

21, 1935:248) found a similar pattern of seasonal weight variations among California Quail (*Lophortyx californica*) in the central coastal region of California. Stoddard in Georgia (The Bobwhite Quail, 1931:76) and Lehmann in Texas (*op. cit.*, p. 216) indicate that the same seasonal weight variations occur among Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). The weights of female Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) show a comparable sharp, temporary, increase during the breeding season in New York (Bump, *et al.*, The Ruffed Grouse, 1947:92). Although the male grouse increased in weight during the same period, their increase is shown as being less abrupt and of less magnitude, amounting to only about one per cent as compared to an increase of four per cent for the females.—GORDON W. GULLION and ARDELLE M. GULLION, *Cloquet, Minnesota, June 27, 1960.*

**Savannah Sparrow Breeding at Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains of California.**—On June 28, 1959, while observing birds in the grass-sedge habitat found along the northeast shore of Big Bear Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains, San Bernardino County, California, I discovered a pair of Savannah Sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) carrying nesting material. Upon returning to the same area on July 13, 1959, the birds could not be found, but while examining the large grass-sedge pasture at the east end of the lake, several pairs and one nest with fledged young were detected. One adult bird was collected and proved to be a female in breeding condition. This specimen was examined by Alden H. Miller and found to be of the race *nevadensis*. While visiting the Big Bear area again this year on June 5, 1960, many pairs were observed in several pastureland localities around the lake and they apparently were breeding. This locality is about 100 miles southeast of the nearest previously known breeding colony in the upper Kern Basin, Kern County, California, as reported by Grinnell and Miller (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 27, 1947:484*). Possibly the Savannah Sparrow has recently begun to breed in this area because of the greatly increased suitable habitat now available due to the falling level of the lake in the past twelve years.—EUGENE A. CARDIFF, *San Bernardino County Museum, Bloomington, California, September 6, 1960.*

**Inland Occurrences of the Red Phalarope in Oregon.**—On November 21, 1959, Gene O'Brien reported the presence of a shorebird in his yard in Oak Grove, Oregon, a town in Clackamas County 7 miles south of Portland. Later that day I went to see the bird, which proved to be a Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). Since that time I have learned of five other records of this species in the Willamette Valley made within a week of the time of my observation. On November 20, two were found dead beside the highway 2 miles southwest of Forest Grove in Washington County. They came into the possession of John Bodley and LeRoy Fish and were prepared as study skins by Fish, who now has them in his collection. On November 21, Bodley and Fish saw and photographed 23 Red Phalaropes at Wapato Lake, 3 miles south of Gaston in Washington County. Another observation on November 21 was Donald Randol's sighting of 15 or 20 phalaropes at Spookum Lake, in Marion County, 2 miles south of Newberg. Of two birds found dead there, one is now in the collection at the Oregon State College Museum of Natural History. On November 22, Asa Thoresen spotted two individuals about 2 miles south of Philomath, in Benton County. On November 26, David B. Marshall observed and took color photographs of seven birds at Westmoreland Park in Portland.

Two storms were recorded in western Oregon at the time of these observations. The first struck the coast on November 15, bringing large numbers of phalaropes ashore along at least 75 miles of the coastline. At Nestucca Bay in Tillamook County, Tom McAllister saw phalaropes on November 16, and at Willapa Bay in Pacific County, Washington, Robert C. Twist, manager of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, noted several hundred blown ashore "during the week of November 15 to 21" (personal communication). A number of observations of the Red Phalarope were made between these locations. On November 20 the second storm arose. "Winds in excess of 100 m.p.h. were unofficially recorded by the Coast Guard along the Pacific Coast and by Air Force radar stations atop mountain peaks. Inland valley Weather Bureau and FAA stations recorded gusts in excess of 70 m.p.h. at several points" (U.S. Weather Bureau, Oregon Climatological Data, LXV, 1959:184). The wind direction was generally west to southwest. The appearance of the Red Phalaropes in the Willamette Valley was evidently a result of the second of these storms.

Although it is not unusual for the Red Phalarope to visit the coast of Oregon in large numbers in October and November, it is only a "casual straggler inland," according to Gabrielson and Jewett