

circle, with their heads almost touching in the center. The gulls and shearwaters, with excited cries and much flapping of wings, would fly over, crawl over and dive under the stolid pelicans. Whenever a pelican wished to swallow his catch, he would suddenly stick his head under water, leaving only the afterpart of his body and legs above the surface, and would, apparently, swallow the fish in that position. The moment a pelican upended, the excitement among the other birds doubled and trebled, while they fought among themselves to get the fish that evidently slipped from the pelican's pouch the moment he opened his bill. The pelicans, however, seemed able to retain the bulk of their catch, for, after a while, apparently satisfied, they would rise slowly and go to fishing again. When they had collected another pouch full, the same performance would be repeated. The whole thing was most amusing, and the excitement of the birds was so great that I was able to lie within fifteen or twenty feet of them during the entire performance.—J. W. SEFTON, JR., *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, January 21, 1927.*

Valley Quail Imported from Chile.—Perhaps no other American game bird has been so successfully acclimatized in other countries as has the California Valley Quail (*Lophortyx californica*). For many years it has been known that this bird had been successfully introduced in such remote regions as British Columbia, Chile, and New Zealand, and now there has come to hand some interesting information as to the magnitude of the success attained in one of these places. Mr. F. E. Booth, of San Francisco, while on a visit to Santiago, Chile, noted Valley Quail for sale in the market there. On inquiry he learned that they were abundant enough to be obtained in quantity, and as a consequence he has begun the importation of stock from Chile for introduction into coverts on a game preserve in Sonoma County. The first shipment arrived during the early part of January, 1927, consisting of 134 birds, which reached their destination in good condition. Thus, depleted game coverts in California are being re-stocked with Chilean-raised California Quail.

Mr. Booth's importation of birds received newspaper publicity, and as an outcome of this there resulted some information regarding the early exportation of quail from California to Chile that seems worth placing upon record. The newspaper item was seen by Mr. E. F. Greenwood, of San Francisco, who wrote to me, giving information substantially as follows:

"My wife, a Chilean, is a grand-daughter of one William Govers, formerly of California and before that of Holland, who had a ranch near San Jose. He decided to migrate to Chile about 1864. Being a thrifty Hollander he took many things with him, including a brace of quail which he had captured on his ranch. When he arrived in Chile there were no quail in that country, and his birds, exhibited in a store window, were quite a novelty. He bought a ranch at Limache, near Valparaiso, and had his birds there for some time. Then, while feeding them one day, their cage tipped over and they escaped. This is the reason for the abundance of quail in Chile."

A second letter, from Mr. Henry J. Besant, Sonora, California, received by one of the daily papers and forwarded to me, reads thus: "I was in Chile with Mr. C. J. Lambert, who had a copper mine and smelter at La Compania, near Serena, Province of Coquimbo. In the park in which he had his residence at La Compania he released a lot of quail which he had had sent down from San Francisco. The climate and other conditions evidently being favorable, they increased in numbers rapidly and spread out over the country. I cannot now remember the exact date when this was done, but I think it must have been in 1881 or 1882."

It is possible, of course, that these were not the only importations of quail into Chile, but here, at any rate, is definite information as to the exact subspecies first introduced there, information to be taken into account in any study of the characters now exhibited by Chilean Valley Quail.—H. S. SWARTH, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, February 9, 1927.*

Status of the Yellow-legs in Arizona.¹—Recently, while occupied with the preparation of the distribution and migration sections for A. C. Bent's forthcoming volume on the Life Histories of North American Shorebirds, I was surprised to learn that there was available no authentic published record of the occurrence of the Yellow-legs (*Totanus flavipes*) in the State of Arizona.

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