

by their family cares. None noted in 1938, and, to judge from the past, they will probably not appear again for years.

American Avocet. *Recurvirostra americana*. Abundant in 1937 at both pools; 63 were counted on July 12. Young appeared in June in broods of one, two and three (sheer exactness is difficult because of their skulking and hiding in grass and weeds). One brood of four was definitely noted. On June 10, two young birds were observed swimming blithely a hundred feet or more from shore, causing more than usual trepidation to their excited parents. During the summer this breeding colony was a constant source of delight to many visitors. In fact the writer, for several weeks, functioned largely as a kind of exalted Avocet patron, to show them to their eager friends and as a self-deputed warden to protect them from those of evil intent. The lower water levels of 1938 apparently changed the scene. No young were noted, and in mid-July not more than seven could be counted along both pools.

Sanderling. *Crocethia alba*. On the south shore of the east pool, 23 were observed on September 11, 1937, and seven at the same place on September 25. The shores are muddy and the birds were not happy with the association (see Junea W. Kelly, "Geologic Factors in the Distribution of Birds," Condor, vol. 37, 1935, p. 11). They remained scattered, singly or in very small groups; no flocking and, of course, no platoon running with the waves. Their curious petulance toward the omnipresent Western Sandpipers (*Ereunetes mauri*) was striking.

Lesser Yellow-legs. *Totanus flavipes*. On March 5, 1937, two were observed on the Dudfield Flat, on the west side of the Bay Shore. One was taken (no. 182, E. W. M., collection Stanford N. H. Mus.). This is unique, the writer believes, as a spring migrant for the San Francisco Bay region. In fact (so far as the writer knows) most of the California records are for late summer or fall birds.

Western Snowy Plover. *Charadrius nivosus nivosus*. Young fledgling birds were observed on the middle dike, on August 3, 1937. None noted in 1938. Semipalmated Plovers (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) also were much more numerous in 1937 than in 1938.

Spotted Sandpiper. *Actitis macularia*. Only one has been observed in the area, September 11, 1937 (no. 551, E. W. M. Coll.).

Baird Sandpiper. *Pisobia bairdii*. A solitary bird was taken on the south shore of the east pool on September 4, 1937 (no. 540, E. W. M. Coll.). Identification has been kindly confirmed by Mr. Chase Littlejohn, and by Robert T. Orr of the California Academy of Sciences. The Baird is so rare in this area that it was not even listed in the 1927 "Directory" to the bird-life of the Bay region by Grinnell and Wythe.

Western Pigeon Hawk. *Falco columbarius bendirei*. One was taken by Longhurst near the west pool, on November 7, 1937 (no. 623, E. W. M. Coll.). Mentioned only because this bird had very recently dined on two Least Sandpipers (*Pisobia minutilla*), as proved by the feet found in the stomach. Another taken, also by Longhurst, at Pescadero, San Mateo County (no. 678, E. W. M. Coll.), on January 18, 1938, by the same token had a penchant for Savannah Sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis* subsp.), save that in this instance the feet were not swallowed.

White-tailed Kite. *Elanus leucurus*. Only one noted as it hovered over a grain field, south of the lower Embarcadero, on June 2, 1937. Mentioned here only because in this identical area this lovely and lovable bird is recorded as common by several observers at the turn of the century.

Desiderata: We have about given up hopes of noting either of the Turnstones, the Wandering Tattler or the Surf-bird in the area; the associations are too violent, but we still yearn to record, in particular, the following: Golden Plover, Black Rail, Yellow Rail, Knot, Pectoral Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Black-necked Stilt, and Black Tern. Club members have a plan to reopen an old artesian well and to equip it with a windmill and thus flood part of a small meadow to the south of the west pool; without doubt this would help solve some of the desiderata, and others as well, for later records. The larger practical program of mosquito control may, however, nullify the plan.—E. W. MARTIN, Palo Alto, California, February 23, 1939.

Nesting Records of the Red-shafted Flicker from Charleston Mountain, Nevada.—In his "Birds of the Charleston Mountains, Nevada" (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 24, 1936, p. 27), van Rossem makes the observation that the Red-shafted Flicker was not found nesting in the area and that "no nest holes were found, nor was a single flicker seen in July and August, 1932. . . . I have no explanation to offer as to why flickers apparently avoid the mountains of southern Nevada during the breeding season."

During July, 1938, I discovered two nests of this flicker in the aspen grove at the Kyle Canyon Campground at Charleston Mountain. Both homes were still occupied when I revisited the area in August, but apparently the young were gone at that time. Both pairs of flickers appeared to be *Coluptes cafer collaris*.—RUSSELL K. GRATER, Boulder City, Nevada, February 3, 1939.