

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION.—The coastal part of the region has had much more morning fog than usual, and the creeks are not

as dry as they were last year. That area has been notably cold. Farther inland the drought was more pronounced. In the vicinity of Donner Pass, meadows dried out early. The advanced seasonal development was absorbed by slow growth of plants, and nesting of birds was delayed. In some places there was



less vegetation along streams because of the severe floods of last winter. Shorebirds were present generally in their normal numbers, but near Santa Cruz and at some other places they were scarce. Nesting land birds were scarce in many places. Some species, however, that were lacking or rare last year, were abundant. There have been many reports of land birds far out of their normal range or present in summer in their winter ranges. Possibly, these occurrences were dependent on the peculiar climatic conditions of the past year.

Farallones, L. Curl saw 5 Black-footed Albatrosses, 2 Pink-footed Shearwaters, and hundreds of Sooty Shearwaters. At Dumbarton Bridge there were about 100 White Pelicans on July 1 (Mrs. G. E. Kelly), and about 400 on July 27 (Mrs. L. Blair). On the afternoon of Aug. 2, H. Cogswell saw about 90 in the late afternoon flying westward over the Sierran crest and down the American River Canyon, apparently on migration.

Geese and Ducks.—On June 10, Mrs. G. W. Nielsen saw 12 brant on open water off Santa Cruz and on July 21 F. G. Evenden saw 2 on a mud flat at Moss Landing. Cogswell saw the last full-plumaged male Mallard on June 23 at Lake Van Norden and the first brood of young on July 9 at Boca Reservoir. On June 8 at Searsville Lake there was a female Ruddy Duck with 5 downy young (L. Sleeper). A female-plumaged Am. Merganser was reported on June 29 at Donner Lake (J. Michael) and a lone female on July 9 at Boca Reservoir (Cogswell).

Hawks.—White-tailed Kites have been seen this summer at three localities: east of Alviso (Miss E. Smith); Old Stage Road, Salinas (Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Anderson); and Tularcitos Creek, 15 miles SE of Carmel (J. Linsdale). Cogswell found Goshawks more frequent in the vicinity of Sugar Bowl Lodge than in 1948 or 1950. On June 23, 3 miles east of Truckee, he saw an adult Swainson's Hawk with an immature one that may have represented an early nesting. This summer R. H. Pray found Ospreys at the following places: Klamath River, 5 mi. W of U.S. Highway 99; Eel River at Williams Grove State Park; 6 mi. S of Gualala; and Russian River, 1 mi. S of Duncans Mills.

Quail.—Cogswell found the Mountain Quail in the vicinity of Donner Pass less common than in 1948 or 1950. Nearly all observers found California Quail nesting more successful than usual.

Shorebirds.—Mrs. Kelly saw 7 Ringed Plover at Bay Farm Island on July 7. She also saw a Hudsonian Curlew there on that date and 4 on August 5. L. Curl saw 7 near San Quentin on June 10 as well as 12 Long-billed Curlew. Evenden saw 6 of the latter species on July 21 at Moss Landing and there was 1 at Bay Farm Island on Aug. 5. At Alviso on July 1 and Aug. 13 Mrs. Etta Smith saw a Lesser Yellow-legs. Mrs. Nielsen saw 2 Wandering Tattlers and 10 Surf-birds at Santa Cruz on July 30. On July 14 at Moss Landing there were 3 Ruddy Turnstones (Andersons). They also reported 24 Baird's Sandpipers at Moss Landing on July 19, 22, and 29. ✓ Curl saw one on July 26 at Albany. At Moss Landing on July 28 there were 5 Red Knots and on July 19 there were 7 Sanderlings (Andersons). On June 20 at Bay Farm Island Mrs. Kelly found 3 small downy Am. Avocets.

Jaegers.—A Pomarine Jaeger was recorded on June 21 at Trinidad (R. H. Pray).

Gulls and Terns.—At Moss Landing Heermann's Gulls were present on June 11 and there were at least 160 by June 15 (Andersons). Cogswell saw an adult Ring-billed Gull at Donner Lake on July 21. C. G. Sibley saw a kittiwake offshore at Malpaso Creek below Point Lobos on June 4. On June 7 a partly oil-soaked Sabine's Gull was at Palm Beach near the mouth of the Pajaro River (W. B. Minturn). The Andersons found 2 Least Tern nests, with 2 eggs each near Moss Landing on July 11 where there had been up to 12 adults. On July 29 they saw up to 25 at the mouth of the Pajaro River.

Non-passerine Land Birds.—A Yellow-billed Cuckoo nest near the old Fish Hatchery at Mount Shasta had 1 egg on July 13 (Nielsen). In a vacant lot in San Jose, M. L. Seibert found a Burrowing Owl nest which produced 4 or 5 young. On July 24 at Alum Rock Park White-throated Swifts were feeding nestlings (Seibert). A female Allen's Hummingbird at Mt. Hermon was collecting nest material on June 17 and 22 (Mrs. Boylan). Cogswell on July 2 saw a Calliope

Hummingbird carrying nest material at Sugar Bowl Lodge; the last male was seen on the same date. At least 1 female was still present there on July 31.

Flycatchers through Nuthatches.—Mrs. Neilsen saw a stray Eastern Kingbird at a lagoon in Santa Cruz on July 30. On July 3 at Lake Van Norden 2 Violet-green Swallows were above their summer range (Cogswell). Purple Martins were observed in at least 6 locations in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties in June. On June 17 Curl and 8 other observers saw 5 Chestnut-backed Chickadees at Calaveras Big Trees State Park, a location far outside the known range of the bird. On June 9, at Searsville Lake, Miss E. Smith saw Bushtits feeding nestlings. Cogswell detected up-mountain movement of White-breasted Nuthatches after July 30 in the vicinity of Sugar Bowl Lodge. On July 14 and 15 at the Samuel Taylor State Park west of San Rafael Curl saw several flocks of Pygmy Nuthatches. ✓

Kinglets, Warblers.—Golden-crowned Kinglets were singing on June 26 in Butano Canyon and on Butano Ridge, San Mateo Co. (E. Smith). M. F. Vessel reported that he saw 3 Ruby-crowned Kinglets and heard their call notes and song in Alum Rock Canyon on July 24 and 26. Seibert discovered 2 male Audubon's Warblers in full song on a pine-covered ridge 8 miles east of Madrone on June 18.

Cowbirds.—Reports of Brown-headed Cowbirds in June and July came from at least 14 locations, a large proportion of them outside the known range. Observations by Pray and others indicate a great increase in this species in 1950. Records extend upward in the Sierra Nevada to Lake Van Norden, 6770 ft. (Cogswell), in the coastal area to the Klamath River, and northeastward to northern Modoc County (Pray).

Finches and Sparrows.—Cogswell found more Pine Siskins near Sugar Bowl Lodge than in previous summers. On Aug. 4 near Plymouth, Amador Co., Evenden saw Lawrence's Goldfinch. Red Crossbills, present through June and July at Mt. Hermon, Santa Cruz Co., apparently nested (L. Miller and E. Smith). From Sugar Bowl Lodge to Donner Pass these birds were present more regularly than in other recent years (Cogswell). Curl reported a Fox Sparrow seen in El Cerrito on San Francisco Bay on July 19.—JEAN M. LINSDALE, *Hastings Reservation, Jamesburg Route, Robles del Rio, Calif.*