THE CONDOR

"On August 12, 1938, Dr. B. A. Westfall . . . and I saw three adult Starlings in the trees in front of the post office at Las Vegas, Nevada. This was about 9 o'clock in the morning. Dr. Westfall is a trained ornithologist having had considerable experience in that field and I am well enough informed on the common birds to know Starlings without a doubt. We were both surprised to see these birds so far west and followed them as they flew from bush to tree in the vicinity of the U. S. Post Office. Our observations lasted over 15 or 20 minutes during which time we were very close to the three birds. Business matters took us on but we were so impressed with our find that we discussed it several times during the day and the next morning looked for the birds again. We did not see them. As you know large trucks come through from the East and Las Vegas is a base point for considerable trucking. We have nothing to offer beyond that suggestion concerning the arrival of these birds in Las Vegas. Both Dr. Westfall and I feel absolutely certain of our identification."—CLARENCE COTTAM, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., September 8, 1941.

Nesting of Buffle-head Duck at Lake Almanor, California.—While motoring on Lake Almanor, Plumas County, on May 19, 1940, I passed through some standing dead timber on the south side of the lake. I was surprised to flush a female Buffle-head (*Charitonetta albeola*) from a hole 25 feet up in a dead tree. Either the noise of the motor or the boat brushing against the tree scared her out. The duck flew up the lake a considerable distance and settled on the water, giving opportunity to identify it with the aid of field glasses. On May 20, I returned with a ladder. The female was in the vicinity but she did not allow me to approach closely. The nest contained six partly incubated eggs.— HOWARD P. DAVIS, Alhambra, California, January 27, 1941.

Two New Records for Nevada.—Examples of two species of birds heretofore unknown from the state of Nevada recently have been taken in the vicinity of Fallon:

Crocethia alba. Sanderling. A lone individual was seen and obtained (no. 81635, Mus. Vert. Zool.) on May 10, 1941, at the south end of Soda Lake, Churchill County.

Seiurus aurocapillus. Oven-bird. One was obtained (no. 83232, Mus. Vert. Zool.) on June 12, 1941, four miles west of Fallon, Churchill County. This bird was found by Mr. W. H. Alcorn near the stock corral on his ranch. It appeared to have been dead for about two days; we were unable to determine what had killed it.—J. R. ALCORN, Fallon, Nevada, July 18, 1941.

Summer Records from the Bodega Bay Region, California.—Ornithological observations made in the period from May 20 to June 27, 1941, in the vicinity of Bodega Bay on the central California coast, include a number of noteworthy records of summer occurrence. The field work centered about Dillon Beach, Marin County, and included the lower end of Bodega Bay, the northern part and mouth of Tomales Bay, and Tomales Point. In evaluating these records, I have had access to references on the birds of California assembled by the late Dr. Joseph Grinnell.

Gavia stellata. Red-throated Loon. This winter visitant usually leaves the coast of central California by early May. One adult was seen on June 13 on protected waters near the mouth of Tomales Bay. Two more individuals were noted on June 21 at the same location. Moffiitt's record (Condor, 40, 1938:261) from Marin County of an individual taken May 22, 1921, is apparently the latest record heretofore.

Branta nigricans. Black Brant. Brant usually stay through April. A small flock of approximately forty individuals remained near the mouth of Tomales Bay until May 30. One or two individuals were seen at the same place on June 10, 25, and 26.

Numerius americanus. Long-billed Curlew. Mid-summer records of this curlew, which is predominantly a fall transient along the coast, are apparently few. A flock of ten was seen on June 26 on mud flats near Tom Point on Tomales Bay. Grinnell and Wythe (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 18, 1927:71) mention July 6 as an early date for the San Francisco Bay region.

Ereunetes mauri. Western Sandpiper. Summer "stragglers" have apparently been recorded on a a number of occasions along the central California coast. But it seems worth while to record a sizable flock of about seventy individuals which appeared on the mud flats near the mouth of Tomales Bay on June 26. Prior to this date no limicolines other than a few isolated individuals were noted in the region, but on the 26th, besides the present species, the curlews recorded above, a flock of seven willets (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*), and several unidentified sandpipers of different species appeared.

Limosa fedoa. Marbled Godwit. Approximately ten godwits were seen scattered over mud flats of Bodega Lagoon, Sonoma County, on June 12. "Stragglers" have been recorded along the central California coast through the summer season.

Larus philadelphia. Bonaparte Gull. A single immature gull of this species was seen on June 21