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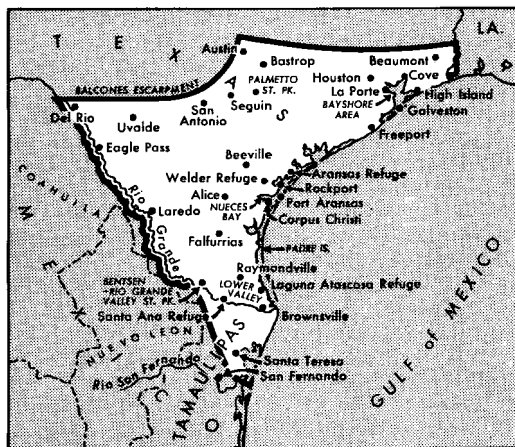
— FRANCES WILLIAMS, 3307 Neely, Midland, Tex., 79701

SOUTH TEXAS REGION

/Fred S. Webster, Jr.

The wet trend set during the latter part of the long breeding season intensified and continued until November. September and October were wet months in most areas, extremely wet in some localities. Torrential rains accompanying Hurricane Fern drenched the central coast; coastal counties n. and e. of Corpus Christi received up to 20 in., while the community of Papalote, Bee Co., about 25 mi. n. of Corpus Christi, caught 35 in. over a two-day period. Heavy rains followed the storm's course inland to the Mexican border. Throughout the season, some excessively heavy rains occurred as a result of instability or frontal passage, but these were confined to relatively small areas; however, rainfall from whatever triggering action adds up, and it must have seemed that major streams in the western half of the Region were running at flood stage more often than not. Shifflett, resident manager of Santa Ana Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, wrote "The first flood occurred on Sept. 21, and covered approximately 80 per cent of the refuge. No sooner had the first receded when a second flood covered the entire refuge except for scattered patches. Water remained on the uplands for about two weeks. Most of the vegetation in the lakes seem to have been washed away and most herbaceous vegetation was drowned." At Welder Wildlife Refuge, Cottam commented on the extreme conditions to which wildlife habitat there had been subjected in recent seasons: high waters of Hurricane Beulah in September 1967, tree-stripping winds of Hurricane

Celia in August 1970, unprecedented drought from December 1970 to August 1971, and finally, devastating rains of Fern. South Texas must have appeared a bit unfamiliar to migrating birds, and some shift in feeding areas became a necessity; brim-full reservoirs were short on aquatic plant food, but this loss was offset by countless intermittent ponds and flooded pastures along the coastal prairies. Dispersal of waterfowl, waders and shorebirds must have been greater than usual, and may account for scarcity of reports of large concentrations for most species. A mild, frost-free fall extended the growing and blooming season for many plants beyond the normal time span, and late grasses and weeds — brought on by drought-breaking rains during the summer — contributed food and cover for migrants. Insect populations thrived throughout the season. It would appear that resident birds — particularly waterfowl and quail, whose nesting activity



had been curtailed during the dry spring — would respond to the transformed environment with a late nesting attempt. Such, indeed, was the case with quail; however, nesting success was minimized in many areas as rains continued. Along the inland course of Fern, nesting was definitely terminated, according to the Bones. Some dead Bobwhite and Scaled Quail were found, apparently drowned, where brush cover was not available. The Axtells, travelling on U.S. 77 in Kenedy Co. Oct. 16, found nesting activity on intermittent lakes along the highway: Pied-billed Grebes being fed at 1 nest and another nest had incubation in progress, a Black-bellied Tree Duck had downy young, and a Com. Gallinule family had small young.

HURRICANE FERN — This erratic storm began as a tropical depression e. of Florida Aug. 29, subsequently crossed c. Florida and attained hurricane status around midnight on Sept. 8 while some 230 miles e. of Brownsville. After menacing first one and then another section of the Texas coast, Fern reached land at 7 a.m. Sept. 10 midway between Matagorda and Freeport, however, she changed direction then and moved s.w. along the coast. At 7 p.m. Fern stalled over Corpus Christi Bay with 60 m.p.h. winds near the center, but later resumed a s.w. course inland and

crossed the Rio Grande near Falcon Reservoir about 1 p.m. Sept. 12. In the absence of extremely high tides and winds, Fern will be remembered mainly for heavy rainfall. Reports of birds in relation to the storm are insufficient to construct a clear picture, but there are tantalizing implications. From Rockport, Mrs. McGuire reported high tides, gale force winds from the n.e. and driving rain. "Lamar Peninsula was loaded with swallows on the wires all day long and one flock of Pintails and a few teal battled the wind." The eye passed Rockport between 6 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Sept. 10 with a wind shift to the s.e. At Bayside, about 10 miles w. of Rockport across Copano Bay, the weather station observer reported a wind drop to 4-5 mph between 3:15 p.m. and 4 p.m. with very little rain, "and hundreds of birds flying in a s.w. direction." "It poured intermittently on Sept. 11," Mrs. McGuire continued. "All the trees in this area were loaded with swallows. When the rains let up, the sky would be filled with hawkling birds. Even hummingbirds were snapping insects from the air. Sept. 12 was really our day for E. Kingbirds, *Empidonax* flycatchers, martins and warblers." Mrs. McGuire noted that at Ingleside, about 12 miles s.w. of Rockport, the big pushdown likewise occurred on Sept. 11 and 12, but that this phenomenon was confined to the immediate coast. At Corpus Christi, Mrs. McCracken reported that passerines were seen in subdivisions near the bay but not as far inland as her home (13 miles). As for what happened on the barrier islands, we have a few second-hand reports. The weather station observer at Aransas Pass reported that "Mr. Raymond Diffie, ranch foreman on St. Joseph I., reported observing gusts to 85 mph during the evening of Sept. 10 on the island. Mr. Diffie also noted thousands of swallows accompanying the eye of Fern as she drifted over the island. These same birds were noted in Aransas Pass during the eye. The birds remained on St. Joseph I. after the passage of the storm." Mrs. McCracken contributed the following: "Derek Hambly, chief naturalist of Padre I. Nat'l Seashore, observed a good migration of passerines and shorebirds on Sunday (Sept. 12). He saw flocks of swallows 'too numerous to count,' tired and resting on the road. Later on Sunday, Beth Payne saw many dead birds on Padre I. roads, apparently traffic victims." From Falfurrias, about 60 miles s.w. of Corpus Christi, the Bones reported, "Late afternoon Sept. 11, during the calm following Fern's passage, wave after wave of martins flew over our home in w. Falfurrias, in urgent haste, some high, some so low they had to dodge our TV antenna, all chirping as they flew straight south, by the hundreds. A mile or so to the east, a similar flight was occurring, but here the birds were flying directly north. Seven miles n.e. of Falfurrias, over the Minten farm, martins were milling in circles. During the night Fern blew some more, and next day there was no sign of the martins."

HURRICANE EDITH — Edith struck the coast of Nicaragua on Sept. 9 with 175 mph winds, moved across the Yucatan Peninsula, and appeared in the Gulf of Mexico on Sept. 12. She moved slowly n. along the Mexican coast to about 100 miles s. of Brownsville, then late on the afternoon of Sept. 14, veered n.e. and her final landfall, the w. Louisiana

coast. Another glimpse at mostly unrealized birding possibilities was provided by John Arvin "when Edith lay some 40 miles offshore from S. Padre I. (Presumably Sept. 14 — Ed.) The weather was ugly with intermittent squalls with wind gusts to 45 mph and lashing showers. A brief foray to S. Padre I. showed a fantastic number of migrants literally being swirled about like autumn leaves. Many species normally found in dense cover were simply standing on the ground. The dune grasses swarmed with birds and the only natural thicket on the island (near the causeway) contained an estimated minimum of 100 birds per scrubby mesquite or tepehuaje. Perhaps because they tend to stay in the open more, I had the impression that the larger flycatchers (E. Kingbirds, Great Crested Flycatchers and Olive-sided Flycatchers) were extraordinarily abundant." Arvin estimated 5000 E. Kingbirds at the s. tip of the island. Later in the day, in Port Isabel, he counted "17 Olive-sided Flycatchers on a stretch of telephone wire between two poles, and they were about as dense as far as I could see down the line." It should be added that unusually great numbers of passerine migrants were seen in the vicinity of San Benito, about 30 miles w. of Port Isabel, between Sept. 14 and 16 (CEH).

GREBES, PELICANS, BOOBIES, ANHINGA — A **Red-necked Grebe**, rare in this Region, was seen near Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Nov. 14 (JA & JCA). Five hundred White Pelicans touched down at Austin Sept. 17 (fide BRib), and 2200 passed over Bartlett, about 40 mi. n. of Austin, Oct. 4-5 (REC). An imm. **Brown Booby**, apparently weary but uninjured, was found resting on the parking lot of the Port Aransas police station Sept. 21 (HOM). The largest migrating flock of Anhingas in McKay's many years of birding — about 800 birds — was observed at Cove Oct. 7.

HERONS, JABIRU, IBISES, SPOONBILLS — Hundreds of "white herons" swarmed to flooded areas along the lower Nueces R. in August and September (KM). Record numbers of herons frequented an Austin sewage pond from mid-July through August. Peak daily counts were 18 Little Blue Herons, 15 Com. Egrets, 30 Snowy Egrets, and 34 Louisiana Herons (JLR et al.). A shallow water level was maintained at this pond, attracting shorebirds as well as waders. A **Jabiru** (*Jabiru mycteria*) was observed occasionally in coastal Kleberg Co. during October. Apparently this was a quite wild bird rather than an escape, although it would not normally be expected this side of the Mexican state of Chiapas. Details will be published elsewhere. This stork-like tropical species gained the hypothetical list of *The A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds*, 5th Ed: 645 on the basis of a specimen donated to the museum of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences about 1867. It was asserted to have been taken near Austin, Texas, but when George Finlay Simmons published *Birds of the Austin Region* (U. of Texas Press) in 1925, the specimen apparently had dropped from sight and detailed data were lacking. Since Simmons' day, the Jabiru has been deleted from even hypothetical lists (with the exception noted above) and is seldom referred to except in jest. Birders (including the writer) who have ridiculed this ancient record may now feel a few qualms. After all, in the 1860's the c. Texas

environment would have been much more acceptable to an errant Jabiru than it is today. Some 500 White-faced Ibises, a noteworthy number for this species, were found in a flooded field in w. Matagorda Co. Oct. 18 (HHA). Post-nuptial wandering of Roseate Spoonbills apparently took them farther inland than usual. San Antonio's Mitchell L. was an excellent locale for this species during the second half of August (ERB, AD, JAM et al.); as many as 42 were counted Aug. 30 (RAA). Two imm. visited the Austin sewage ponds July 16-Aug. 21 and were joined by 2 more Aug. 2-5 (MAM, BRib, JLR et al.); there are very few previous records for the Austin area.

WATERFOWL — A mild fall and good food sources held sizeable segments of our normal winter goose populations at points n. of the Region. Canada Geese were passing over Austin as early as Oct. 5 (MAM), White-fronted Geese over Rockport by Sept. 25 (DNM), and Snow and Blue Geese over Rockport (DNM) and Cove (CP & DP) Oct. 7. By late October, apparently, the major influx was accomplished. The peak count of Snow and Blue Geese at Brazoria Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, 1300 on Oct. 21, was "far below last year" (RJF). Region-wide, Blue-winged Teal were showing up in good numbers by early September. In the Corpus Christi area, Canvasbacks "came early and in the greatest numbers I have seen" (KM); a count of 43 at Rockport Nov. 25 was "highest in years" (DNM). A ♀ **Oldsquaw** appeared at Austin Nov. 13 and remained through the season (RTH, MAM, BRib et al.). A **Surf Scoter** was found at Austin Oct. 16 (EAK & FO); this or another individual was seen Nov. 4 & 20 (MAM). A crippled ♀ of the quite rare **Com. Scoter** was found at Cove Nov. 6 (CP & DP). A high count of 225 Red-breasted Mergansers was made at Anahuac Nat'l Wildlife Refuge Dec. 1 (RWC).

HAWKS — Single Swallow-tailed Kites were seen in e. Washington Co. Aug. 20 (ELB & AHG) and at Austin Oct. 5 (AMW & FSW). Early on the morning of Oct. 4, the Arvins saw an **Everglade Kite** fly over fresh water marsh behind the dunes on South Padre I. and pass directly overhead. They followed it to the s. tip of the island whence the bird crossed Brazos Santiago Pass and disappeared in the direction of Boca Chica. This bird was identified as a "Snail" Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis major*), a race of the Everglade Kite of Florida, which inhabits fresh water marsh in the tropical lowlands of e. Mexico. This sight record, probably a first for Texas, is submitted on the authority of the Arvins' familiarity with this species in Veracruz. Three peak migration periods for the Broad-winged Hawk emerge from a mass of data. A mid-September push is indicated by the following: 1150 at Kountze, Hardin Co. (EWM) and 50 at Houston (MA et al.) Sept. 13, 400 at Goliad (Mrs. JHP) and 250 at Falfurrias (AWO) Sept. 14, and 125 at Santa Ana Refuge Sept. 15 (WAS). Mileage-wise and time-wise, one could theorize that these records represent a single flight, moving w. then s., while remaining approximately 50 mi. from the gulf beaches, but the writer dares not hazard this opinion. Records of the second major push, herewith listed chronologically, apparently represent

several different flights: 4300 at Kountze Sept. 22 (EWM), 1000 circling over Edinburg in the Lower Rio Grande Valley Sept. 23 (WAS), 1000 (*Buteos* — probably Broad-wingeds) at Beeville (AHG) and 500 e. of Zapata, Zapata Co., (JHP & RDZ) Sept. 24, and 2000 (*Buteos*) at Mathis, San Patricio Co., Sept. 25 (fide AHG). An early October migration provides an interesting sequence and would suggest a single flight if there were adequate assurance that the flight had been grounded for two days between the c. coast and the Rio Grande. The records are as follows: 10,000 at St. Paul, San Patricio Co., in about 30 minutes from 9 a.m. (ELB & AHG), 225 at Falfurrias (OCB) on Oct. 4, and 11,600 near Mission in the Lower Valley Oct. 7. The latter observation was made at 9:15 a.m. on a misty, sunny morning after days of rain. Although the beginning of the flight was not seen, 10,000 hawks were estimated in the first 20 minutes. "They came spiraling up over the citrus groves to the north, in groups of about 300, and drifted due s. between the cities of Mission and McAllen." Since "many hawks" had been seen the day before, resting in trees along the road to McCook, about 20 mi. n., it was assumed that the flight had spent the night in that vicinity (GD). The only large counts of Swainson's Hawks were 400 at Falfurrias Oct. 3 (AWO), 500 at Falfurrias Oct. 5 (OCB), 500 n. of Eagle Pass Oct. 8 (HHA), and 630 at Falcon Dam Oct. 11 (HHA). Ospreys were appearing throughout the Region by Sept. 20. Reports were usually of single birds, but 4 were observed southbound over Austin Oct. 5 (FSW). The first Peregrine Falcon was reported at Cove Sept. 28 (CP & DP). A few additional reports came from coastal localities; farthest inland was 1 seen at Falcon Dam Oct. 9 (HHA). Sparrow Hawks were distributed through the Lower Valley by Sept. 20 (JHP & RDZ). At Bartlett, 57 Sparrow Hawks "came in on the evening of Oct. 4 and all landed on power lines in the space of approximately 200 ft." On the following day, 82 were counted flying high overhead (REC). At Austin, Oct. 5 was overcast with sprinkles and moderate northerly winds; throughout the day Accipiters and falcons flew swiftly downwind, interspersed with small spirals of Broad-wingeds and Swainson's Hawks. Sparrow Hawks were most common; 70+ were counted between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (FSW).

CRANES, RAILS — By the end of the year, 59 Whooping Cranes had been checked in by Aransas Nat'l Wildlife Refuge personnel; the total included 5 young. Twenty birds turned up between Oct. 18 and 30, and 26 more were added on Nov. 6. The migration was considered normal except for the addition of 3 adults and 1 young on Dec. 7. According to refuge records, no families had arrived later than Nov. 24 before this year, the odds being against a safe passage at such a late date. As of Dec. 29, 3 subsequent aerial counts had failed to relocate the tardy family. Brown reported the refuge in very good condition for wintering cranes. "The tidal waters and mud flats seem to have ample supplies of crabs, clams and other food organisms and the cranes have been generally observed on established territories" (RCB). A major flight of Sandhill Cranes

passed over the Austin area during the first week of November. At Anahuac Refuge, top count of Virginia Rails was 17 on Nov. 12. Soras were most numerous on Sept. 17 (50) and 25 (45), with relatively few seen since those dates. Yellow Rails were recorded as early as Sept. 17, but few were seen until Nov. 12 when 30 were counted. Two Black Rails were seen Sept. 17, and 1 on Nov. 12 (RWC). Due to preoccupation with an unexpectedly heavy workload, Anahuac Refuge personnel do not plan to schedule their famous "rail rides" until possibly late March.

SHOREBIRDS — Migrant shorebirds were coming into Austin in some numbers by July 10, with a record early Snowy Plover. The sewage ponds attracted unusually large numbers of Pectoral, Least, Stilt, Semipalmated and W. Sandpipers during late July (VLE & JLR). A high count of 950 Greater Yellowlegs was made at Anahuac Refuge Nov. 12 (RWC). Three Knots were seen at Austin Aug. 26 (MAM); this is only the second record for the locality. This species was in good numbers on Mustang I. by late September (DNM). Two White-rumped Sandpipers were seen at Cove July 22, McKay's second fall record; there are few fall records for the upper coast. Seekers after the Buff-breasted Sandpiper are almost certain to find it on the levees of the Austin sewage ponds some time during the spring and fall; this season, the top count was 25 on Aug. 5 (JLR). A Ruff was found at High I. upper coast, on Sept. 25 by a field trip party of the Houston Audubon Society. It was seen and photographed by others the following day. (JLT et al.). A concentration of 400 Am. Avocets was found near Port Isabel on Sept. 22 (JHP & RDZ). A N. Phalarope was found at Austin Nov. 4-5 (MAM, NCO, BRib et al.)

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS — An imm. Long-tailed Jaeger was discovered near Gilchrist on Bolivar Peninsula Nov. 27 (JH & HN). It was seen as late as Nov. 30 and much photographed (NCO, BRib, JLT et al.). A bird identified as a Lesser Black-backed Gull was studied closely on Boca Chica Beach, Cameron Co., Oct. 21 (LK & JW); Miss Walker has known this species elsewhere and submitted a satisfactory description. Seven Bonaparte's Gulls were seen at Austin Nov. 20 (BRib), probably a record high count. Common Terns were quite common in Galveston Channel Sept. 11 (EAK & JWW, et al.).

CUCKOOS, HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS — Single Black-billed Cuckoos, rare in fall in the Lower Valley, were seen near Rio Hondo, Cameron Co. (JHP & RDZ) and on South Padre I. Sept. 18 (JCA) On Oct. 30-31, at a hedge of Turk's cap and trumpet vine in the Laguna Vista area of South Padre I., Arvin observed a ♀ Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Rufous Hummingbirds, a ♀ Blue-throated Hummingbird, and 2 Buff-bellied Hummingbirds. A Ringed Kingfisher flew over Edinburg Aug. 11 (JCA), and one was observed at Pleasanton, Atascosa Co., Nov. 6 (BB, JB & RP).

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS — The first fall flock of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers was seen on S. Padre I. Oct. 13 (JA & JCA). This species was migrating in numbers through the Mission area Oct. 15-19 (GD). A few individuals remained in the Region in November.

A Kiskadee visited Corpus Christi for several days in late October and 2 appeared at Alice a few days later (fide KM). *Empidonax* flycatchers were seen frequently at Austin between July 24-Oct. 4. Many were observed at High I. (EAK & JWW) and at Rockport Sept. 11 (DNM), and a push was noted at San Antonio Sept. 12 (fide CRB). At Madero, Hidalgo Co., on Oct. 8, 120 swallows on a wire proved to be evenly divided between Violet-green and Barn (GD). The former species is not included on Lower Valley area checklists, but occurs as a straggler to the c. coast.

CROWS, NUTHATCHES, WRENS — Mexican Crows (*Corvus imparatus*) returned to the Brownsville municipal garbage dump; on Oct. 14, the Axtells watched several hundred flying in from the southeast. The only Red-breasted Nuthatch reported this fall was 1 at High L. Oct. 10 (LB & TBF). House Wrens arrived at Corpus Christi by Oct. 2 and were numerous (KM). Peak numbers were seen in the Mission area between Oct. 26-Nov. 2, after which they dropped off sharply (GD).

MIMIDS, THRUSHES — Catbirds were common at High I. Oct. 9-10 (LB, TBF, DS), but were not reported in comparable numbers elsewhere during the season. Two Brown Thrashers were seen on S. Padre I. Oct. 10 (JA & JCA). Thus far, to the writer's knowledge, this species has not been found in Mexico, although a few migrate s. along Padre I. A Sage Thrasher was observed at San Antonio Nov. 14 (ML). Robins were coming into the Austin area in small numbers by Nov. 6, but a poor or late flight was indicated. A check of juniper woodland west of Austin on the morning of Nov. 4 revealed a good overnight influx of Hermit Thrushes (FSW).

KINGLETS, PHAINOPEPLA — The Golden-crowned Kinglet was noted at Houston Oct. 28 (DHH). First Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen at San Antonio on Sept. 16 (AH). A male Phainopepla was reported at San Antonio Nov. 13 (BRic); this species is resident locally within 250 mi. w. of San Antonio.

VIREOS, WARBLERS — Hudson commented on the unusual numbers of Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireos at San Benito Sept. 14-16. Red-eyed Vireos were concentrated in the Galveston area Sept. 11-12. The warbler migration was notable for variety if not for numbers; however, actual counts for storm period waves are not available. Checks of the High I. migrant woods indicated these peaks: Black-and-white Warbler Sept. 11 (EAK & JWW) and Oct. 9 (TBF & DS) and 10 (LB & TBF), Magnolia Warbler Oct. 9 (25) and 10 (25), Chestnut-sided Warbler Oct. 9 (28) and 10 (20), Canada Warbler Sept. 11, and Am. Redstart Oct. 9. Unusual observations include a Swainson's Warbler at Austin Sept. 15 (WJL), a second locality record, a ♂ Black-throated Blue Warbler at High I. Oct. 10 (LB, VLE & TBF), a Black-throated Gray Warbler at Rockport Sept. 11 (DNM & WMP) and 4 Palm Warblers "on the ground just before dark" at Rockport Sept. 11 (DNM).

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES — Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds were found at Anahuac Refuge Oct. 9 (TBF & DS). Orchard Orioles were noted at Corpus Christi

July 20-Aug. 9, with most (50) on Aug. 1 (KM).

FRINGILLIDS — Seven Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at High I. Oct. 10 (LB & TBF) represent a good fall count. A ♂ Varied Bunting with 2 unidentified ♀♀ was seen on S. Padre I. Oct. 16 (LK & JW). An unusual fall concentration of Dickcissels was noted at Rockport Sept. 11 (DNM). Purple Finches were appearing on the upper coast and in n.c. areas during the second half of November. A Clay-colored Sparrow at High I. Oct. 9 (TBF & DS) was unusual. On the whole, sparrow data is scant, perhaps indicating a late migration.

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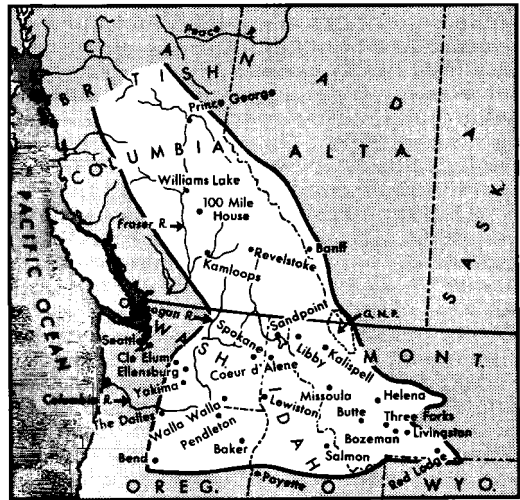
NORTHERN ROCKY MOUNTAIN-INTERMOUNTAIN REGION

/ Thomas H. Rogers

The latter half of August continued the trend of hot, dry weather that started in mid-July. The pattern broke rather sharply the first week of September, when substantial rains were general over the Region. In this cooler-than-normal month, Walla Walla had the fifth coldest September since 1886, Yakima established record lows on the 15th and 29th and s. interior British Columbia posted record lows during the first week. Except for the Spokane and Missoula areas, which were decidedly dry, the Region in general was wet, with up to twice or more normal precipitation. After a pleasant spell just after the beginning of October the weather again turned cool. After the 13th maximum temperatures reached normal at Spokane only once, on the 22nd. Yet the general picture was one of drought, with some areas receiving only about one-third normal moisture, although a few approached normal. At the end of the month winter struck an early blow, with snow in the valleys even at Yakima and the Tri-cities (Pasco-Kennewick-Richland) in Washington. Yakima reached +11°F. and Missoula, 0°. Standing water froze but thawed in November, when temperatures, normal

at last, removed the premature snow cover from the lowlands. However, the trend of moisture shortage continued, the only exception being Walla Walla, distinctly wet.

In a few instances weather appeared to affect migration by producing concentrations of birds — notably the October snowstorm — but in general there seemed



to be no indication that the cool autumn had hurried departures. In fact, in the Bozeman and Missoula areas a large number of late and record late dates were reported. These probably had little or no significance, since they seemed to represent only late stragglers, not the main body of migrants. At Turnbull Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Cheney, Wash., the waterfowl migration actually appeared to be somewhat delayed.

Bohemian Waxwings arrived early at several localities with, or shortly after, the snow and cold at October's end. Weather might have caused this, but it has been my impression that food supply rather than weather is the chief factor affecting winter movements of these birds. Except for Red Crossbills the "northern finches" were not much in evidence.

LOONS AND GREBES — Beside the Com. Loon, largest number, 12 on Okanagan L. at Peachland, B.C. Oct. 10, two other species of loons were reported. An Arctic Loon was seen in Blue L., Grant Co., Wash. Nov. 28 and Dec. 4 (JA, WH). This is the fifth consecutive autumn the species has been found in e. Washington. A Red-throated Loon on Ochoco Reservoir just east of Princeville, Ore. Oct. 31 may have been the first for e. Oregon (JK). At the same place and date Knox saw at least 25 Horned Grebes, presumably a migrating group. At least 200 W. Grebes were counted on Okanagan L. near Penticton Sept. 22 (SRC). In the Yakima, Wash. area three observers recorded 26 Pied-billed Grebes in twelve days' afield, between Aug. 31 and Nov. 13, with 5 the largest number in one day. This was considered about normal.

PELICANS, CORMORANTS AND HERONS — The last dates for the White Pelican and the Double-crested Cormorant in the Bozeman area were Sept. 18 and Oct. 10 respectively. An occasional bird of the former