

were subsequently noted with patterns similar to numbers 1, 2, and 3 (one observation for each). In these cases there was no way of determining whether they were repeats, or different birds with similar patterns.—WILLIAM M. PURSELL, *Berkeley, California*, and LAIDLAW WILLIAMS, *Carmel, California, October 26, 1951*.

Chestnut-backed Chickadee in the Sierra Nevada.—On June 17, 1951, a flock of five Chestnut-backed Chickadees (*Parus rufescens*) was seen along the Big Trees Trail in Calaveras Big Trees State Park, Calaveras County, California, at an elevation of about 4700 feet, by nine members of the Golden Gate Audubon Society (Gull, 33, 1951:27). The birds were observed at close range in good light for about 15 minutes. There was no sign of a white eye-stripe on any of the birds; the chestnut patch on the back was seen on several of the birds as well as the brownish wash on the flanks. [New locality records of this chickadee supported by specimen evidence should be sought in the future.—Editor.]—A. LAURENCE CURL, *El Cerrito, California, June 20, 1951*.

Sabine Gull at Mono Lake, California.—On September 16, 1951, while standing on the shore of Mono Lake in Mono County, California, watching the thousands of grebes and phalaropes, I was surprised to see a Sabine Gull (*Xema sabini*) flying low over the water and close to me. Size, shape, and color were all carefully checked through high-power binoculars although the bird was close enough for determination of species with the naked eye. It was interesting to note the dark head even at this late date. Searching the literature I find only one record for this same locality, that cited by Grinnell and Miller (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:171) as follows: "at Mono Lake, Mono County, in September, 1901 (W. K. Fisher, Condor, 4, 1902:10)." —EARLE R. GREENE, *Oxnard, California, October 3, 1951*.

The Painted Redstart at Santa Barbara, California.—On October 9, 1951, I was called by Mr. Waldo G. Abbott of the Santa Barbara Museum staff to come down to verify his identification of two Painted Redstarts (*Setophaga picta*). One bird was taken, a male in full plumage. The specimen is now in our systematic series in the bird hall, and is catalogued as no. 4048.

These birds apparently had been in the area for about a week, because a resident of the neighborhood said she had seen two birds which she described as Painted Redstarts. On October 9 the birds were in almost the exact place where Mrs. Cooke reported seeing one the preceding January (Condor, 53, 1951:205).—EGMONT Z. RETT, *Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, California, October 23, 1951*.

Wood Ibis in New Mexico.—On September 2, 1951, John G. Bamesberger and the writer observed three immature Wood Ibises, *Mycteria americana*, at a small marsh near Bernardo, Socorro County, New Mexico. One of these, a male, was collected and is now no. 124846 in the collection of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. To the best of my knowledge this represents the first specimen of Wood Ibis taken in the state and the only recorded observation since 1854 when Henry observed a flock near Fort Thorn (Bailey, Birds of New Mexico, 1928:94). Fort Thorn is near the present town of Rincon, Dona Ana County, New Mexico. Bernardo is about 130 miles north of Rincon.—A. E. BORELL, *Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 25, 1951*.

Leconte Sparrow in Western Montana.—A group of Leconte Sparrows (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*) was discovered on July 16, 1950, at Camas Creek on the western side of Glacier National Park, Montana. At least four males were singing from definite locations. The birds were found in an isolated wet meadow about half a square mile in extent and containing the introduced timothy grass (*Phleum pratense*) and redbud (*Agrostis alba*). The native plants are primarily *Alopecurus alpinus*, *Scirpus microcarpus*, *Carex crawfordi*, *C. scoparia*, *Camassia esculenta* and *Senecio triangularis*. A singing male with fully enlarged testes was collected and is now at Montana State University on indefinite loan.

Additional observations were obtained in 1951. No bird was seen at Camas Creek by Robert Lechleitner on June 15 nor by Davis and Lechleitner on June 25. However, on July 16 several birds were singing at Camas Creek and a nest with five eggs was found in an extensive meadow some eight miles to the northwest and four miles southeast of Logging Ranger Station. During the month of July an unsuccessful search was made for Leconte Sparrows in available wet meadows in Glacier

National Park and Waterton Lakes National Park in Canada. However, not all such meadows were seen and it seems likely that the birds occur in some isolated areas.

The Leconte Sparrow has been recorded from only three counties (Roosevelt, Phillips, and Sheridan) in the eastern part of the state (Hotchkiss, Condor, 50, 1948:274-275). It is reported in the A.O.U. Check-list (1931) as accidental in Idaho, Utah, and Colorado. The original references indicate that these occurrences were probably accidental and do not indicate the possibility of breeding. In Alberta a specimen was observed by Clarke in May, 1930, in the foothills between Calgary and Banff (letter from W. Earl Godfrey, National Museum of Canada). The species occurs regularly in the northern part of Alberta.

It is noteworthy that this species arrived so late in the season at Glacier National Park. One wonders if the species has spread south from northern Alberta and if it retraces in migration its possible ancestral route of dispersion.—DAVID E. DAVIS, *Montana State University Biological Station, Missoula, Montana, October 26, 1951.*

Inland Record of the White-winged Scoter from California.—The White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*), a winter visitor along the sea coast of California, has been recorded only three times in that state from inland fresh-water localities. These are Lake Tahoe, southwestern Ventura County, and Redlands (Grinnell and Miller, Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944:89). Only one specimen was taken, that at Lake Tahoe. Thus it is considered well to record that on October 28, 1951, Mr. Louis Cass shot an adult female from an irrigation pond on the Pauba Ranch at Temecula, Riverside County, California. The writer was present and identified the bird, which will probably be mounted and form a part of the collection of ducks which have been found on the ranch.—J. R. PEMBERTON, *Los Angeles, California, October 29, 1951.*

A Second November Nest of the California Thrasher.—Sargent (Condor, 42, 1940:54) noted adult California Thrashers (*Toxostoma redivivum*) carrying food to a nest at Pasadena, California, between November 8 and 16, 1935. The first of the two young left the nest on November 26. This is the earliest recorded nesting of this species. On November 12, 1951, Miss Helen S. Pratt notified me that she had recovered on that day two deserted nestling California Thrashers from a nest at 2451 Ridgeview Avenue, Los Angeles, California. The smaller of the two had subsequently died. Miss Pratt kindly gave me the dead nestling which I preserved as a formalin specimen. She is raising the other bird, which appeared in excellent condition at the time of my last visit on November 19, 1951.—JOHN DAVIS, *Moore Laboratory of Zoology, Occidental College, Los Angeles, California, November 20, 1951.*

Winter Record of the Warbling Vireo in California.—On December 29, 1951, we were surprised to find a Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) on the campus of the University of California at Berkeley. The bird was foraging a little above our heads in a toyon shrub (*Photinia arbutifolia*) at the edge of a strip of broad-leaf vegetation growing alongside a small stream. It came to within 15 feet of both observers, and its vireonine form and movements together with markings characteristic of this species were so obvious that we felt no doubt whatever of its identity. A Hutton Vireo (*Vireo huttoni*) conveniently appeared close by the Warbling Vireo, affording an easy comparison of the two. Both vireos moved away and became lost in the vegetation, apparently following a flock of juncos (with which the vireos were originally associated).

On December 12, 1951, Keith L. Dixon observed what he believed to be a Warbling Vireo in precisely the same location. This observation was made under similar conditions.

Mr. Chandler S. Robbins has examined the bird-distribution files of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and has kindly informed us of previous winter observations of the Warbling Vireo in the United States. All these are sight records, summarized as follows: (Florida: January 7, 1917, Royal Palm Hammock (noted by H. R. Mills, O. E. Baynard and Mrs. Hiram Byrd; reported by Howell, Auk, 38, 1921:261); December 23, 1933, Sarasota (Anne Perkins). (2) Texas: December 25, 1934, Hot Springs, at junction of Tornillo Creek and the Rio Grande River (Mrs. Lovie Whitaker, MS notes); December 23, 1950, Harlingen (L. I. Davis, *et al.*, on Christmas bird count).

Despite the fact that no one has a specimen to back up any of the foregoing records, it seems certain that the species does occasionally winter in the United States. Collection of specimens in winter