MIDDLE PACIFIC COAST REGION.—Our contributors, banders and field observers alike, reported nearly unanimously a late fall migration season. Not

only did summering species linger late; winter birds built up unusually slowly (see "Thrushes" and "Fringillidae" below). An especially noteworthy feature of this season was an apparent incursion of eastern warblers, which rather suggestively matches similar reports from Southern California (reviewed in "Coastal Migration" below). Other unusual reports are covered in the species account. Owing to widely different conditions of climate—as distinct from weather—in the coastal and interior sections of this Region, these two sections will be considered separately.

Coastal Migration (reviewed by R. O. Paxton)—Movements of passage migrants as well as the arrival of wintering species were late this year along the coast. Almost daily checks of two small areas near San Francisco Bay by Florence Plymell and Paul DeBenedictis and frequent checks by Edwin Willis documented the peaks and troughs of local bird populations with remarkable consistency. Although radar studies elsewhere have cast doubt upon the correlation

between ground observation and migration aloft, peaks and troughs on the ground did respond in some degree to the weather.

That response was not the close correlation of population peaks with the passage of cold fronts as found in the East or along the Gulf Coast, however. Although some peaks occurred after cold fronts, they were more likely to pile up with southerly winds or the rainfall that often accompanies southerly winds on the Middle Pacific Coast. It is perhaps worth noting that the passage of a cold front does not radically alter the normal state of affairs in this Region. Prevailing winds are from the northwest anyway along the coast, so that nights have favorable winds for migration. This year, northerly winds prevailed on 57 days out of the 91 days of September, October and November, while southerly winds prevailed on 19. Clearly, the weather has a more noticeable local effect when it holds the migrants up than when it hastens them on.

The first important migration movement of the season along the coast was perhaps exceptional in its apparent relation to an unusual weather pattern. On Sept. 8 and 9, a massive high pressure cell formed over Alberta, and Continental Arctic air flowed as far south as northeastern California. Freezing temperatures and snow occurred at record early dates in the northern Great Basin. Although winds along the coast remained in their usual northwest quarter, the most important September movement of flycatchers and warblers took place along the coast near San Francisco on Sept. 9 and 10. Among them was an astonishing collection of eastern warblers, species which breed within the area covered by Continental Arctic air two days before. To take only the unmistakable Am. Redstart as an example, five different birds were observed on Sept. 7-15 in such continually worked areas as Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, Strawberry Canyon in Berkeley, and Pacific Grove.

Another peak warbler period on Sept. 18, however, occurred during a period of stable weather. The final peak period of September coincided with rains on the 29th which may have grounded night migrants in the Bay area. It brought 2 more Am. Redstarts to the Monterey Peninsula.

A minor peak on Oct. 4 did appear to follow a cold front. The major weather event of October, however, was a raging storm that pounded the entire Northern Pacific Coast on the 12th and 13th, pouring 4½ inches of rain on the San Francisco Bay area in one 24-hour-period and reaching clocked southeast wind velocities of 120 m.p.h. on Mt. Tamalpais, Marin Co. The storm had no locally discernible effect on migration, and after it bird populations were low. Following the storm three substantial peaks of migrant populations built up during a long period of essentially stable weather along the coast. An important period of arrival of wintering birds was Oct. 16-17, along with an unusually late large passage of Wilson's and Black-throated Gray Warblers. This peak coincided with rather strong northeasterly winds. A flock of 100 Townsend's Warblers at Eureka on Oct. 20 (*BDP*) foreshadowed the highest October peak in the Bay area, on the 22nd and 23rd, accompanying fog and light rain. It included another Am. Redstart and other eastern warblers. A further build-up of wintering species occurred on Oct. 29 after two days of light southerly winds in the Bay area. Typically, the October peaks were higher in absolute numbers than the September peaks had been, reflecting the fact that wintering birds outnumber passage migrants, at least along the coastal section of this Region.

Some of the eastern warblers lingered at points at the edge of the sea for several days, suggesting birds that had gone beyond their point of possible correction, as R. J. Newman has described along the Atlantic Coast. The expected large proportion of these birds was immature.

Migration in the Interior—The lack of observations from suitable habitat in the interior during the height of visible coastal movements precludes direct comparison of inland and coastal migration "peaks." However, the pattern of migratory movement may be gaged in part from these scattered records: First movements of small groups of flycatchers and warblers (as distinguished from single birds) were recorded in late July at the 6000 ft. level, Lassen County (*ROP, et al.*), and during the first week of August at the 3000 ft. level in Siskiyou County and in the Central Valley (*MSC, MM*). After the first week in September, predominant abundance at higher elevations in the Sierra shifted to Audubon's Warblers and to the Fringillidae (Sept. 8, 7000 ft., Alpine County; Sept. 16, 6500 ft., Lassen County). The occurrence of 1000 Lesser Goldfinches at 9300 ft., on Sept. 13, Tulare County, is one of the more striking examples of "up-mountain wandering," often mentioned but little explored or understood. No flycatchers and few warblers other than Audubon's were recorded on these dates at these altitudes.

Conversely, non-wintering, insectivorous migrants became increasingly conspicuous during September in river-bottom habitats in the Central Valley. Early in that month, warblers and flycatchers were fairly common at the mouth of the Stanislaus River (see Operation Recovery below). *Empidonax* flycatchers outnumbered all other migrants in riparian vegetation near Stockton on Sept. 6 and 13 (*BM*). Yellow, Orange-crowned, and Wilson's Warblers made up 80 per cent of an estimated 500 migrants in 0.4 square mile of river-bottom habitat in the Sacramento Valley on Sept. 22, a clear windless day, preceded by similar stable weather patterns (*MM & PdeB*).

Although the records cited are not adequate for conclusive analysis, they suggest that the highly diversified and often sharply delineated *climatic*, topographical, and ecological conditions in central California may play an important part in the formation of visible diurnal concentrations of transient birds in this Region.

No eastern stragglers were reported from the interior.

Operation Recovery—Members of the Western Bird Banding Association initiated "Operation Recovery" this fall and banded a total of 100 birds at the mouth of the Stanislaus River, San Joaquin Co., between Sept. 1 and 7 (in 261 net hours). Seemingly, this is a most modest figure, yet, as pointed out by Dr. Cogswell in the *Western Bird Bander* (37:52),

"when converted to the standard Operation Recovery unit of birds per 1000 net hours the take becomes a very respectable 383 per 1000 net hours." Respectable indeed, considering that these efforts were concentrated prior to peak migration dates in the Region. Only 12 migrant species were banded, 72 per cent of them warblers, 20 per cent *Empidonax* flycatchers. Not many more are to be expected at any one time and location in the West, but this lack of variety seems somewhat compensated for by the higher frequency of capture of our most common species as compared to the commonest migrants in the East: the Stanislaus River operation caught Wilson's Warblers at a rate of 92 per 1000 net hours, Yellow Warblers at 80, Orange-crowns at 38, and Western Flycatchers at 31. This, for instance, compares very favorably with a top rate of 51 Catbirds per 1000 net hours at one eastern station during early eastern Operation Recovery activities in 1958. There is little doubt that a concentrated netting effort in Central California—during mid-September for non-wintering transients and October for wintering immigrants—would yield some very worthwhile results. The high frequency of catch reported in netting of sparrows in the Central Valley in October and November by Rich Stallcup and John Ralph (to be recorded elsewhere) gives an indication of the untapped possibilities in this field.

Pelagics, Pelicans—Although small flocks of Sooty Shearwaters were observed from shore in August and early September (*EAA, JH*), major concentrations of pelagic birds did not occur off our coast, quite in contrast to 1960 and 1961. The strong northwest winds usually associated with these shore flights were notably lacking this fall. During an all day watch *during* the heavy storm on Oct. 12, accompanied by strong southwest winds, no shearwaters were seen close to shore (Princeton, San Mateo Co., *OA*). The most unusual concentration after the storm was 6 Black Petrels in Monterey Harbor on Oct. 14 (*RLB*). No major flight was observed off Pt. Pinos at any time during the season (*GPL*). On the boat trips off Monterey on Sept. 9 and Oct. 6, no Black-footed Albatrosses were seen and shearwaters were scarce, though comparative abundance was similar to last year's *early October* concentrations; *viz.* 90 New Zealand Shearwaters outnumbered the usually more common Sooty Shearwaters on the Oct. 6 trip. The four Fulmars reported are very much in contrast to last winter's invasion. Space does not permit a review of an interesting report from a trip 70 miles off San Francisco Bay on Aug. 25 and 26; the greatest variety of species (but no outstanding numbers) was encountered between the Farallon Islands and the Continental Shelf, numbers abruptly decreasing beyond the Shelf (*PdeB*). The possible record of a *Cape Petrel* in Monterey Bay on Sept. 9, seen close to the boat and sketched in the field (*ROP, GMcC, RSP*), points out the need for further collecting off our shores; but one straggler record is known in the northern Pacific Ocean.

White Pelicans were not reported as widely as usual from coastal areas. As outlined in a pamphlet recently sent to our contributors, all observations of *colored* White Pelicans should be reported to James O. Keith, University of California, Davis.

Waterfowl, Cranes, Rails—Two *Fulvous Tree Ducks* were shot out of a flock of 15 near Gridley, Butte Co., on Oct. 20 (John Cowan, *fide FGE*). This is the first record of a *flock* some 100 miles north of their breeding range in the state, and may well parallel recent northern extension of this species on the east coast. Cinnamon Teal, believed to winter largely south of the U. S., were unusually numerous at the Merced Wildlife Refuge: *10,030* during the week of Nov. 18-24 (by aerial count, *DNW*). Six Greater Scaups, a species rarely found inland in California, at the Sacramento By-Pass on Oct. 27 (*RS, JK & JR*), were followed by a report of 35 during the week of Nov. 18 to 24, at the Merced Refuge (*DNW*). A report of 200 Common Mergansers at the mouth of the Klamath River, Del Norte Co., Sept. 9 (*VKC*) is the highest coastal concentration recorded in recent years.

In general, ducks and geese arrived late but peak numbers were recorded by the end of November. Complete review is being deferred to the winter season report.

The importance of even relatively small wildlife refuges is well illustrated by two reports in this group: Don N. White, Refuge Manager at Merced Wildlife Refuge, reported a record population of *15,000* Sandhill Cranes on Nov. 7 on the "east Grasslands" unit of that refuge. ". . . the migration becomes evident about Oct. 1, builds up to peak about Nov. 10 . . . then declines rapidly to a few birds by Dec. 15." This traditional stop-over of southbound migrants was saved by establishment of the Merced Refuge in 1951. In the small sanctuary under guardianship of the Santa Clara Audubon Society in South San Francisco Bay, Earl Albertson counted 65 Clapper Rails in ½ mile of flooded marsh during a high tide on Nov. 12.

Condors, Kites, Hawks—Tulare County is not only one of the few areas in the state where frequency of occurrence of *California Condors* has increased since 1930, but is also the only locality where in recent history (1950) an active nest was found away from the metropolis of the species in the state (*The California Condor*, C. B. Koford, 1953). This summer and fall several residents reported these birds in the southern section of that county; reliable sightings follow: Sept. 12, Solo Peak (2); Sept. 13, Slate Mt. (1); Sept. 18, Springville (1); Oct. 20, Camp Nelson, (1); all Tulare County, elevations from 1200 to 9000 ft. (Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mires). One was near Cahoon Lookout in southern Sequoia Nat'onal Park on Aug. 19 (Carl Merriman, *fide* R. C. Burns). Mr. Burns, Acting Chief Naturalist at the Park, reported a total of four sightings in 1960 and 1961; one, seen by him on Jan. 1, 1961, provides evidence that these birds are sparingly present during the winter in that area. Another report, accompanied by excellent details, came from Tuolumne County, in the foothills approaching Yosemite Nat'l Park: 3 adults flushed at 100 feet from a roost with Turkey Vultures near Jacksonville, July 7 (Ron Hennesey and Ken Blosser). Turkey Vultures were judged to be more numerous this summer, with fall concentrations

frequently mentioned; among others, 111 southbound migrants were counted over suburban Fresno on Oct. 1 (Mrs. J. W. Bradley).

White-tailed Kites were present for several days in mid-August in Scott Valley, Siskiyou Co., 80 miles north of their known range in the state (well documented, *fide MSC*). Three were seen near their northern range on the coast: 1 at Loleta, Humboldt Co., Sept. 22 (*BDP*); 1 at Mendocino, Oct. 29; and 1 at Ft. Bragg, Mendocino Co. (*J & AM*). They were well represented this year in their normal range in the Region, particularly so in Sonoma County (*NM, et al.*). Sharp-shinned Hawks became very numerous in open grassland on the Pt. Reyes Peninsula in early November; on Oct. 6 an immature was flying in a northeasterly direction, 5 ft. above the ocean, four miles off the Monterey coast (*GMcC & ROP*).

Shorebirds—A small area, regularly censused, often yields the clearest picture of migrant fluctuations, especially when the very abundance of the birds in this group along our coast makes estimates difficult. The following data on the "peep" migration are extracted from Richard T. Holmes weekly census of approximately 1 mile of mud flats along San Francisco Bay, near Emeryville, Alameda Co.

	*Least Sandpiper**	*Dunlin*	*West. Sandpiper***
Sept. 1-15	200	0	600
16-30	200	25	1000
Oct. 1-15	200	200	1400
16-31	410	5600	3500
Nov. 1-15	400	5200	2400
16-30	250	5600	2600

* present since early August
** present since early July

Casual observations during July and August suggest there may be an earlier peak for the two species present at that time, but this requires further detailed observation.

The heavy October storm was believed to have had two effects: (1) Larger concentrations at sheltered locations during the storm, and (2) considerable spreading out of birds waiting out the high tides. Howard L. Cogswell, in censusing a large area in the vicinity of the new Oakland Airport, points out the importance of the heights of the "high tide" and flooding due to heavy rain in relation to concentrations on loafing grounds—or "waiting grounds"—as he prefers to call them, "in order to call attention to the real function of these areas in the life of the birds." By way of example, in the morning of Oct. 6, during a 3.9 ft. tide, he estimated 10,000 Western Sandpipers concentrated inside a dike near Bay Farm Island; in the afternoon, during a 4.9 ft. tide 20,000 were massed at the same place (peak count). With much more water in that area after the heavy rains in mid-October, many thousands were still present on these "waiting grounds" on Oct. 21, but now widely scattered (*HLC*). On Oct. 10, at the onset of the storm, 250 Semipalmated Plovers, 500 Snowy Plovers, and 1500 Sanderlings were estimated in addition to some 7000 "peeps" along ¼ mile of shoreline at south Alameda (Junea W. Kelly, *fide ER*). About 2000 Sanderlings were at the Emeryville mud flats on Oct. 14, "probably blown in after the storm" (*EOW*). Other peak counts from the San Francisco Bay area: 1500 Black-bellied Plovers, 300 Long-billed Curlews, Oct. 23, east of San Leandro Bay (*ER*); at the same location 150 Knots, Nov. 4 (*PdeB & MM*), and 60 at South San Francisco Bay, Nov. 11 (*EAA*); 1000 dowitchers, Aug. 29, east of San Leandro Bay (*HLC*); 1400 Am. Avocets, Sept. 14, Oakland Airport (*HLC*). Additional reports of high counts in August, though in our opinion not unreasonable, are not included at this time mainly because areas of observation and tide conditions make comparison with the above records impracticable.

It is of interest to compare these data with Dr. B. D. Parmeter's records from the mouth of the Eel River, Humboldt Co., about 200 miles to the north. His records clearly illustrate the different status of certain species at the two latitudes: Semipalmated Plover, peak Aug. 7, none after Oct. 10; Whimbrel, peak on Aug. 7 (400 in 5 miles), last record on Aug. 14; dowitcher, peak on Sept. 8, last record on Sept. 22; Western Sandpiper, peak on Sept. 22 ("1000s"), in Oct. and Nov., 100 or less; Am. Avocet, 31 on Sept. 22, and 4 on Oct. 21 (highest number ever recorded at that northern coastal location, the species does not migrate along the coast north of San Francisco Bay). All of these birds commonly winter in the San Francisco Bay area and south.

Phalaropes were low in numbers in general, in particular Red Phalaropes which, along with other pelagic migrants, were "notable for lack of numbers along the Monterey coast" (*GPL*).

Inland migration of shorebirds is almost totally dependent upon managed water and difficult to assess. Long-billed Curlews, favoring the interior route, were numerous. A flock in a flooded field east of Davis, built up from 25 birds on Aug. 5, to 950 on Sept. 22, and was accompanied by 45 Whimbrels on Aug. 19 only (5 dates of observation, *FGE, IIN, MM, GMcC, et al*). Another 1000 Long-billed Curlews were at the Gustine Gun Club on Sept. 30 (*PdeB & MM*).

Unusual Species and Locality Records—Although coverage was comparable, two species appeared in much lower numbers than last year: Am. Golden Plovers (26 vs. 6) and Pectoral Sandpipers (110 vs. 22); 5 of the latter were seen at Grey Lodge Refuge at the late date of Nov. 2 (*RS, JK & JR*). Judged by previous records, both species fluctuate greatly and peak flights may coincide (see *AFN* 11:55). Lesser Yellowlegs also were low in numbers, though they appeared early at Grey Lodge Refuge (1, July 12, *TLR*). Baird's Sandpipers were reported in the usual small groups of 5 or less, both inland and on the coast. Up to 3 Knots seen by several observers on Aug. 19 at the Davis Sewage Farm represent one of the few inland records in California (*FGE, BK, GMcC, et al.*). A *Stilt Sandpiper*, among a group of dowitchers, was at the Bridge Toll Plaza, Alameda Co., on Sept. 16, well described by Lynn Farrar.

Jaegers, Gulls, Terns, Alcids—Though not numerous off the coast, jaegers were fairly common in San Francisco Bay: 6 in the Bay at the beginning of the storm on Oct. 10 (Olga Clarke); both Pomarine and Parasitic identified there in September (*HLC, WMP*). On Aug. 27, a *Long-tailed Jaeger*, "with central rectrices fully eight to ten inches long . . . the tail having an undulating motion somewhat like the Magpie-jay of Mexico," was observed over Clear Lake, Lake Co., for the first inland record in California (Jerrold D. Conners & Dr. S. F. Cook, Jr.). Gulls and terns, similar to other birds inhabiting the coastal beaches, were concentrated in shallow bays and river inlets during the October storm; only one or two possible storm victims were reported. This was not a flight year for Elegant Terns, 40 being the highest number at Moss Landing, and there were only single individuals around San Francisco Bay. Three Xantus' Murrelets, recorded on Aug. 25 and 26, about 40 miles off San Francisco, were the only alcids present in "deep sea waters" (1000 fathoms), 1 examined in hand (*PdeB*).

Cuckoos, Hummingbirds, Sapsuckers—A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was singing on the late date of Sept. 30 at the mouth of the Stanislaus River (*PdeB & MM*), as many as 5 being reported there during Operation Recovery activities in September (*RS, HLC, et al.*). A Roadrunner was at the unusual location of 5000 ft. in Sequoia Nat'l Park on Aug. 16 (*RCB*). *Selasphorus* hummingbirds were recorded later than usual in the Bay Area (2 records in November). The migration of Rufous Hummingbirds seemed to reach its peak on Aug. 13 at 6400 ft. in Tulare County (*MEM*), and on Aug. 22 to 23 in Chico, Butte Co. (*TLR*). A male of this species seemingly returned to the same location in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, where it wintered last season; it has been present there since Oct. 21 (*VdaC, FP*). The *nuchalis* race of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was occasionally seen in Carmel in October (*GPL*).

Flycatchers, Swallows, Corvids, Nuthatches—For the 6th consecutive year, Tropical Kingbirds were reported along the coast: 3 from Oct. 18 to 25 on the Pt. Reyes Peninsula (*GM, et al.*, 1 banded, *RS*); 1 at Princeton, San Mateo Co., Oct. 25 (*OA*); 2 at Pigeon Point, San Mateo Co., Nov. 9 (*DMcL*); 1 at Alameda, Nov. 27 to at least Dec. 8 (*ER, et al.*). This may be regarded as a regular, exclusively coastal, fall visitor to the Region. Of interest is this bird's observed habit of taking grasshoppers off the ground rather than depending on flying insects, "a feeding behavior which seems to make it more capable of winter survival than other flycatchers" (*PdeB*). Please refer to the introductory remarks for records of *Empidonax* flycatchers. Olive-sided Flycatchers, along with an apparent peak in flycatcher migration, were recorded in the Central Valley on Sept. 1 and 3 (*S & WA, PdeB*).

Swallows were later than usual: Several hundred Violet-greens were skimming low over the Klamath River, northern Siskiyou County, during the heavy rain storm on Oct. 11 and 14 (*MSC*); 20 were found dead along the banks; they were widespread along the coast until mid-October (*GLB, BDP, MS*). One immature Barn Swallow was present in Sonoma County, as late as Nov. 17 (*GLB*). Cliff Swallows, usually one of the first to depart, were still at Ferndale, Humboldt Co., Oct. 12 (*BDP*) and 1000 at Springville, Tulare Co., on Oct. 16 (*MEM*). No lowland invasions of corvids or nuthatches were reported during the period.

Thrashers, Thrushes, Kinglets, Shrikes, Starlings—A *Brown Thrasher* (photographed) at a feeder 2 miles south of Big Sur, Monterey Co., from Oct. 28 to Nov. 15 (Mrs. W. M. Chenery, *VLY, RLB*) adds to the long list of "eastern" birds this season. All three wintering thrushes were considered very scarce early in the season by the majority of observers. At the end of November, Robins and Varied Thrushes became more numerous, but the Hermit Thrush remained "unbelievably scarce." Quite in contrast, both Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, though late in arriving, were decidedly more widespread than usual. Cedar Waxwings were rated similar to the thrushes "late and scarce." A Northern Shrike was at Lake Tahoe on the relatively early date of Oct. 28 (*HLC*); judged by previous records they may prove to be of regular occurrence at that location. Starlings, along with blackbirds, elicited a unanimous opinion: More numerous than ever. "Tripled from last year" (San Jose, *DMcL*), "very common" (Humboldt County, *BDP*), are only examples of the comments received. Their arrival on the coast seemed to fall in mid-October.

Vireos, Warblers—The following sight reports will serve as an illustration of the apparent high incidence of stragglers from eastern migration routes. With the exception of the Pt. Reyes Peninsula (4 records, 2 accidentals), coverage was comparable to other years. (Birds in italics are considered accidental in the Region, others casual or rare): *Red-eyed Vireo*, 1, at Moss Landing, Sept. 9 (*RS & JK*); Black-and-white Warbler, 1, at Carmel, Oct. 22 (E. B. Hurlbert in *The Sanderling*, Nov. 1962); Tennessee Warbler (both fall adults), 1 at Tilden Park, Sept. 12 (*PdeB*), and 1 in Oakland, Oct. 18 (*RS & JK*); *Cape May Warbler*, 1, Pt. Reyes Peninsula, Oct. 28 (*PdeB, RS & JK*); *Chestnut-sided Warbler* (all immatures), 5 sightings, 2+ birds, in Tilden Park on Sept. 9 and 10 (*EOW, MM, PdeB, RS*), 1 in Tilden Park, Oct. 23 and 24 (*PdeB, RS*); *Blackpoll Warbler*, 1, Pt. Reyes Peninsula, Oct. 28 (*RS, JK, PdeB, MM*, photographed by *GM*); *Palm Warbler*, 1, Golden Gate Park, Sept. 26 (*FP*), 1, Pt. Reyes Peninsula, Oct. 21 and 22 (*RS, JK, JR, GM*); Northern Waterthrush, 1, Pt. Reyes Peninsula, Oct. 21 and 22 (*JR, RS, JK, GM*); Am. Redstart, total of 8 records, 7 immatures or females: 5 different birds in Monterery and San Francisco Bay Area between Sept. 7 and 15 (*RLB, GPL, VLY, FP, PdeB, MM*); 1 at Pacific Grove, Sept. 24 (*RLB*), 1 at Monterey, Sept. 25 (*RLB*), 1 at Pt. Reyes Peninsula, Oct. 21 (*RS, JK & JR*). For discussion of this highly unusual invasion as well as the warbler migration in general, please refer to the introductory remarks.

Fringillidae—Reports of 4000 to 5000 House Finches at Success Lake, Tulare Co. in October and November (*MEM*), and "1000s" of Lark Sparrows

in southern interior Monterey County on Aug. 28 (*RLB*), demonstrate the importance of these southern grasslands to the non-breeding assemblies of these "partial migrants." That House Finches perform a partial migration, at least in some areas, is indicated by flocks of 100 to 500, passing overhead and disappearing in a southerly direction in Glen Ellen, Sonoma Co., Oct. 9, 12, and 16 (*MS*).

The Scarcity of Sparrows—Although "first seen" dates were normal or even early, there was agreement as to the lateness of the bulk populations and general scarcity in this group. Closer study of the reports reveals a somewhat more complex picture: Oregon Juncos, "largely missing" early in the season, built up to normal populations at the end of November. White-crowned Sparrows were scarce throughout. Golden-crowned Sparrows, though late, were normal or slightly above. Fox Sparrows were very scarce until the end of the period; "none so far, usually 5 this date" (mid-November) was the almost identical comment of two contributors banding at their homes in the Bay Area (*FH, DMcL*). The one dissident voice came from our only contributor in the northern interior: Mrs. Margaret S. Chandlee, who keeps a daily chart near Yreka, did not record any spectacular change in the bird population as compared to previous years, though some species appeared late. It will be interesting to see what shift will be precipitated by a break in the generally mild weather conditions in the central part of the Region.

Corrigendum—*AFN* 16 (5):504; the 45th line of the second column should read "Fortuna, Humboldt Co." instead of "Ventura, Humboldt Co."

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