

without encountering a burrow, and there were often five or six nests to the square foot.

The vast majority were *Oceanodroma leucorhoa beali*, and the rule at this date was eggs on the point of hatching, although there were many young in all stages up to two-thirds grown. I noted one nest with the bird incubating two pipped eggs, and there was no other nest nearby from which an egg might have rolled. One *Oceanodroma furcata* was discovered on a fresh egg, and three young of this species, ranging from half to fully grown, were found. The adult was in a separate pocket of the same burrow with a brooding *beali*. The latter form prefers the softest ground, while the former seemed to select the edges of banks where small stones are mixed with the dirt, or the interstices in a pile of loose stones. As I am rather familiar with *Oceanodroma socorroensis* during the nesting season, it may be of interest to compare some of its habits with those of *beali*.

The Socorro Petrel begins laying on the Coronados Islands during the middle of June or a trifle later, while *beali* must start not later than the first week of that month, and probably before. The climate of Crescent City, even in mid-summer, is very cold and foggy, while that of the Coronados is warm and bright. Hence, I would expect at least three weeks difference in nesting dates, but in the opposite order, and for lack of a more plausible explanation, we may attribute the actual state of affairs to food conditions.

Each species occupies only burrows which the birds themselves construct. Those of the Socorros are about two feet long, while the average length of the Beals is seventeen inches—a difference which may be blamed upon the crowded quarters of the latter. This form employs about twice the amount of weed stems for nest building as does *socorroensis*, and this is possibly due to the difference in climate. *Beali* is much more prone to eject oil than is the southern species, but none of the *furcata* which I secured showed any tendency to indulge in such tactics. In flight, the wing beats of *beali* are quicker; and I think that one who is familiar with both forms would have no trouble in distinguishing them apart while on the wing, if they be seen together. The main item of food of the Socorros is supposed to be larval rock lobsters, and this probably accounts for the fact that the deposit of fat on them is a pronounced red, almost the color of a brick, while *beali* feeds on other fare, and its fat is of the usual shade.

In both colonies, almost every foot of suitable ground is occupied, but on the small island of the Coronados group where the Socorros are found, this is of very limited extent, and the colony is crowded with but a few hundred pairs, while the northern island is almost ideal. There are no other birds, except a few guillemots, nesting upon this island to entice eggers; it is not far enough from the mainland to attract parties of all-day picknickers; and, for the same reason, cats are not likely to be introduced by campers. In fact, the only damaging influence seems to be a Barn Owl, which probably flies over from the mainland and raids the petrels every night, to which hundreds of wings scattered beneath the rocky points bear mute witness.—A. B. HOWELL, Pasadena, California, November 10, 1919.

**Further Colorado Notes.**—In the last number of *Bird-Lore*, Dr. Bergtold mentions the recent extension of the summer range of the Lewis Woodpecker (*Asyndesmus lewisii*) eastward onto the plains in Colorado. It has formerly been considered a mountain bird in the summer time in this state, but we now hear of it frequently in the breeding season far from the foothills. On June 28, 1917, I saw a pair with a nest in a telephone pole at Boone, far out on the plains, a long distance east of Pueblo. The same author also mentions the decrease in the number of English Sparrows in Denver. Their scarcity in portions of Boulder this year has been noted by people who do not ordinarily notice the birds very much. Whether it is only a temporary condition due to the exceptionally dry, hot summer, or to some other cause, I cannot hazard an opinion. Possibly the decrease has been going on for several years but has just attracted attention. We do not regret it.

Dr. Bergtold also mentions the disappearance of Bullock Orioles from Denver early in August and their reappearance later in the month for a few days before their final disappearance for the winter. He suggests that perhaps the summer birds leave early

for the south, and that those appearing later in the month are from the north on their way south. A similar movement of Robins occurs at Boulder each year. They almost disappear early in August, reappearing in large numbers about the middle of September, remaining for several weeks, then mostly leaving for the south. Occasional individuals may be seen about town all winter, and numbers remain in the mountains, feeding on cedar berries in sunny pockets on south slopes and waxing fat. I have always believed the winter birds may be from the north, but have supposed the disappearance in August was due to a retreat into the mountains for privacy during the molt. Each year the Robins are very abundant in late August and early September at altitudes of from 9,000 to 11,000 feet, when scarce at Boulder.—JUNIUS HENDERSON, *Boulder, Colorado, November 10, 1919.*

**Lincoln Sparrow in San Francisco.**—Another species to be added to the list of birds of San Francisco, California, is the Lincoln Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni lincolni*), the record for which came about as follows: On September 13, 1919, while walking south along Broadway from Fillmore street, shortly after the noon whistles had blown, I came across a bird of this species lying on the sidewalk. It had evidently flown against one of the wires overhead with sufficient force as to cause instant death, the contusion being plainly visible upon the side of the head and neck. This accident must have happened in the night, for the condition of the bird's body was such as to show that it had been dead for some hours. In fact a few of the feathers of the abdomen "slipped", in making up the skin, where the sun's rays had hastened decomposition. It proved to be a male bird of the year.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *San Francisco, November 1, 1919.*

**Some Bird Records from Nebraska.**—The following records of Nebraska birds perhaps deserve publication. They consist of species observed near or beyond the limits of their hitherto known summer ranges, or of occurrences otherwise interesting from a distributional standpoint. They were all obtained in Cherry County, in the central northern part of the State, during the writer's investigation of the wild fowl of that region.

*Chaetura pelagica.* Chimney Swift. A single individual was seen at a ranch a few miles west of Cody on June 1, 1915.

*Sayornis sayus.* Say Phoebe. Two were observed in the streets of Valentine on June 2 and 3, 1915.

*Hylocichla mustelina.* Wood Thrush. One was heard singing in the timber along the Niobrara River eight or nine miles south of Valentine on June 3, 1915.

*Vireo bellii bellii.* Bell Vireo. This species was found on the Niobrara River a few miles south of Valentine on June 3, 1915; twice on the upper part of Gordon Creek, a few miles north of Simeon, on the same date; and on the island in Dewey Lake in eastern Cherry County on June 4, 1915.

*Hedymeles melanocephalus papago.* Black-headed Grosbeak. A full plumaged adult male was seen at the Tate Ranch near Tate Lake in southeastern Cherry County on June 18, 1915.

*Guiraca caerulea lazula.* Western Blue Grosbeak. A single adult male of this species was observed along the North Loup River, five miles east of the Palmer Ranch, on June 17, 1915.

*Spizella pusilla arenacea.* Western Field Sparrow. A single individual was observed on June 16, 1915, at the Palmer Ranch in western Cherry County, which is about eight miles east of Pullman, and near the source of the North Loup River.—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C., October 1, 1919.*

**Old Squaw Ducks at San Diego.**—On January 4, 1920, Mr. Ad. Pearson saw three unrecognized ducks in a tide slough (mouth of San Diego River) at Mission Bay. He shot one and brought it to me for identification. It proved to be an adult female Old Squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*).—FRANK STEPHENS, *San Diego, California, January 6, 1920.*