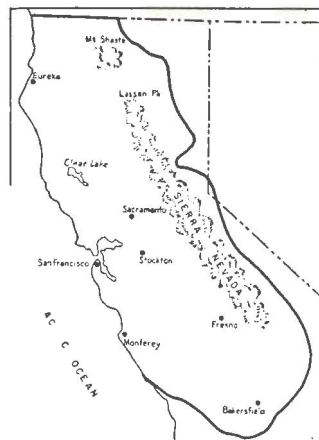


**MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION.**—Cold weather which began the second week in April continued with but few warm days until the last week in May. Rains.



with snow in the mountains, fell sporadically to the end of the period. The low temperatures did not appear to greatly effect arrival dates of migrants from the south. However, montane nesting birds accumulated at lower levels and some wintering species were noticeably late in departing.

*Egrets, Night Herons, Bitterns.*—On a visit to Tulare Lake on April 4, W. B. Minturn found more than 200 Am. Egrets, with some nesting, and more than 400 Black-crowned Night Herons with many

nesting. Barbara O'Neill saw a Least Bittern on the Hood-Franklin Rd., May 2.

*Geese and Ducks.*—There were 8 Black Brant at Moss Landing, May 19 (WBM) and the same number near San Simeon, June 2 (R. H. Pray). Golden Gate Park in San Francisco was visited by two species of ducks that drew many observers to the area. A European Widgeon was first seen on April 11 by Vee Curtis and Florence Plymell and was last reported by Roberta Long on April 26. A **Falcated Teal** was watched there from May 5 to 19 by Joel T. Hedgpeth, *et al.* Because there are no previous records, the possibility that the teal was an escaped bird must be considered. Minturn saw a Fulvous Tree-duck at Mendota Dam, May 15. A. Meusser watched a pair of Barrow's Golden-eyes near Tahoe City, April 2. An unusual record is that of an Oldsquaw seen by Charles and Viola Anderson at Moss Landing, May 24, and again on May 31.

*Vultures, Hawks, Eagles.*—Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Pickett, who are familiar with the species in Mexico, saw a **Black Vulture**, May 14, 20 miles east of Sacramento. Only 3 White-tailed Kites were reported this season: 1 near Sacramento, April 18 by W. K. Kirsher; 1 near Clovis, May 20 by Mrs. Marjory Vance; and 1 near Salinas, May 31 (CA, VA). On April 4 Howard L. Cogswell saw a Goshawk near Chinquapin in Yosemite National Park. A late wintering Ferruginous Hawk was seen by Minturn and J. G. Tyler at Tulare Lake on April 4. Cogswell saw 3 Swainson's Hawks: 1 near Vernalis and 1 near Snelling on April 4; and 1 over the Oakland Hills on May 5. Minturn found them nesting 35 feet up in a willow 10 miles north of Fresno. There was a Golden Eagle at Tulare Lake, April 4 (WBM), and 1 near Pinole, May 24 (A. Laurence Curl). Bald Eagles were nesting at Hogan Reservoir, April 3 (Fred G. Evenden, Jr.).

*Shorebirds.*—Ken Legg found the nest of a Black Oyster-catcher with 2 eggs at Point Lobos, May 26. Snowy Plovers were feeding 2 non-flying young on May 8 at Moss Landing where there were 2 nests with 3 eggs each, May 12 (CA, VA). On April 28 the same observers watched a pair of Killdeer with 4 non-flying young there. Near the mouth of the Pajaro River, Minturn saw an Am. Golden Plover on May 10. Red Knots at Bay Farm Island increased from 3 on April 11 (VC) to about 24, April 13 (Junea W. Kelly), and 40 on April 25 (ALC). Late migrating Baird's Sandpipers were seen at Moss Landing: 3 on May 8 and 1, May 19 (CA, VA). The first Black-necked Stilt was seen on the nesting ground near Sacramento, April 4 (WKK) the same day Minturn found 4 at Tulare Lake. There was 1 at the mouth of the Pajaro River, May 15 (WBM) and 6 or 7 pairs at Moss Landing on May 29 (CA, VA).

*Terns.*—Forster's Terns at Elkhorn Slough increased from "several" on April 3 to about 800 (some young) on April 23 (CA, VA). From May 8 to 10 there were 700 to 800 near Santa Cruz where the same observer saw a Common Tern, May 8 (WBM). The Andersons saw the first Least Tern at Moss Landing on May 12 with 6 there on May 22. Cogswell watched a Royal Tern near the San Mateo Bridge, April 18.

Two Black Terns were seen in the vicinity of Santa Cruz, May 10 (WBM).

*Swifts, Hummingbirds.*—Near Clovis, Mrs. Marjory Vance saw the first Black Swifts, May 16, with 9 there on May 20. Legg counted 21 flying north at Pt. Lobos, May 22. A Costa's Hummingbird arrived near Clovis, April 2 (MV). Black-chinned Hummingbirds were first seen: north of Fresno, April 22 (WBM); at Sacramento, April 29 (Mrs. ERP); and on May 9 at El Portal where they are scarcer than last year (WJF).

*Woodpeckers, Flycatchers, Swallows.*—In coastal regions Pileated Woodpeckers were seen: 1 near Westport, April 24 by Mrs. R. Coy; and 1 near Lakoya Lodge, Napa County, May 10 (ALC). Three or 4 pairs of Lewis's Woodpeckers were nesting and feeding young in cottonwood trees at the top of Panoche Pass, San Benito Co., May 15 (WBM). White-headed Woodpeckers were unusually common in Yosemite Valley (Walter J. Fitzpatrick). Cassin's Kingbirds were first seen by A. Meusser, March 29, on the Sacramento By-pass where the Picketts found a pair, April 5. There were an interesting number of observations of Say's Phoebes in marginal territory with 1 near San Martin, May 9 (Santa Clara Valley Aud. Soc.); 3 near Greenfield, Monterey Co., May 17 (CA, VA); and 1 near San Juan Batista, May 23 (CA, VA). The first Olive-sided Flycatcher reported this season was seen in Oakland by Mrs. H. K. Trousdale on April 6 with the next in the Santa Cruz Mountains, April 13, seen by Lina Snow. Fitzpatrick found them unusually common in Yosemite Valley.

*Chickadees, Nuthatches, Dipper.*—The continued spread of Chestnut-backed Chickadees west of the Oakland-Berkeley Hills is confirmed by two nesting records in Oakland. In the Montclair section, where nest building commenced on March 24, noisy young were fed until May 23 (HKT); and at Mills College a pair was carrying food to large young in the nest on April 27 and 29 (HLC). On May 7 these young were found dead but elsewhere on the campus adults were seen with one or more fledglings. Although Red-breasted Nuthatches probably nest more or less regularly in the San Francisco Bay area, definite records are scarce. What appears to be the first nesting record in San Francisco has been watched in Golden Gate Park by Hedgpeth, beginning with excavation of the nest hole, March 28 and continuing with nesting activity through May 25. A pair of Am. Dippers was nesting at 1400 feet on the Merced River, April 4 (HLC).

*Bluebirds, Solitaires, Vireos.*—Western Bluebirds nested successfully on the floor of the San Joaquin Valley 10 miles north of Fresno; 3 or 4 spotted young were out of the nest, May 29 (WBM). Mountain Bluebirds were still at El Portal, May 31 (WJF). Townsend's Solitaires stayed at low levels to the end of May, with many reported in Yosemite Valley (WJF), and 1 near El Portal, May 27 (RHP). At Whitehall, El Dorado Co. (3400 ft.), they were first seen, April 18, with up to 8 present in April and some still there on May 24 (ERP). On May 13 Minturn found a Bell's Vireo near Fresno where they are now uncommon, probably due to cow-

bird interference with nesting. Legg saw one at Pt. Lobos, May 24.

*Warblers, Orioles.*—The spring movement of warblers seems to have been normal except for large numbers of Audubon's Warblers that stayed in Yosemite Valley through May, far later than usual (WJF), and 2 Townsend's Warblers that were late in departing: 1 in Golden Gate Park, May 9 (JTH); and 1 near Napa, May 10 (ALC). Hooded Orioles were observed rather generally from Solano County to Monterey County during April and May. The most northerly was in Pleasants Valley, April 1 (JWK). Donald Brook saw an adult male feeding 2 young in Oakland, May 27. Mrs. Vance had them during May near Clovis where she also watched a male Scott's Oriole from May 1 to 29.

*Finches and Sparrows.*—At the south end of Lake Tahoe the Argantes found 800 to 1000 Evening Grosbeaks on April 19. A transient Green-tailed Towhee was seen in Berkeley on May 16 by Mrs. Philip Breck, and Evenden saw a maturing male **Lark Bunting** south of Colusa, April 3. "Thousands" of Oregon Juncos were still present at El Portal on May 30 (WJF). The Harris's Sparrow that wintered near San Jose was seen regularly to May 4 (Grace Brubaker). White-crowned Sparrows (Gambel's) were late in leaving, with stragglers in Berkeley to May 8 (RHP) and in Sacramento to May 11 (A. Kimball). Fitzpatrick saw a very late Golden-crowned Sparrow at El Portal, May 30. The White-throated Sparrow that wintered in Oakland was last seen on May 1 (HKT).

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