

the testes fully enlarged, indicating, though not conclusively, that the pair might have been breeding in the vicinity. Winter records of this duck are not common and I can find no previous summer record.

A pair of San Diego Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia cooperi*) was seen on February 8, 1920, carrying nesting materials into the center of a clump of honeysuckle vines growing on our side fence in the city of Los Angeles. The next day I examined the clump and found a nest nearly completed. The first egg was laid February 15. I did not look at the nest again until February 22, when I found the one egg and the broken empty shell of another. Soon after this, heavy rains came on and the nest was deserted. Nor did the sparrows attempt to use the nest again or the nesting site that year.

During a trip of two weeks, October 16 to November 2, 1921, down the coast from San Francisco to Los Angeles, I made stops of a few days each at Moss Landing, Monterey County, Pismo, San Luis Obispo County, Goleta, Santa Barbara County, and Point Mugu, Ventura County. It was interesting to note the great abundance of Red Phalaropes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*), but the unusual fact was the large numbers of sick, dead and dying birds. I shot birds of this species that appeared strong and active but, in most cases, they were as much emaciated as the dead ones I picked up on the beach.

At Ludlow, San Bernardino County, April 17, 1921, I observed in the course of an afternoon at a corral where there were a water trough and two or three small cottonwood trees, sixteen species of birds, among which were two pairs of the Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*), one pair of which I collected. This place is located deep in the Mohave Desert, but the water and a few shade trees seem to attract quite a number of birds.—CHESTER C. LAMB, *Los Angeles, November 22, 1921.*

**Corrections of Errors in Pacific Coast Avifauna no. 14.—***Asio wilsonianus*. Long-eared Owl. On page 68, for "Stevensville, Ravalli County, April 14, 1912, 2 eggs," read Corvallis, instead of Stevensville.

*Junco hyemalis mearnsi*. Pink-sided Junco. "It has also been found . . . in the Bitterroot Valley in migration"; and "Corvallis, March 22, 1913" (page 128). This specimen was taken May 22 instead of March 22, which would bring it in the breeding season instead of in migration. The exact locality was eight miles east of Corvallis at 4500 feet elevation, in heavy yellow pine and Douglas fir forest.—BERNARD BAILEY, *Elk River, Minnesota, October 10, 1921.*

**An Inland Occurrence of the Common Tern.**—A male of the year of the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) was taken by van Rossem at Victorville, San Bernardino County, California, on September 22, 1921. When shot, it was on a sandbar in the Mohave River, in company with a few Killdeers. No other terns were observed during the eight days spent in that vicinity.—D. R. DICKEY and A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Pasadena, California, November 25, 1921.*

**Burrowing Owl off the Virginia Coast.**—While on depth-charge watch at night just out of Hampton Roads enroute to New York, October 22, 1918, I observed a small owl which for four hours flew about the quarter-deck of the vessel but eluded capture. The next morning a marine caught the bird perched on one of the depth-charges, and on examination it proved to be a Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*). It was very docile and eagerly gulped down pieces of raw beef fed by hand. As the marine wished to take it ashore as a pet I was unable to secure it, and though I positively identified it as a Burrowing Owl I could not determine its subspecific characters. One would, however, presuppose the Florida bird (*Speotyto cunicularia floridana*), rather than our western representative. At all events its appearance so far from its known range seems worthy of record even at this late date.—WM. DUNCAN STRONG, *Berkeley, California, November 30, 1921.*

**Rare Birds in Arizona and New Mexico.**—Harris Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*). While on an auto trip through Arizona I took an adult male on the Superior Highway about fifteen miles east of Mesa, Arizona, on March 15, 1921. Three were seen together in the giant cactus association. I have never been able to find this species in southwestern New Mexico.

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Heermann Gull (*Larus heermanni*). An adult male was brought to me on March 20, 1919. It had been found dead on Pinos Altos Mountain, nine miles north of Silver City. On making up the skin I found the bird to be in very poor flesh, and a small shot found in its body indicated that it had been crippled, probably on one of the small irrigation ponds south of here. Mrs. Florence Merriam Bailey advises me that this is a new record for New Mexico.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Megaquiscalus major macrourus*). I took an adult male May 24, 1920, on an irrigation pond on the Mimbres River, thirty miles southeast of here. No others could be found at this time or on several subsequent trips. Mrs. Bailey advises me that the only other records for the state are of a specimen taken at Las Cruces May 15, 1913, and a report of a pair nesting at La Mesa.

Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*). A female was taken May 22, 1921, on the Mimbres River, thirty miles southeast of here, in Luna County. It was flying alone at about six P. M. Wing measures 127.1 mm., and tail 42.4 mm. I am indebted to J. Eugene Law for identification and measurements.—R. T. KELLOGG, *Silver City, New Mexico, October 24, 1921.*

**Notes on the Voice of the California Screech Owl.**—The following notes and observations were made in the vicinity of Palo Alto, California, from June 1 to November 1, 1921.

The California Screech Owl (*Otus asio bendirei*) is a very tame and friendly bird. At times one can be approached to within arm's length. One curious fact is that when a light is put full in the face, at distances ranging from five to twenty feet, the bird does not seem to be in the least blinded, but looks over and past the light, and stares at the face of the observer. The eyes do not ordinarily glow, but are very distinct, the pupil and iris standing out in strong contrast. On only one occasion have I seen this rule broken. The owl in this case was within five feet, and on the same level with the light. It looked steadily at my face, over the light, but its eyes glowed with a soft honey color.

I have divided the calls under six separate headings, but there are a great many more, as they shade off into each other a good deal. The six noted here, however, are always clear and distinct. The first is the familiar, soft, quavering, "oo-oo-oo", known to nearly everyone. It is generally repeated steadily and monotonously. It seems to be a call of contentment, given when the bird is full fed.

The second is the same as the first, but with a soft whistling undertone, such as is produced by whistling with the edge of a card against the lips. I have heard this call only during the breeding season. It seems to be used to call another bird. On several occasions I have found a pair of the birds sitting side by side, one of them, presumably the male, giving this call, while the other answered with a sharp whistle. The two calls were exchanged, back and forth, for some time as though the birds were carrying on a conversation.

Number three is a liquid, clucking, "prit, prit", which seems to indicate curiosity. It is sometimes accompanied by a snapping of the beak. One bird swooped at me on several consecutive nights, going over my head and snapping his bill fiercely as he passed. I finally turned my light on him when at the bottom of his swoop and within arm's length, which seemed to disconcert him, as he flew into a neighboring tree and began to cluck and snap his beak.

The fourth is a loud clear scream, a most blood-curdling sound. It may be said to resemble the screeching of an enraged cat. I have heard it on only one occasion. It was repeated several times on the night of August 7, 1921, though whether by the same individual each time I could not determine. When I approached the tree from which the screaming came, the owl dropped into the inquiring, "prit, prit".

Number five is a guttural croaking, sounding exactly like the croaking of a heron. I have heard this call on only two occasions. The first time I was unable to get my light on the bird, and thought it a night heron, but the second time I saw the owl plainly. The call consists of only a single note.

The sixth is a high pitched, whining note resembling the crying of a puppy.

The first three calls are the most common. In fact after midnight there is nearly always an owl within hearing giving one of the calls. They can and do change from