

Slight Extension of the Breeding Range of the Western Lark Sparrow.—As Lark Sparrows (*Chondestes grammacus strigatus*) are supposed to occupy the desert regions only in winter (Pacific Coast Avifauna no. 11, p. 116), it may be worth while to note that the species is a common breeder on the Mohave Desert, from Palmdale to at least twenty miles east of that point. Over this region, which lies along the desert base of the San Gabriel Range, their occurrence is general and not confined, as one might expect, to cultivated areas. While perhaps slightly more common in the pear and other deciduous orchards, they are nevertheless distributed over the unsettled country as well. Many pairs were seen daily from May 3 to May 14, 1920, and were equally common in the same locality during late April and early May of the present year. One nest containing five apparently fresh eggs was found May 5, 1920. It was built on the ground under a small dense bush in the yucca-juniper association at considerable distance from the nearest tilled land.—D. R. DICKEY AND A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Pasadena, California, December 5, 1921.*

Albino Robin Returning to Former Nesting Site.—The following note is offered as a modest contribution to the mass of published data in support of the theory that birds return to a particular nesting site. A male robin showing patches of white on the wings and predominantly white on the under parts returned for three consecutive years to a garden in Summerland, British Columbia, where, each year, he acquired a mate and helped raise the ensuing family. His piebald appearance made him an object of suspicion to his brethren of conventional garb, and the garden witnessed frequent battles, from which he usually emerged victorious. He was known in the neighborhood as "Blewitt's white robin", and his non-appearance on the fourth year caused general regret in the little community. But four years would appear to be a relatively long span of life for a conspicuous albino.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, November 26, 1921.*

Vermillion Flycatcher and Red Phalarope at Long Beach, California.—I wish to report the Vermillion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus mexicanus*) from the vicinity of Long Beach. I first saw the bird (a male) on November 20, and I saw it again on December 14. Some friends saw it December 11 and again December 17. Evidently just the one bird has taken up its abode there for the winter. Every time observed it has been within a radius of one-fourth mile. The habitat chosen is a slough with a few scattering willows and a few tules. For the most part the bird was observed perched on the top branches of willows but occasionally upon a fence post or tule. It displayed the usual flycatcher mannerisms by flying out, snapping up an insect, and then returning to the place from which it came.

There was an unusual migration of Red Phalaropes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) this past fall. I saw about three hundred within an hour on the ponds of the Long Beach Salt Works. This was October 30. There was a great mortality among them this year. Dead birds were brought to the schools picked up by children in the streets or elsewhere. On the ponds mentioned above, dead birds were washed up in windrows. I could count nineteen from one position and twenty-one from another. I counted seventy-five within half an hour. The birds had no shot holes in them, and showed no external evidences of having flown against wires, but all the birds examined were emaciated in the extreme.—L. W. WELCH, *Long Beach, California, December 24, 1921.*

Sonoma Thrasher in Humboldt County, California.—While I was camping last October (1921) in company with Mr. Chester C. Lamb, near what is down on the current maps as "Thorn", a few miles north of the southern boundary of Humboldt County, it was a matter of surprise to us to hear the notes of thrashers among the thick growth of white thorn (*Ceanothus incanus*) surrounding our camp. This was situated only six or seven miles from the ocean shore, about east of the landing called Shelter Cove, and somewhat protected from ocean winds by a range of hills. These birds were very shy but we succeeded in securing three specimens on October 5 and 6, only one of which, however, had completely assumed the new fall plumage. These specimens appear to