

The plan of drillings would seem to indicate the workings of an abnormal bird. With so many tiers of holes one above another it would be quite impossible for a bird to drain the sap pockets without getting his whole underbody smeared with pitch. No single sapsucker could manage to keep such a vast number of holes open. At the time of our examination there was an excessive flow of sap from the main workings. All of the holes were bleeding and the lower tiers of pockets were overflowing. More sap was flowing than could be stored or consumed.—CHARLES W. MICHAEL, *Yosemite, California, December 1, 1929.*

Winter Nesting of the California Linnet.—On the afternoon of November 24, 1929, I found a nest of the California Linnet (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*) in the neighborhood of Walnut Creek, Contra Costa County, California. I was attracted first to the nest by the male, in full breeding plumage, which showed concern about my presence near the corner of a house. Then the female linnet flew out from a climbing rose as I approached. In the nest were four eggs still warm from incubation. The nest was empty when examined on December 5, eleven days after it was found.—PHILBRICK SMITH, *Oakland, California, December 11, 1929.*

California Spotted Owl in San Diego County, California.—In these days, when ever-increasing numbers of campers and hunters leave practically no areas secure from human intrusion, with its possible effect upon natural life, it may be well from time to time to record the continued existence of bird species in localities where there is danger of their extermination. In this connection it is a pleasure to note that the California Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*) still persists in the limited wooded area on Palomar Mountain, San Diego County, California, in spite of changing conditions due to "cabin-site" and other "resort" activities. On August 17, 1929, Tennant Brooks, a young naturalist camping on Palomar Mountain, collected a Spotted Owl (evidently a bird of the year), which he attempted to mount. He later presented it to the San Diego Society of Natural History. It has been remounted and placed on exhibition in the Society's museum, as part of the "Identification Series of San Diego County Birds." To the writer's knowledge, no other record of a Spotted Owl from San Diego County has come to the notice of the San Diego Society of Natural History in at least ten years.—CLINTON G. ABBOTT, *San Diego Society of Natural History, San Diego, California, December 11, 1929.*

Vermilion Flycatcher on the Pacific Slope of Southern California.—The occurrence of the Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus mexicanus*) in the vicinity of El Monte, Los Angeles County, California, where willow association predominates, appears to be more frequent than is supposed. On January 27, 1923, I collected an adult male which was darting from the top of a half-dead willow and feeding on insects over water.

Again, on October 11, 1924, an immature male was collected. This individual was the only one which was readily approached, the others, being quite "nervous", and would fly for some distance, constantly out of gun range.

An adult male was observed on October 20, 1927, but it remained at too great a distance from the observer and was not procured. In the first week of December of the same year, a female was seen but was unfortunately lost in thick undergrowth after having been shot. The fifth bird of this species noted, an adult male, was shot on December 19, 1929, after a hot chase among the willows and surrounding fields.

It is my belief that the Vermilion Flycatcher is a rare but annual fall and winter visitant in this locality, as all five birds were observed within a radius of about a quarter of a mile. Two of the specimens obtained are now in my collection and the third was given to the late O. W. Howard.—J. STUART ROWLEY, *Alhambra, California, January 3, 1930.*

Notes on the Golden Eagle in Southern California.—The Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), has always received much attention from bird students who have been fortunate enough to have the opportunity to observe it. There is thus a great mass of published data concerning its nests and life history. In going through my notes