

the various published notes and articles. We also recommend that someone, preferably someone who is acquainted with aviculturists, should make a careful search, among all who are known to keep or to have kept caged birds, for information on the liberation of cardinals in California. We welcome the increase in the numbers of these birds.—HAROLD MICHENER and JOSEPHINE R. MICHENER, *Pasadena, California, October 19, 1937.*

A September Mourning Dove's Nest.—In a list of nesting dates of the Western Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura marginella*) in Grinnell, Bryant and Storer's "The Game Birds of California" (p. 595) three September nestings of this species are recorded. However, all of these September records are from southern California. It might therefore be of interest to report a nest with small young from which I flushed a Mourning Dove, at Benicia, Solano County, California, on September 10, 1937. This nest was in a heavy growth of shoots coming from a eucalyptus stump.—J. D. GRAHAM, *Benicia, California, September 24, 1937.*

Some Waterfowl Nesting Records from Vicinity of Redlands, California.—American Pintail (*Dafila acuta iztzihoa*). A female and her brood of small young were seen on Baldwin Lake, San Bernardino Mountains, August 5, 1937. The female was observed several times at close range as she flew back and forth in front of me in an effort to distract my attention from her young.

Cinnamon Teal (*Querquedula cyanoptera*). A female with young was seen at some small ponds near Loma Linda in the summer of 1935.

Ruddy Duck (*Erismatura jamaicensis rubida*). Two broods were seen in the summer of 1936 at Fisherman's Retreat, south of Redlands. I was told that a pair nested there several years ago.

Wilson Snipe (*Capella delicata*). About a dozen were seen August 5, 1937, in a small marsh on Bear Lake, San Bernardino Mountains. Two or three birds acted as if they had nests or young, and one nest containing egg shells from which young had hatched was found. Mr. Wilson C. Hanna checked the identification of the egg shells.—HAROLD M. HILL, *Redlands, California, September 19, 1937.*

Another California Record of Red-billed Tropic-bird.—George Willett's note on the taking of a Red-billed Tropic-bird (*Phaethon aethereus*) off southern California on June 26, 1937 (Condor, vol. 39, 1937, p. 226) was of particular interest to me, as I myself unmistakably observed a bird of this species in California waters on October 3, 1937. I was fishing for marlin, from a 22-foot open cockpit runabout, about five miles directly west of Point Loma, when I observed a bird in flight, the long central tail feathers of which, black eye-band, heavy red bill and quick wing-beat declared it to be something altogether new to me. It came close to the boat and alighted upon the water, holding up its tail, rooster-fashion.

The bird was very tame and we circled it twice at a distance of 50 to 75 feet before it took off. It alighted on the water again about half a mile away and we followed it. This time we ran the boat slowly up to the bird and shut off the engine—so close, in fact, that we debated the chances of catching it in a hand net. I could easily have collected it, had I had a gun of any sort. Under the circumstances, I had to satisfy myself by filming it with a hand motion-picture camera. My friends aboard and I had ample opportunity to study the bird at close range, and there can be no question of the identification which I made as soon as I had access to my books.

Willett informs me that there are only three previously published records for the State: Specimen (whereabouts now unknown) taken by W. H. Graves between Long Beach and Catalina Island in August, 1916 (Condor, vol. 21, 1919, p. 88); sight observations by Loye Miller (Condor, vol. 28, 1926, p. 14); and his own recent capture of a specimen referred to above.—J. W. SEFTON, JR., *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, October 19, 1937.*

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Southern California.—On October 2, 1937, I was en route from Palmdale to Los Angeles, via Mint Canyon, Los Angeles County. Six miles east of Saugus, I had the good fortune to see a visitor rare to California, the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*). My wife and I were within forty feet of the bird, which was flying out apparently in pursuit of insects. The prolonged tail feathers and the beautiful salmon tint of the posterior under parts were plainly visible as it sat upon a barbed-wire fence. The bird appeared to be in excellent plumage.—GILBERT PHILP, *Beverly Hills, California, October 12, 1937.*

Snowy Plover Nesting in Merced County, California.—The Western Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus nivosus*), although common on our sea-coast, is noted but rarely and in small numbers in the interior of the State. On May 13, 1937, the writer while in the field near Los Baños, Merced County, worked a shallow alkaline pond of about five acres which contained ten small bare islands. These were occupied by American Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) and Black-necked