

being in the direction in which the flock was progressing. Certain of the birds were always on the alert more than others and when approached would utter a soft chucking sound which has been described as "*whit, whit, whit*". I have seen, on a few occasions, birds posted in orchard trees near where the flock was feeding. While they were usually engaged in preening their plumage they were probably sentinels on guard for they were the first to utter the cry of alarm when approached.

Early in April the large flock of birds began to decrease in size and instead of there being twenty-three birds in the flock there were at first two flocks of smaller size and later in the month I failed to find more than seven birds together at any one time. Also, instead of using the same brush pile as a place of refuge, two other brush piles at the opposite side of the orchard were appropriated by a part of the flock.

My observations were brought to a close the first of May and while no nests had been made as yet, it was probable that the flocks further subdivided into pairs or groups of threes for nesting purposes. The assemblage of the birds in large flocks after the nesting season will make an interesting study. Do the birds from each individual nest remain together and constitute a flock till the next breeding season, or do several families unite in the autumn?—JOHN F. KESSEL, *Berkeley, California, June 18, 1921.*

The Doves of Imperial County, California.—The intention of the observations recorded in this article was to determine the extent of the breeding season of the doves nesting in Imperial County. Of the three species nesting in this immediate locality (Brawley) two, the Western Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura marginella*) and the Mexican Ground Dove (*Chaemepelia passerina pallescens*) are residents. The third, the Western White-winged Dove (*Melopelia asiatica mearnsi*) is migratory.

A nest of the White-winged Dove was found May 24, 1921, about a mile from my ranch, containing two full-grown young.

The Mourning Dove furnished the following data in 1920:

January 18,	1 nest containing 2 eggs
February 7,	3 nests containing 2 eggs
May 10,	10 nests contained eggs or young
June 22,	16 nests contained eggs or young
July 17,	7 nests contained eggs or young
August 12,	5 nests contained eggs or young
September 23,	1 nest contained eggs or young

The Ground Dove furnished the following data:

January 22,	1 nest containing 2 full grown young
February 14,	same nest containing 2 eggs
April 10,	1 nest containing 2 eggs
May 5,	1 nest containing 2 eggs
June 2,	2 nests containing 2 eggs
August 12,	1 nest containing 2 eggs
September 23,	1 nest containing 2 eggs
November 7,	an old dove seen feeding half-grown young

The Mexican Ground Dove appears to be partial to old nests, using its own or that of a Mourning Dove generally; but I have seen a pair trying a Sonora Red-winged Blackbird's nest; and during 1921 a pair has used an old Abert Towhee's nest for three broods, beginning to sit January 30, on the first eggs, and June 21, on the third set. I have never seen more than five of these doves about at one time. The area covered contains about one acre, the farm residence and 83 trees, mostly eucalyptus and a few pepper-trees.—JOHN C. FORTINER, *Brawley, California, July 1, 1921.*

A Specimen of the Black Swift from San Diego County, California.—With one exception, all of the published records of the occurrence of the Black Swift (*Cypseloides niger borealis*) in southern California, which have come to the writer's notice, have been based on "sight" records. The securing of a specimen by J. B. Dixon, 4 miles north of Escondido, San Diego County, California, on June 5, 1921, is therefore of interest. This bird was picked up under a telephone wire. It had met death by flying into the wire as