & CL), in the Laguna Mountains, San Diego Co. on Nov. 10 (GMcC), in La Jolla on Oct. 21 (PD), and at Point Loma on Oct. 25 (AC) and Nov. 7-30 (AC). A Tree Sparrow was seen at Emigrant Ranger Station, Death Valley Nat'l Monument, Dec. 7 (GMcC, AC & PD); 1 was seen near Arvin, Kern Co. on Dec. 1 (JG & RG); and 1 was collected (specimen to S.D.N.H.M.) at the south end of the Salton Sea on Nov. 28 (GMcC). Away from Death Valley Nat'l Monument, where the species may be regular, there is but one previous record for the Region. A Clay-colored Sparrow was collected (specimen to L.A.C.M.) at Point Fermin on Oct. 2 (GSS & SWe) after having been found there on the previous day; 1 was present on Point Loma, Sept. 12-16 (JJ, et al.); 1 was seen near Imperial Beach on Aug. 28 (JJ), and another was found there on Oct. 12 (GMcC). This species is regular in limited numbers during the fall. A late Black-chinned Sparrow was noted at Cottonwood Springs, Riverside Co. on Nov. 10 and 11 (JA). Up to 5 Harris' Sparrows were seen at Furnace Creek Ranch after Nov. 21 (VDA, PD, AC, et al.), and 1 was seen in Santa Barbara on Dec. 1 (WA). Although it is very scarce in California, this sparrow is recorded every winter. A few White-throated Sparrows were found along the coast, as usual. A Swamp Sparrow present near Imperial Beach after Nov. 3 (GMcC & CL) was the only one reported. It was a poor fall for longspurs, with 2 Chestnut-collared Longspurs found near Imperial Beach on Nov. 2 (GMcC & EAC) and 1 found there on Nov. 9 (GMcC & PD).

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