

waters off Pacific Grove and there were about 500 off Jenner, July 27 (JK). Mrs. Junea W. Kelly found the numbers of White Pelicans low at Dumbarton Bridge where she saw about 50 on July 15. At Pt. Lobos, Brandt's Cormorants established nests in a new area in July, more than a month later than at the usual Bird Island site; and there was a late nest of Pelagic Cormorants with 3 downy young there on Aug. 14 (Ken Legg). A vagrant Snowy Egret visited Yosemite Valley, June 10 and 11 (Walter J. Fitzpatrick). The Andersons found a White-faced Ibis at Moss Landing, June 20 and 23.

Geese and Ducks.—About 30 pairs of Canada Geese nested in upper Truckee Meadow, Lake Tahoe, between June 19 and Aug. 14 (A. J. Argante, W. K. Kirsher) and on Aug. 14 there were about 50 of these geese on the Bridgeport Reservoir (AJA). On July 9 there was a Mallard nest with 7 eggs and 1 just-hatched young in the salt ponds near Alviso (Etta Smith) and late nesting in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, was indicated by few-days-old young seen, Aug. 16 (Joel T. Hedgpeth). The Old-squaw (probably decrepit) seen at Moss Landing near the end of the spring season was seen there on almost every visit to the area during June and July (CA, VA). The usual number of individual scoters was seen along the coast during the summer but the 40 Surf Scoters seen by Kittredge at Jenner, July 27, is worthy of note. Hedgpeth found 5 young Ruddy Ducks a few days old in Golden Gate Park, Aug. 29.

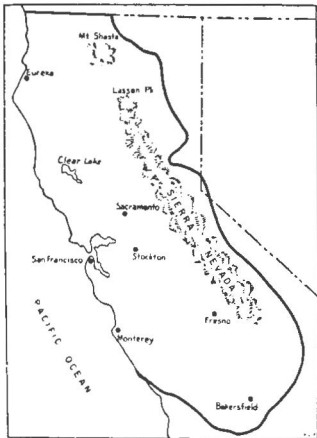
Vultures, Condors, Hawks.—At Pinnacles National Monument, San Benito Co., A. C. Reneau, Jr., watched Turkey Vultures incubating an infertile egg until after July 1. A California Condor was observed 19 miles east of Clovis on 5 days from June 28 to July 18 (Mrs. Marjory Vance). One White-tailed Kite was seen at Moss Landing, June 17 (CA, VA); 1 near Vacaville and 1 on the Sacramento By-pass, June 24 and 1 near Kenwood, Sonoma Co., July 29 (R. H. Pray). Minturn saw 2 near the mouth of the Pajaro River, Aug. 12. There were 2 Prairie Falcon's nests and 1 Peregrine Falcon's nest at Pinnacles National Monument this summer (ACR).

Pheasants, Quail, Rails.—John Cowan reported that the pheasant hatch at Gray Lodge Refuge, Gridley, was 20 per cent better than in any of the past 3 years. Fitzpatrick watched Mountain Quail at Siesta Lake, Yosemite (8100 ft.), June 13; and in the Coast Range Mrs. R. Coy found adults with young about 8 miles east of Westport on Aug. 1. On the Alviso salt marshes Etta Smith saw 2 adult Clapper Rails and 1 black young on July 9.

Shorebirds.—Black Oyster-catchers hatched 2 young at Pt. Lobos on June 23 after 29 days incubation (KL). Etta Smith counted 10 Black-bellied Plover at Alviso, June 21 and 12 on July 26. The earliest Ringed Plover reported were 2 at Moss Landing, July 1 (CA, VA) with an increase to 10 on July 18 (WBM). Etta Smith counted 57 at Alviso, July 21, and at Bay Farm Island, Alameda, Mrs. Kelly found 24 on July 24. Lesser Yellow-legs were seen at Bay Farm Island from July 24 (3) to Aug. 23 (6) by Mrs. Kelly and

MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION.—The sub-normal temperatures of the Spring Season continued into June with rainfall considerably above normal

over much of the Region. No extreme temperatures were recorded for any extended period and subnormal temperatures persisted in the San Joaquin Valley into August. Observations seem to indicate nesting of montane breeding species at or near lower altitudinal limits of their range and successful



nesting of Sonoran zone breeders.

Grebes through Ibises.—At Jenner on July 27 Joseph Kittredge counted 20 Western Grebes, and W. B. Minturn saw 10 near Santa Cruz on Aug. 3. Barbara O'Neill found many with half-grown young on Topaz Lake, Mono Co., Aug. 5. On July 17 Charles and Viola Anderson sighted thousands of Sooty Shear-

others. At Alviso, Etta Smith saw 2 Greater Yellowlegs, July 10, and 7 on July 26, with others reported at Moss Landing and Alameda during late July and August. Western Willets numbered 14 at Tomales Bay on June 17 (JK) and the beginning of fall movement was indicated by the count of about 75 on July 9 and about 225 on July 10 at Alviso (Etta Smith). The Andersons saw 2 Wandering Tattlers at Pacific Grove on July 17 and 18. Legg saw 3 on July 22; 2 on July 30 and 2 on Aug. 8 at Point Lobos; and at Santa Cruz there was one on July 20; 2 on Aug. 3, and 1 on Aug. 11 (WBM). On June 11 there were 2 Ruddy Turnstones at Moss Landing (CA, VA). Red Knots were first seen there, July 4, by S. S. Whitehead, and Minturn counted 5 on July 18 and 13, Aug. 19. The Andersons saw 6 there on July 24. There were 2 Baird's Sandpipers in the same area on July 16 and 6 on July 26 (CA, VA). Fred C. Evenden, Jr., saw 4 Am. Avocets in Upper Truckee Meadow, Lake Tahoe (6200 ft.) on May 30. Etta Smith reported a nest with 4 eggs at Alviso, May 24 and another nest with 4 eggs that hatched on June 28. By Aug. 7 there were about 200 at Dumbarton Bridge (JWK). The usual late summer gathering of Wilson's Phalaropes on Mono Lake was observed by Barbara O'Neill and Edwin R. Pickett on Aug. 5 when they reported thousands. Willy Argente found newly-hatched young at Lake Tahoe on July 18. Northern Phalaropes increased from 4 on July 18 to about 150 on Aug. 19 at Moss Landing (WBM) and from about 150 on July 21 to at least 5000 on July 26 at Alviso (Etta Smith). At Mono Lake Pickett estimated that about 10 per cent of the phalaropes present were this species on Aug. 5. The first Red Phalarope was seen at Santa Cruz, July 30, with from 2 to 5 birds along the adjacent coast on 4 days to Aug. 19 (WBM).

Jaegers, Gulls, and Terns.—Off Santa Cruz Minturn saw 2 Parasitic Jaegers on Aug. 4. At Moss Landing the same observer saw 5 Herring Gulls on July 18 and 10 on August 19. There were 7 Bonaparte's Gulls at Moss Landing, June 11 (CA, VA) and 6 on Aug. 19 (WBM). At Berkeley there were 15 on Aug. 9 (JK). The Andersons counted 35 Least Terns on June 21 at Moss Landing where they found a nest with 2 eggs and 1 large non-flying young nearby on July 1. Mrs. Kelly saw a few at Bay Farm Island, July 24, and 2 on Aug. 23. Minturn saw 30 at the Pajaro River mouth, Aug. 3, and 23 at Moss Landing, Aug. 19. In the vicinity of Santa Cruz the same observer counted 27 Pigeon Guillemots with some young in and out of nests, Aug. 11. At Point Lobos Legg reported all but a few late nesters had departed by Aug. 14.

Doves, Cuckoos, Owls.—Observers at Sacramento were agreed that Mourning Doves were much more numerous than usual in that vicinity; and at Gray Lodge Refuge, Gridley, where John Cowan has studied the nesting of Mourning Doves, he found active nests in July, the peak nesting month, 70 per cent higher than in 1952. Active nests in July 1953 were 58; 1952, 34; 1951, 32; 1950, 27; 1949, 29. For the first time in the experience of the present observers Yellow-billed Cuckoos were present on the

Sacramento By-pass from June 27 to July 27 (WKK). On June 12, Fitzpatrick and Roger Tory Peterson saw a Pygmy Owl in Badger Pass, Yosemite (7800 ft.). Great Gray Owls were seen regularly at Crane Flat and Peregrine Meadow but no nests were found this year.

Goatsuckers, Swifts and Hummingbirds.—Reneau found Poor-wills common at Pinnacles atonal Monument. White-throated Swifts were feeding noisy young under roof tiles on the Water Temple near Sunol on June 6 (Emily Smith). Two adults were carrying food to a crevice in the cliff at Point Lobos, June 21 (KL), and they were abundant at the Pinnacles during June and July (ACR). The same observer found Anna's Hummingbirds common there and located a nest with young on July 9. Hedgpeth found 37 nests of Allen's Hummingbirds in Golden Gate Park and was able to observe 24 of them adequately. The earliest that young were out of the nest was April 9, and the latest, July 5.

Flycatchers, Nuthatches.—Emily Smith watched fledgling Ash-throated Flycatchers being fed, Aug. 9, near Los Gatos. Well outside of its known range, Mrs. Coy saw a Say's Phoebe near Westport on June 25, and the high count for the summer 19 miles east of Clovis was 9 or 10 on June 15 (MV). Wright's Flycatchers were seen commonly in Yosemite Valley during early June (WJF). O'Neill and Pickett found a nest of Western Wood Pewees with small young at Whitehall, El Dorado Co., Aug. 16. Nesting records of Red-breasted Nuthatches are rare for the Coast Range south of Mendocino County so it is interesting that this year there should be two. The first was in San Francisco and was reported in the Spring Season report. The second was observed by Emily Smith at Castle Rock in the Santa Cruz Mountains where she saw a pair feeding nestlings on June 14, and fledglings near the nest site on July 4 and 5. Young Pygmy Nuthatches were fed out of the nest at Castle Rock on July 15 (Emily Smith) and young were fed in the nest near Shaver Lake, Fresno Co., Aug. 5 (RHP).

Thrushes, Kinglets, Phainopeplas.—Townsend's Solitaires continued numerous through the summer at Whitehall (3800 ft.) where an adult was flushed from a nest with 4 eggs, June 14 (WKK, ERP). At Castle Rock Emily Smith watched a female Golden-crowned Kinglet building on June 8, 10, and 14 with the male singing nearby. They were heard in the vicinity until July 14. Two were heard singing in the Butano Forest area by the same observer on June 21. The Andersons saw 3 male Phainopeplas west of Greenfield, Monterey Co., June 6.

Warblers through Sparrows.—Black and White Warblers have been recorded in California during spring and fall migration in many years and less often during winter months. This year Emily Smith saw one in Black Oaks at Castle Rock in the Santa Cruz Mountains on June 23 and again on July 4. The first Townsend's Warbler of the fall was seen in Berkeley, Aug. 13 (JK). There was a singing male Macgillivray's Warbler at Castle Rock, June 14 and July 5, and 3 others in the vicinity on June 10 and 16 (Emily Smith). In Oakland, Donald Brock reported Hooded Orioles feeding the third nest of young on Aug. 18.

The further up-mountain spread of breeding Brown-headed Cowbirds is indicated by several seen at Peregoy Meadow (7100 ft.) on June 12 (WJF). Herbert Wong found a pair of Blue Grosbeaks on the Calaveras River north of Stockton, June 28. Lazuli Buntings were present in numbers on the Sacramento Bypass, June 27 (WKK). Red Crossbills were much in

evidence at Peregoy Meadow and Crane Flat, at lower elevations than are usually frequented in summer (WJF). Bell's Sparrows were noted occasionally at Pinnacles National Monument during the summer (ACR).—RUSSELL H. PRAY, 662 *Santa Rosa Ave.*, Berkeley 7, Calif.