

White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) and California Gulls (*Larus californicus*) on the refuge, but that in his opinion conditions at the nesting colonies were most unfavorable. He found that the water had receded from the island in the lake, on which the pelicans were nesting, leaving it surrounded by dry ground covered with a short "water grass," which then averaged about three inches in height. He brought up the question as to whether or not young pelicans require water while being fed by the parents; and if so, he requested advice on whether he should attempt to drive the young birds a distance of three miles to water, or to dig a shallow well and by means of a pump keep water before them in sheep watering-troughs.

As it seemed obvious that the short legs of the young pelicans were not suited for the three-mile trek, particularly under the stress of excitement that would result from the driving operation, and since the Biological Survey had no funds available for digging a well and installing a pump, Mr. Worcester was instructed to permit matters to take their natural course but to keep the colony under observation and render a report on the outcome.

Fortunately, Mr. Worcester returned to Clear Lake the following day (July 12), and witnessed the interesting sight of the old pelicans enticing their young to water. He reports: "The old birds circled the island several times, then they would alight among the young and again take off, circle the island, then land. They performed this maneuver several times and then they alighted about one hundred yards from the island in the direction of the water. The young birds left the island and walked to the parent birds, which immediately took off again, flew a short distance and settled; with much beating of wings they enticed the young birds to them again. This was carried on most of the day, and they arrived at water at 5:30 p. m." Upon searching the nesting ground, Mr. Worcester found only five young pelicans that had remained behind.

A number of young gulls were still on the breeding grounds, but they were nearly ready to fly.

Cases of nighthawks, woodcocks, and of other birds that have moved their young for one reason or another have been reported on several occasions in ornithological literature, but the author does not recall an observation that is comparable with the one here reported.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., August 11, 1933.*

Notes on some Birds of Goodnews Bay, Alaska.—During the past few months the United States National Museum has received two small shipments of birds from Mr. D. Bernard Bull of Goodnews Bay, Alaska. Although only a handful of species is represented, two of them are of great interest and have stimulated the writing of this note. Goodnews Bay is one of the small inlets between Kuskokwim Bay and Kulalak Bay and is located approximately at 59° N. Latitude, 162° W. Longitude.

Pisobia melanotos (Vieillot). Pectoral Sandpiper. A pair of adults was collected at Goodnews Bay on June 13, 1933. The birds were trapped as they returned to their nest and four eggs. This extends the definitely known breeding range of the species southward a considerable distance. Bent (*Life Hist. N. Amer. Shore Birds*, pt. 1, 1927, p. 178) writes that the pectoral sandpiper ". . . breeds mainly on the Arctic coasts of Alaska and Mackenzie Summer occurrences outside the range above outlined are . . . southwestern Alaska (Nushagak)" Apparently the Nushagak record was not a definite nesting but merely based on a summer adult which may or may not have been breeding. Conover (*Auk*, 43, 1926, p. 307) found Pectoral Sandpipers nesting at Point Dall, Hooper Bay. This is the southernmost actual breeding locality known to me before Mr. Bull found the bird nesting at Goodnews Bay, about 200 miles farther south along the coast.

Sterna aleutica Baird. Aleutian Tern. Mr. Bull sent in a set of two eggs and an adult male collected on June 6, 1933, at the mouth of Goodnews Bay, Alaska. The male was snared when he returned to the nest and two eggs. Mr. Bull writes that, "there was practically no nest; the eggs were laid in a depression in the moss, among a sparse growth of grass on the higher part of the sandspit In this colony . . . there are between 60 and 75 pairs of Aleutian Tern. A few Arctic Terns nest with the Aleutians, and a large colony of Arctic Terns nest abundantly on the coarse sand and gravel, near the shores; however, the Aleutians seemed more selective in that they evidently preferred to nest by themselves.

"This is the first time I have found the Aleutian Tern nesting in colonies. Last year I found one nest with two eggs, but did not secure the bird; therefore I did not mention it to anyone. This nest was not found near this colony."

The discovery of this breeding colony is of particular interest in that previously the species was known to nest only on two small islands in Norton Sound (near St. Michael and near Kegikhtowik), on Kodiak Island, and near Yakutat in southern Alaska, and probably on or near Saghalin Island, Siberia. Bent (Life Hist. N. Amer. Gulls and Terns, 1921, p. 265) writes that the two colonies near St. Michael in Norton Sound contained in 1915 about 20 and 40 pairs of breeding birds, respectively. The Kodiak Island colony has long since disappeared; in fact, all that is known of it is that on June 12, 1868, Bischoff collected the type specimen and a single egg there; it has not been reported as breeding there since then. At Situk River flats, near Yakutat, Walker (Condor, 25, 1923, pp. 113-117) found only a few nests of this species although he saw a considerable number of the adult birds.

It appears, then, that, as far as present knowledge goes, the Goodnews Bay colony is the largest one known and constitutes the most important stronghold of the species. Bent has suggested that the Aleutian Tern is an Asiatic form which has extended its breeding range across to Alaska and has become "... temporarily or permanently established at a few isolated spots on the Alaskan coast." The newness of the Goodnews Bay colony (only one nest in 1932), and the present absence of the birds on Kodiak Island, bear out his idea of the temporary nature of the local establishment of this bird.

The eggs agree with other specimens in the United States National Museum and in the Bent collection. They had been incubated some days when collected, as they had small embryos in them. The date, June 6, is the earliest egg date I have found. Walker found eggs at Yakutat on June 12; Nelson's records for St. Michael range from June 23 to 28. The fact that the adult male was snared on the nest (and preserved) indicates that, as in many other laro-limicoline birds, the male plays some role in incubation.

Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni (Bonaparte). Richardson Owl. One adult female, Goodnews Bay, Alaska, January 26, 1933. This bird was in sickly condition, and had a parasitic growth in its gizzard, according to Mr. Bull.

Motacilla flava alascensis (Ridgway). Alaska Yellow Wagtail. One adult male, Goodnews Bay, June 15, 1933.

Anthus spinoletta rubescens (Tunstall). American Pipit. One adult female, Goodnews Bay, June 12, 1933.

Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis Ridgway. Grinnell Water-thrush. One adult female, Goodnews Bay, June 11, 1933.

Passerculus sandwichensis alaudinus Bonaparte. Western Savannah Sparrow. One adult female, Goodnews Bay, June 15, 1933.—HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *Washington, D. C., August 15, 1933; published by permission of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.*

The Owl Peril on the Berkeley Campus.—A little before ten on the evening of July 7, I stopped beneath the great live oaks of Faculty Glade to locate a sound of tapping that came from among the lower branches. My scientific curiosity was promptly satisfied by a hard blow on the head, combined with the prick and scratch of claws. The sound had been bill-clapping, and a Screech Owl was defending its young, with a vengeance. It was astonishing that a small bird could strike so solid a blow without harm to itself.

I remained on the spot fifteen minutes. The little owl never struck hard again, but brushed my head dozens of times in the course of rapid swoops from the trees on one side of the path to those on the other. After the first assault, the bill-clapping was made in flight, starting about six feet before, and ending an equal distance beyond, the objective. While in the trees it used a single scolding note.

I searched the grove several ensuing evenings and concluded the brood was gone; but finally on the 17th a similar but less vigorous demonstration was repeated, during which the bird hardly came within a yard of my head. Finally, on the 26th, while the parent or perhaps parents were behaving in the same way, I held a white handkerchief aloft at full arm-stretch, and shook it lightly. Quick as a flash, an owl struck