

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION.—June was generally cool and this permitted successful nesting of land birds despite the unfavorable effects of a series of dry years. Many species were able to regain some of their depleted populations. Others failed to appear or were scarce in parts of their range. The high temperatures in early July and in mid-August caused sudden departures of birds from the low ground. At the end of the nesting season the scarcity of bird food, both of plant and insect material, was impressive. Energetic work in the field resulted in many records of special significance in the Region.

Water Birds.—Reports of White Pelicans came from 6 locations in the region. On June 20 the Andersons saw 2, the first of the season at the Salinas River mouth. H. L. Cogswell saw 100 in



small flocks over Sierra Valley on June 25, 3 at the south end of Lake Tahoe on July 9, 24 near Loomis on July 19, and 1 at Little Washoe Lake, Nev., on July 26. On August 10 there were 39 adults and 8 young at San Quentin Point (R. H. Pray).

At Point Lobos

on July 10 Brandt's Cormorants were still feeding young on nests in a colony that was smaller than last year (Miss E. Smith). On June 25, Cogswell saw 2 Snowy Egrets near Sierraville, Sierra Valley. At San Quentin Point, Pray saw 30 on August 8 and many 2 days later.

Ducks.—Mallards were reported at several localities: On June 9, at Putah Sinks, Yolo By-Pass, F. G. Evenden, Jr., found 35 pairs with several broods of young. On July 17 he saw 40 at Mendota Pool, Fresno Co. On June 10, the Andersons saw a pair near Castroville. Cogswell reported Mallards at Boca Reservoir in late June; Little Washoe Lake, Nev., June 27 and July 26, about 200 adults and young; south end Lake Tahoe, July 9; Lake Van Norden, August 1, females and young. Records of Pintail indicate nesting at Castroville, pair on June 10 (Andersons); Sierra Valley, female on nest with 8 eggs on June 25 (Cogswell); Putah Sinks, 35 adults and 7 young on June 9; Mendota Pool, female with 6 young on July 17 (Evenden). Evenden also saw 9 female Redheads and 7 half-grown young at Mendota Pool on July 17. Cogswell reported a brood of half-grown Am. Mergansers at Lake Tahoe, at Zephyr Cove, Nev., on July 9.

Hawks.—Andersons saw a White-tailed Kite on July 8 at the mouth of the Salinas River and one the next day at the mouth of the Carmel River. On August 1, R. P. Hays saw a Goshawk a mile from a former nest site near Lake Van Norden. The Andersons reported a Swainson's Hawk on June 22 in San Benancio Canyon, near Salinas. Cogswell saw a Peregrine Falcon at Lake Norden on July 1, and 1 in Bear Valley, Placer Co., on July 21.

Quail.—Several observers in coastal central California agree that the California Quail produced more and larger broods than last year. Nesting was generally late. At Mt. Hermon, on August 7, a female brought off a brood of 9 from a nest (Mrs. Adist Boylan).

Shorebirds.—At Moss Landing, Andersons saw a great many immature Black-bellied Plover on July 22 and more than 50 adults a week later. At Bay

Farm Island on August 8, Mrs. G. E. Kelly saw as many as 1000. On the same date at Point San Quentin an adult was followed by an immature bird with fluttering wings as though begging food (Pray). At Bay Farm Island Mrs. Kelly saw 200 Marbled Godwits on July 16 and 500 on August 8. At Lake Van Norden a nest of Spotted Sandpiper with 4 eggs on June 20 was later flooded (Cogswell). At Bay Farm Island there were 200 Willets on July 16 (Kelly). The same observer saw 2 Surf-birds, a Ruddy Turnstone, and 6 Black Turnstones on August 16 at the Cliff House. A Wilson's Snipe was at Putah Sinks on June 9 (Evenden), and 4 near Sattley, Sierra Valley, on June 25 (Cogswell). The Andersons saw 8 Baird's Sandpipers at the mouth of the Carmel River on July 9. At Bay Farm Island Mrs. Kelly saw 24 Avocets on July 16 and 500 on August 8.

Gulls and Terns.—Miss E. Smith saw 2 Ring-billed Gulls on July 15 at Moss Landing. There were 6 Bonaparte's Gulls at Moss Landing on June 3, and 6 at the mouth of the Salinas River on June 22 (Andersons). The same observers saw an adult Sabine's Gull on June 20 at the mouth of the Salinas River. Single Black Terns were recorded near Sattley, Sierra Valley on June 25, at Little Washoe Lake, Nev., on June 26 (Cogswell), and at Moss Landing, on July 22 (Andersons). On August 16, at Dumbarton Bridge there were Caspian Terns ranging from small to nearly grown on the dikes (Kelly). On June 10, at Moss Landing hundreds of Forster's Terns were nesting on a slough near the salt works; by the end of July a few were still nesting and the adults with young were near the ocean (Andersons).

Non-passerine Land Birds.—Band-tailed Pigeons continued scarce. At Immigrant Pass, 2 on July 19 were the only ones reported this summer (Cogswell). On July 17, at Mendota Pool, San Joaquin River, Evenden found 3 pairs of Yellow-billed Cuckoos on 30 acres of open willow brush and marshland. On August 9 at Alum Rock, Seibert saw 4 young Pygmy Owls out of the nest. Evenden reported that Burrowing Owls were frequent in the Sacramento Valley through the summer. In early July at Mammoth Lakes there were young Saw-whet Owls (E. Smith). On June 22 at 6½ miles west of Donner Pass, Placer Co., a common Nighthawk was incubating 2 eggs in a nest; north of the same Pass a nest contained 1 egg on July 7, 2 eggs on July 8, and small young on August 1 (Cogswell). Cogswell saw Vaux's Swifts at 2 localities in the Sierra Nevada: about 4 at Donner Lake on July 4, and 4 at Boca Reservoir on July 11. He found male Rufous Hummingbirds at Sugar Bowl Lodge increasingly common after July 1; the first female was seen on July 8, immature birds and females were common in late July, and males somewhat on the wane. Calliope Hummingbirds were less common than in 1948 in that area with no males after June 22, but a few females still present on August 1.

Passerine Birds.—In late June a colony of more than 200 Bank Swallows were nesting beside a

highway 2 miles west of Reno, Nev. (Cogswell). Cogswell reported at least 2 pairs of Rough-winged Swallows nesting in a bank below Boca Reservoir, 5600 feet, Nevada Co., on June 27, 28, and July 10. On July 7, in the Sierra Nevada the first House Wren was detected at high altitude and by August 2 the species was common at Sugar Bowl Lodge, 7000 feet (Cogswell). Am. Robins were still feeding young in a nest at Los Gatos on July 31 (E. Smith), and there were young in Corral de Tierra on June 17 (Andersons). On June 9, on Stevens Creek, Santa Clara Co., Seibert found a nest of Olive-backed Thrush with eggs. Fledglings were being fed on July 22 at Mt. Hermon (Mrs. Boylan). At Sugar Bowl Lodge on July 20 Cogswell found a nest with 4 eggs of Townsend's Solitaire. There was 1 young bird on July 31, but the other 3 eggs had still not hatched by August 3. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet in the first week of July was incubating on a nest at Mammoth Lakes (E. Smith). On June 10,

along Stevens Creek, Santa Clara Co., Seibert found an adult male Black and White Warbler in full song. In the Santa Cruz Mountains on June 21, young Audubon's Warblers left a nest and males were singing persistently at 2 widely separated places (Mrs. R. L. Shore). On June 18 at Clear Lake, Lake Co., a female Yellow-headed Blackbird fed young in a nest, the only one found (Mrs. Anne Peterson). Cogswell found a nest of Pine Grosbeaks on June 29 in a red fir half a mile south of Donner Pass, 7100 feet. Three eggs hatched after July 1 and young were still being fed on July 13; the nest was empty on July 18. At Mammoth Lakes in the first week of July Miss E. Smith saw adults feeding 2 fledglings just out of the nest. On July 23, Cogswell found Gray-crowned Rosy Finches at a new locality, Job's Sister, 10,750 feet, El Dorado Co., 14 miles east of Pyramid Peak.—JEAN M. LINDALE, *Hastings Reservation, Jamesburg Route, Robles del Rio, Calif.*

NEW REGIONAL EDITORS

Thomas D. Burleigh, a Fish and Wildlife Service biologist engaged in a study of the birds of Idaho, has very kindly agreed to assume editorship of the *Palouse—Northern Rocky Mountain Region*. Mr. Burleigh has been one of the most active contributors to this region since its inauguration, and the report of the recent spring migration was prepared by him. Correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Burleigh at the School of Forestry, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. We express our thanks to Ernest S. Booth who undertook the difficult task of reporting on this region during the first year it was represented.

Residents in the *Southern Pacific Coast Region* will be pleased to hear that their territory will once again be represented, starting with the fall migration summary. Arnold Small, 1840 West 11th Place, Los Angeles 6, Calif., has graciously accepted editorship of this strategic region. Since

there has been a gap of three seasons since the last report from the Southern Pacific Coast, observers in this area are urged to make a special effort to supply Mr. Small with material for his first report.