

broken tree lines of the lake shores on the horizons, above which the prairie circle of white encompassing clouds closed in, making the Slough a little world apart.

The west wind bent down the seeded tops of the brown grass so that it was easy to wade east with their bowed heads giving way before me, but in wading west against the wind I had to force my way through the dense stand, sometimes entangling my feet. Wading up and down north and south, however, was comparatively easy. Except in the natural openings, the only way I could see the water was by pressing the grass down with my probing stick. One platform and a few suggestions of nests were found in this way, one showing prettily how the first stalks are bent down, still attached.

With the sun in the west, under water the stalks of the slough grass were golden; and even my brown, bark-covered stick turned to gold. The clear sparkling surface was patterned with intricate reflections of grass stems, and when a surface chink admitted, white cloud masses were hinted in the mirror. What a rare place to live! What a cover! A waving grassy cover, waving and softly seething in the wind.

In forcing my way through, no birds were seen, but a sudden splash often told of some one gone before, and in a Coot colony the birds were all around me, some answering my *te-tub, te-tub*, while others barked and laughed and coughed as if choking—one choked almost under my hand and another startled one spat out its *tub* almost in my face, while the voices of young added to the confusion. But only one flash of feathers did I get in this dense protecting jungle. At one of the openings of a tule bordered pool where there was a warning smell of sulphur, I heard the challenging *tip, tip, tip-r'r-r-up* of an invisible Ruddy Duck. Other ducks, singly or in pairs occasionally crossed over the Slough, a female Mallard gave her loud *quack*, or a Barn Swallow circled over the brown sea of grass; while overhead the white clouds encircled this microcosm, a place of abounding life and rare beauty.

(To be continued)

THE BREEDING BIRDS OF BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

By ROY W. QUILLIN and RIDLEY HOLLEMAN

FOR the student of Ornithology, Bexar County is perhaps the most ideally situated of any area of its size in Texas. Being on the dividing line between hills and prairie lands, it contains practically all the birds of these two diverse regions. The northwestern and western portions are rocky hills covered with cedar, small oaks of several species and other trees and shrubs of that category. The various small creeks have cut numerous valleys and ravines in these soft limestone hills, producing many cliffs and ledges. The majority of these are worn until they slope rather brokenly, only the harder strata offering sufficient resistance to the elements to remain abruptly steep. This is especially true of Cibolo Creek, which forms the boundary line of the county in this section. The southern portion is more or less sandy, and is covered with mesquite, cactus and the many varieties of thorny bushes which form the so-called chaparral. The bottom lands of the Medina River, which passes through this

area, are heavily timbered with pecan, hackberry, walnut, elm, oaks, and various forms of underbrush. The soil of the eastern and northeastern portions of the county varies from sand to a heavy loam. Mesquite and oaks thrive equally well, the former reaching a size which is not attained elsewhere in this county.

Birds which are fairly common in the hilly section are rarely found in the mesquite area, this being especially true during the nesting season. The reverse of this statement is true as regards those species found in the chaparral and mesquite area. In fact this appears to be the meeting and overlapping point of the various breeding ranges. To appreciate this fully, one has to collect a season or two in order to become familiar with the various birds and their preferred localities.

While this portion of Texas has long been looked upon as thickly populated with Raptores, our observations point to exactly the opposite. Of the birds of prey, the larger hawks are suffering the most rapid decline; the owls are seemingly holding their own with more success, which is perhaps due to their nocturnal habits and the fact that they are found only in the heaviest timber. We note no decline in either the Black or Turkey vultures, as they are plentiful over the entire county, and not persecuted by gunners as are the hawks and owls.

The notes and material used in compiling this list were taken during the breeding seasons of 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915 and 1916. As our time has ever been limited, we have not had sufficient opportunity to closely study some species which are to be found in the more remote portions of the county. This is especially true of the warblers and other small species which inhabit the dense cedar brakes. Every precaution has been taken in identifying all of our material, and no species is admitted to this list of which we have the slightest doubt as to its identity.

As the reader will note, the majority of our water birds have been observed at Mitchell's Lake. This body of water, covering some twelve hundred acres, lies in the chaparral area of the county, and into it the sewers of San Antonio empty. As the lake is controlled by a local hunting club, the public at large has little access to it, and therefore the birds are not disturbed during their nesting season. Its dense patches of reeds, thickets of willows and other natural attractions, offer ideal nesting sites, advantage of which is being taken by an increasing number of birds and species each year.

This list has been compiled through our own personal efforts, and believing that records exist of birds nesting here of which we have no data, we will appreciate any information along these lines, as we are anxious to possess as nearly as possible a complete list of the breeding birds of Bexar County.

Colymbus nigricollis californicus. American Eared Grebe. This species is found only at Mitchell's Lake, where a few pairs nest each season, placing their floating nests in some sheltered nook where they will not be destroyed by the wind or water. They nest in June and July.

Colymbus dominicus brachypterus. Mexican Grebe. Five nests located in the season of 1916 form our only records of this species. It nests only at Mitchell's Lake, from the latter part of June through July.

Anhinga anhinga. Anhinga. At Mitchell's Lake a small colony of this species has grown from five pairs of birds in 1913 to about fifteen pairs in 1916. They breed from the middle of May through June.

Querquedula cyanoptera. Cinnamon Teal. We have observed a few broods of young of this species on Mitchell's Lake.

Spatula clypeata. Shoveller. Young of this species accompanied by the old fe-

males have been seen on Mitchell's Lake. As these birds are not supposed to nest in this locality it is possible that the parents of these broods were wounded during the hunting season and unable to return to their usual breeding grounds. Adults of this and the former species were identified in June, 1916, by Captain F. B. Eastman, U. S. A., who has had wide experience with these birds in their northern haunts.

***Erismatura jamaicensis*.** Ruddy Duck. A few pairs of these birds nest each season at Mitchell's Lake. Our first record, in 1913, was of a nicely constructed nest containing two heavily incubated eggs. In 1914 two nests containing four eggs each, and one set of seven, were found on June 21. Both eggs and birds were identified by Captain Eastman.

***Plegadis guarana*.** White-faced Glossy Ibis. In June, 1916, three pairs of these birds appeared at Mitchell's Lake, and on July 2, we succeeded in locating a nest containing four heavily incubated eggs. This was our first record.

***Ardetta exilis*.** Least Bittern. A rare bird in this county and growing more scarce each year. We have located it at only two places, Mitchell's Lake and a small marshy creek about five miles from it, where it nests from the latter part of May to the middle of July.

***Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis*.** Louisiana Heron. While no nests of this species have been located, a few birds were seen during the nesting season each year at Mitchell's Lake in company with other herons, and we are positive that they breed there.

***Butorides virescens virescens*.** Green Heron. Fairly common throughout the county, nesting along the various creeks and at Mitchell's Lake. Most frequently found at the latter point. They nest in May and June.

***Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*.** Black-crowned Night Heron. This species nests commonly at Mitchell's Lake, the only locality where we have found it. Nests here in May and June.

***Gallinula galeata*.** Florida Gallinule. Fairly common on Mitchell's Lake, the only locality where we have observed it. Nests in June and July.

***Gallinula martinica*.** Purple Gallinule. Fairly common at Mitchell's Lake and becoming more so each year. Nests of this species are better built than those of the Florida Gallinule, and are placed at a greater elevation from the water. The majority are rarely under two feet, and in a few cases, where the exceptional growth of the reeds permitted, they were found four or five feet from the water. Some are placed on the densely matted boughs in thickets of willows growing in shallow water, but these are always placed lower than those found in the reeds. In regard to the number of eggs of this species, six is the maximum number, the majority averaging four and five eggs. Out of scores of nests examined only four nests contained more than six eggs, three of these holding seven eggs and one eight. Nests from the early part of June to the middle of July.

***Fulica americana*.** American Coot. Our most common species of the family. It is plentiful at Mitchell's Lake, and nests have been located in other suitable localities. It nests rather irregularly, but the season apparently reaches its height from the middle of June to the middle of July.

***Oxyechus vociferus*.** Killdeer. Fairly common throughout the county, nesting wherever a small pond of water affords a feeding ground. The eggs are laid from the middle of April through June.

***Colinus virginianus texanus*.** Texas Bob-white. Common resident, nesting throughout this county, but is more plentiful in the prairie portion, which offers better shelter and food. It nests from April to June.

***Callipepla squamata castanogastris*.** Chestnut-bellied Scaled Partridge. While no nest of this species has been located in this county, the birds are frequently found in the adjoining counties to the south, and as they are commonly seen in the southern part of this county, we admit the species to this list. Nests in April and May.

***Zenaidura macroura marginella*.** Western Mourning Dove. Very abundant during the nesting season. Our earliest date is February 20, on which two nests with fresh eggs were found, and our latest, September 24, when the same number of nests, one containing fresh eggs and the other heavily incubated eggs, were found. This species, however, is rapidly decreasing, owing to the hunting season on doves opening on September 1, at which time thousands of young are still in the nests, where they starve when their par-

ents are shot by so-called sportsmen. It is expected that the opening date will be changed to November 1 at the next meeting of the legislature.

Scardafella inca. Inca Dove. The habits of this species are peculiar. It is common over the entire city of San Antonio, and especially plentiful in the suburbs, while it is rarely met with in the brush or woods. It nests from March through September, one pair in the writers' yard rearing four broods this season.

Cathartes aura septentrionalis. Turkey Vulture. Plentiful over the entire county. Nests wherever the locality is suitable, but in larger numbers in the hilly portions, which, in their numerous limestone cliffs, offer better nesting sites. Nests from the latter part of February to the middle of April.

Catharista urubu. Black Vulture. Common. Habits and nesting sites similar to those of the preceding species.

Accipiter cooperi. Cooper Hawk. On May 9, 1915, a nest containing four fresh eggs of this species was found in a heavily wooded river bottom. This is our only breeding record. The birds are frequently seen here in the winter and early spring, but they become rare by the time their nesting season approaches.

Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi. Harris Hawk. Though the most plentiful of our hawks, it is still by no means common. Prefers to nest in the mesquite regions, while other hawks seek the more heavily timbered localities. Nests from March to the middle of May.

Buteo borealis calurus. Western Red-tail. A set of three heavily incubated eggs taken March 20, 1914, forms our only record of this species. It is exceedingly rare in this county and found only in the isolated timbered localities.

Buteo lineatus alleni. Florida Red-shouldered Hawk. Very rare. Nests under the same conditions and in the same localities as the former.

Circus hudsonius. Marsh Hawk. This is our most common hawk during the winter months, but it becomes exceedingly rare at the approach of spring. Apparently only a few stragglers remain to nest here, during March and April.

Polyborus cheriway. Audubon Caracara. On February 27, 1916, we flushed a female of this species from a gigantic nest of broom-weed in an oak tree, about fifteen feet up. At this date it contained three fresh eggs. The nest was kept under observation, and on April 30 it contained two fresh eggs. One of the birds was constantly on the lookout, and its warning cry sent its mate from the nest like a flash, unless approached with extreme caution. This is the only pair of birds and the only occupied nest which has come under our observation in this county.

Aluco pratincola. American Barn Owl. This is the most common of our larger owls, but is not plentiful. It nests in cavities and small caves in the limestone and clay cliffs of the various creeks, from the latter part of January through March.

Strix varia helveola. Texas Barred Owl. The rarest of our owls. Seldom seen and we have been able to locate only one nest, which contained two young about two weeks old, on March 5, 1916.

Otus asio mcCalli. Texas Screech Owl. Fairly common in all sections of the county. Nests in almost any sort of cavity, either natural or those drilled by the woodpeckers, seemingly preferring the latter when dug in telephone poles and enlarged by constant use. Nests from the latter part of March to the middle of May.

Bubo virginianus pallescens. Western Horned Owl. This bird is rare in this county, but a few nests may be found each season. Owing to the lack of hollows of sufficient size, and to the scarcity of hawk nests, this species is most commonly found nesting in the small caves which abound in the limestone cliffs of the hill area. Horned Owls also nest in holes in the clay banks of the Medina River, which are often fifteen to thirty-five feet in height. This is also true of the Barn and Barred owls. Nests from the middle of January through February.

Speotyto cunicularia hypogaea. Burrowing Owl. A small colony of these owls, containing about twenty pairs, is located about eight miles south of San Antonio. They nest in March and April.

Geococcyx californianus. Roadrunner. Common over the entire county, but nesting more abundantly in those localities which contain the heaviest brush, this being especially true of the thick oak motts of the hilly portions. Nests are usually placed in the vicinity of a farm house. Why this is done is hard to understand, as the majority of farmers shoot the birds on sight. They nest from the middle of April through June.

Coccyzus americanus americanus. Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Common in all portions of the county, but like the Roadrunner, seems to prefer the heavier brush and small oaks as nesting sites. Nests rather erratically here, from April to July, more frequently in June; the nests are placed from two feet up in the bushes to thirty-five feet in the oaks.

Ceryle americana septentrionalis. Texas Kingfisher. A rare bird in this county. While we have never been able to locate an inhabited nest, we have found several burrows in the clay banks of the Medina and San Antonio rivers, and observed the birds in the vicinity in April, May and June of 1916. We were not permitted to examine these burrows.

Dryobates scalaris bairdi. Baird or Texas Woodpecker. This county seems to be the northern limit of this species, as only a few are observed. The majority are found in the chaparral area, where they nest in the small mesquites in May and June.

Centurus aurifrons. Golden-fronted Woodpecker. Common, breeding over the entire county. Owing to the scarcity of suitable natural sites in some portions, this species is found most abundantly along the railway tracks, where the birds take advantage of the opportunities offered by telegraph poles. When found in the chaparral area, their nests are rarely over four or five feet from the ground, and, owing to the smallness of the trees, leave the trunk a mere shell around the nest. They breed from the latter part of April to the middle of June.

Antrostomus carolinensis. Chuck-will's-widow. We have never located a nest of this species, but have been informed by reliable parties that the nests are frequently found in the hilly country. As we have seen the birds in the nesting season in such localities, we are satisfied that this is true. Nests in May and June.

Phalaenoptilus nuttalli nuttalli. Poor-will. As with the preceding species, we have been unable to locate eggs. However, we have observed the birds on numerous occasions during their breeding season, and are therefore positive they nest here.

Chordeiles acutipennis texensis. Texas Nighthawk. Fairly plentiful over the entire county, but more abundant in the prairie section. Nests in May and June.

Archilochus alexandri. Black-chinned Hummingbird. This species is restricted to the hilly northwestern portion of the county, where the birds nest along the various streams. They are also frequently seen in the numerous parks of the city. They nest in June.

Muscivora forficata. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. This species nests abundantly along all the roads of the county. One or two nests may usually be found near every farm house, where they are protected, as they readily detect and drive away any hawk that ventures too near. Nests in May and June.

Myiarchus crinitus. Crested Flycatcher. Rare in this county, and nesting only along the streams in the heavily timbered areas. The size and constant chattering of these birds readily distinguishes them. They nest in May and June.

Myiarchus magister nelsoni. Mexican Crested Flycatcher. An extremely rare bird in this county, but plentiful in the counties to the south. We have located a few nests in the extreme southern portions of the chaparral area, where this flycatcher nests in April and May.

Myiarchus cinerascens cinerascens. Ash-throated Flycatcher. This species is found nesting throughout the county in April, May and June.

Sayornis phoebe. Phoebe. These birds are found only in the hilly parts of the county, where they nest in cavities in the limestone cliffs. We have found very few nests, and these only in May and June.

Pyrocephalus rubinus mexicanus. Vermilion Flycatcher. In June, 1912, we located a nest of this species containing two heavily incubated eggs, which forms our only record. While we have been told of other nests in the chaparral area, we have been unable to obtain authentic data in regard to them.

Molothrus ater obscurus. Dwarf Cowbird. Abundant everywhere. Our personal observations condemn this species. A set of any of our smaller birds is rarely found without one or more eggs of the Cowbird. If these are allowed to hatch, the Cowbird rapidly outgrows the lawful occupants of the nest, and either smothers them or pushes them entirely from the nest to die upon the ground. This is not a supposition on our part, but based upon countless observations.

Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus. Red-winged Blackbird. Common in all portions of the county which afford suitable nesting sites. Especially abundant at Mitchell's

Lake, where they nest in large numbers in the reeds and small willows, from early May through July.

Icterus bullocki. Bullock Oriole. Fairly common, but seemingly restricted to the mesquite portions of the county. At least ninety per cent of the nests located are along the roadside, and one is rarely found in the thicker mesquite. The nests offer a marked contrast to those of the Orchard Oriole, as they are always formed of horse-hair, twine or raw cotton, while the material used by the latter is chiefly dried grasses. Nests in April and May.

Quiscalus quiscula aeneus. Bronzed Grackle. This species arrives here in great numbers in the early spring, but gradually disappears, leaving only a few to nest in the trees along the various streams. The eggs are laid in May and June.

Megaquiscalus major macrourus. Great-tailed Grackle. Common in all portions of the county, many of them nesting along streets in the city of San Antonio. In 1916 numbers of them settled on Mitchell's Lake, where they nested in large colonies in the reeds. They breed from the latter part of May to the middle of July.

Passer domesticus. English Sparrow. A great pest over the entire county.

Ammodramus savannarum bimaculatus. Western Grasshopper Sparrow. One nest of this species containing three heavily incubated eggs was located in June, 1913, in a large meadow about eight miles south of San Antonio, which forms our only record.

Chondestes grammacus strigatus. Western Lark Sparrow. Abundant over the entire county, nesting more plentifully in the mesquite and chaparral areas. Nests in May and June.

Amphispiza bilineata bilineata. Black-throated Sparrow. Fairly common over the entire county, but nesting only where an abundance of prickly pear offers its favorite nesting site. This species is one which suffers heavily from the persecutions of the Dwarf Cowbird. Nests from the latter part of April through June.

Aimophila ruficeps eremoeca. Rock Sparrow. We have found this species only in the hilly portions, where it nests in bunches of grass growing among the tumbled rocks of the worn limestone cliffs. Nests are extremely hard to locate and one is sure of plenty of excitement, as our famous Texas rattler delights to sun himself among these same rocks. Nests in the latter part of May and in June.

Peucaea cassini. Cassin Sparrow. In the latter part of May, 1915, we located a nest containing four fresh eggs, which forms our only record of this species.

Cardinalis cardinalis canicaudus. Gray-tailed Cardinal. Common along the river bottoms, but by no means plentiful in any section of the county. Nests in May and in June.

Pyrrhuloxia sinuata texana. Texas Pyrrhuloxia. Fairly plentiful in the mesquite area, where it nests in the thickest brush. While the nests are practically the same as those of the Cardinal, the eggs show a marked difference. Those of the Pyrrhuloxia are smaller and do not have the gloss of the Cardinal eggs. Another peculiar feature is that the eggs of a set are rarely evenly marked, but shade from light to heavy markings, each egg showing a decided individuality. Nests from the latter part of April through June.

Cyanospiza ciris. Painted Bunting. Fairly common in all portions of the county, nesting from June to the middle of July.

Spiza americana. Dickcissel. In 1913 we were able to locate but two nests containing eggs of this species, while in 1914 the woods and fields were fairly alive with the birds, and their nests were on every hand. In 1915 we found them in only a few localities, and in 1916 they were by no means plentiful in any portion of the county. They nest in May and June.

Piranga rubra rubra. Summer Tanager. A nest containing three fresh eggs, found on May 14, 1916, forms our only record of this species.

Progne subis subis. Purple Martin. Common over the entire county, nesting in the many boxes erected for them, in the eaves of buildings in San Antonio, and in abandoned woodpecker holes in telephone poles along some of the railroad tracks. Nests in May and June.

Petrochelidon lunifrons lunifrons. Cliff Swallow. This species is found in small colonies in many portions of the hill area, where the overhanging limestone cliffs offer ideal nesting sites. Nests in May and June.

Iridoprocne bicolor. Tree Swallow. We have found this species only at Mitchell's Lake, where the birds nest in cavities in the dead trees standing in the shallow water.

This colony contains only a small number of birds and is confined to an isolated inlet, where they nest in May and June.

Vireo griseus griseus. White-eyed Vireo. While this species is frequently seen, we have been able to locate only a limited number of nests, usually found in May and June.

Vireo bellii bellii. Bell Vireo. Common in the mesquite area but rarely met with in the hill country. This is especially true during the breeding season. A nest of this species is rarely found without one or more eggs of the Dwarf Cowbird. Nests from the latter part of May to July.

Dendroica chrysoparia. Golden-cheeked Warbler. In June, 1914, we located a nest containing four newly hatched young of this species. This nest was in a thick clump of cedars and it is only in these cedar brakes that we have been able to find the birds.

Oporornis formosus. Kentucky Warbler. A nest containing four fresh eggs was found on June 10, 1916, in a large patch of weeds in a river bottom; and two weeks later a nest containing one fresh egg was found in the same locality.

Icteria virens virens. Yellow-breasted Chat. We have been able to locate this species in only one locality, a dense patch of very thick brush and cactus, covering about twenty acres and situated about four miles north of San Antonio. Although there are other equally dense thickets of this same type of brush in other portions, we have been unable to find this bird in them. What special attraction this particular patch offers we have not been able to determine, but the Chats are there and there they seem contented. They nest in May and June.

Mimus polyglottos polyglottos. Mockingbird. These tireless songsters are everywhere. They sing from practically every bush and tree, and seemingly nest in every other one. Many of them apparently unable to sing their appointed numbers during the day, continue on into the night, and the summer camper may be sure of a nightly serenade from one or more of them. They nest from the latter part of April through July.

Toxostoma curvirostre curvirostre. Curve-billed Thrasher. Common throughout the mesquite area, where they nest in the low thorny bushes and larger clumps of prickly pear cactus. The construction of the nest is peculiar, as only those twigs bearing the largest and sharpest thorns are used. The walls are often four to eight inches in height and extend almost that distance above the lining. Whether this is done for protection or merely ornamentation, we are unable to say, but we do know that it is the cause of punctured wrists and hands of those who inspect them. Nests from the middle of May to the middle of July.

Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi. Cactus Wren. Common in the mesquite area and sometimes found in the hills. These birds undoubtedly construct nests which are intended only as roosting places. The difference in construction between these nests and the others in which they deposit their eggs is marked, the former being small compact affairs, rather scantily lined and flat in appearance, while the latter are pouch-shaped, large, firmly built, profusely lined with feathers, and having a deep depression in which the eggs are placed. Nests in April, May and June.

Catherpes mexicanus conspersus. Canyon Wren. Fairly common in the hilly portions, where nests are placed in the limestone cliffs along the various creeks. These birds have a wonderfully sweet song, which can be heard at an incredible distance as it echoes along the canyon walls. They nest in the latter part of April through June.

Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus. Carolina Wren. Fairly common throughout the county, where nests are to be found from the latter part of April through June.

Thryomanes bewicki cryptus. Texas Bewick Wren. Our most common wren, found in great numbers in the mesquite area, where it nests in all sorts of cavities and often in clumps of cactus. Nests from the latter part of April through June.

Baeolophus atricristatus sennetti. Sennett Titmouse. Found only in the heavier timbered sections of the hill area. So far we have located only a few nests, as they seem to defy our most careful searches. Nests in May and June.

Penthestes carolinensis agilis. Plumbeous Chickadee. While we have had better success with this species than the preceding, we find it by no means common. The birds are frequently seen in a large park at the edge of the city, but as one is not permitted to search for nests there our data is limited. Nests in May and June.

Auriparus flaviceps flaviceps. Verdin. Common throughout the county, and nest-

ing in both the hill and mesquite areas. These birds, as in the case of the Cactus Wren, build nests in which they roost exclusively. We have one nest which was taken in October, 1914, the twigs of which retain their green leaves at this date—undeniable evidence of its recent completion. They nest from the latter part of April through June.

Polioptila caerulea caerulea. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Very rare in this county. We have not yet succeeded in locating an inhabited nest of this species, but have found abandoned ones, and have observed the birds on several occasions during the breeding season.

Sialia sialis sialis. Bluebird. In May, 1914, a nest containing young of this species was found in an old woodpecker hole in a mesquite tree, about six miles north of San Antonio. This is our only record and the birds were the only ones we have ever observed during the nesting season.

San Antonio, Texas, December 21, 1916.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

An Eastern Record for the Townsend Solitaire.—On February 14, 1917, I observed an adult Townsend Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) in the residence district of the city of Fort Worth, Texas. I first saw it fly across the street from the east and alight in a sycamore tree in the front yard of a large residence about fifty feet from the street.

I walked about half way around the tree in which it lit and it flew out and around the house to the south and lit again just across a narrow side street, on the topmost branches of an umbrella tree, near the fence of a large estate. While in flight, the yellow bars of the wings and the white edges of the outer rectrices were distinctly visible, but they did not show while the bird was perched.

As far as my knowledge goes, this is the first time this species has been seen east of the Davis Mountains, in western Texas.—JOHN B. LITSEY, *Fort Worth, Texas, December 10, 1917.*

Corrections.—I wish to correct three errors which crept in during the preparation of my article on "Some birds of central Oregon", in the July, 1917, CONDOR (vol. XIX).

The nesting date for the Canada Goose (p. 134) should read June 2, instead of June 21; that for the Wilson Phalarope (p. 134), June 3, instead of June 30; and that for the Gray Flycatcher (p. 137), June 14 instead of June 4.—ALEX WALKER, *Tillamook, Oregon, September 1, 1917.*

Lesser Yellow-legs and Pectoral Sandpiper in San Mateo County, California.—On November 28, 1915, I secured two specimens of *Totanus flavipes* near Redwood City. These are the first and only examples of the species I have ever seen.

I have taken specimens of *Pisobia maculata* near Redwood City as follows: August 22, 1908, one; September 13, 1908, four; September 16, 1908, eleven; October 7, 1915, four. These birds were all collected about the salt ponds and in each instance were found in new ponds, that is in ponds that had had water confined in them for but a short time. The conditions thus afforded evidently produced the proper feed; but a little later, when the ponds become saltier, nearly all the life in them is killed, with the result that the birds do not return the following season to those particular ponds.—CHASE LITTLEJOHN, *Redwood City, California, November 27, 1917.*

The Eastern Kingbird in California Again.—Grinnell's distributional list of the birds of California (Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 11) gives two records of the Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) within the limits of the state. Only one of these records is based upon the specimen taken—a juvenal male secured at Santa Monica, August 31, 1895, by W. B. Judson. It will be of interest to bird students, then, to hear that a second specimen of the species has been taken, this by the writer, at Laguna Beach, Orange