

Los Angeles Audubon Society

The Western Tanager

VOLUME 31

OCTOBER, 1964

NUMBER 32

A Worthy Investment

By Arnold Small

President, Los Angeles Audubon Society

Time, labor, and money - how shall we spend them? Most socially-conscious people devote some of their waking hours in the service of their church, fraternal order, community, and nation. Most of you have elected to become members of the National Audubon Society. Upon this, I congratulate you, for I can think of few more worthy pursuits than in the preservation and conservation of our environment, and, in turn, to ensure the perpetuity of same for generations yet unborn. No man owns the land - rather, our relationship with it is one of custodianship, and our responsibility for it, to our heirs. Your enrollment in the National Audubon Society reflects your concern for and sympathy with the problems of land, forests, air, water, and wildlife. You undoubtably enjoy the wonderment and manifestations of the ways of nature. You deplore the defacer of trees, rocks, scenery. You decry the litterbug and the wastrel. You are contemptuous of the self-indulgent. You take nothing from the forest save a picture; you leave nothing but a footprint. You care and you are concerned. You are sensitive, and jealous of wild and beautiful country rich in wild things. You are militant when a threat to our land arises, but despair in the apparent inaction displayed by conservationists. You believe in conservation.

But there are too many people who do not believe and who do not care. For too many people the bounty of nature spells exploitation. For too many people nature means a place to dump rubbish and a place which breeds mosquitoes - land gone to waste. For too many people, contact with nature means violence and bloodshed, for there are those whose only contact with nature occurs in the killing of wild things. These are the people who visit the country only to hunt, and do nothing to ensure perpetuation of the same country and the very things that they hunt. These people too are militant, and their voices strident. Conservation is too often thought of as quiet war of counter-attack. This is not strictly true, though often the conservationist is content with the status quo until a threat appears on the horizon. Then he is quickly galvanized to protestations and action. The conservation record of the 88th Congress attests to the new, positive, long-range, and liberal view of conservation now taken by responsible civil servants. The Los Angeles Audubon Society is represented as another bird-watching club. We are...but we are much more than that. Birds just happen to be the particular outlet of interest for most of our members. It happens to be our approach to nature. It might just as well

Continued on page 12

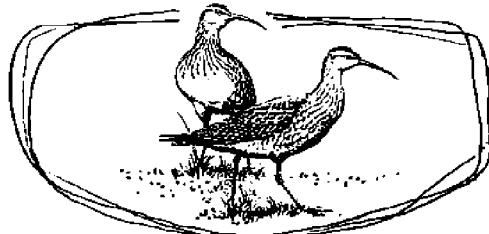
A WORTHY INVESTMENT

have been in gardens, flowers, insects, rocks and minerals, mountaineering, marine life, and so forth. In this, we share a common interest with so many other outdoor groups.

Through our bulletin and Audubon Magazine you have been apprised of the conservation movement on the national level. Your local society is also concerned with conservation problems closer to home. Over the years we have been active in disputes involving a road through Joshua Tree National Monument, the Mount San Jacinto Tramway, Big Tujunga Wash, Playa del Rey, hunting in the Anza State Park, Mount San Gorgonio, and Santa Monica Mountains State Park, to name a few. Currently we are deeply concerned over the fate of Malibu Lagoon and are waging an active campaign to obviate its destruction for a flood control channel, boat harbor, freeway, or some other enterprise. We are also attempting to convince the residents of Morongo Valley to declare that wonderful oasis a bird sanctuary. We are currently working with the Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department on the proper and wise development of Harbor Park and the ultimate establishment of an educational bird sanctuary there. Henceforth, in this regard, you will be informed of all executive actions taken by the Executive Board at its monthly meetings.

In addition to these and other conservation projects, your local society has supported the maintenance and warden service in the Condor Refuge, and in this action, you have given generously of your money. We maintain a permanent headquarters in Plummer Park, Hollywood, which is staffed five days a week by volunteer help. Our headquarters houses an excellent library of ornithology and other natural history subjects which is constantly expanding. It should ultimately prove to be one of the most complete libraries of its kind in southern California. Your membership in the Los Angeles Audubon Society helps to maintain a continuous youth program carried on in the constantly improving museum also located in Audubon House. We publish the Western Tanager eleven times each year, and it is considered to be a model publication for an Audubon Branch. We hope that we have made it broad enough in scope and of sufficient value that members will be inclined to save their copies for future reference. All of the staff of this bulletin are volunteers. Your local society plans and executes an ambitious series of field trips throughout the year. Volunteer leaders escort parties to our choicest wild areas where birds abound. We are instituting a new Rare-Bird

Service, the details of which will be found elsewhere in this issue. Your local society finances two Audubon Camp of the West scholarships each year. These scholarships are awarded to two Los Angeles City School teachers selected by school administrators in the Elementary and Secondary levels. Financing of these scholarships is primarily from the receipts from the Audubon Wildlife Films, a series which we have offered to the people of this community for many years. We encourage young people interested in wild things through our Junior Naturalists program in Griffith Park. Annually, your local society is involved with the financing and staffing of an Audubon booth at the Los Angeles County Fair. These are some of our activities, and as new needs arise, new projects will be undertaken. Your membership supports these and other endeavors of your Society.



Obviously not all of you attend our monthly Evening Meetings. Attendance averages about seventy-five people. Field trips are well attended so well attended, in fact, that we have repeated several of the more popular trips to lighten the load on each. But even if you have never attended one of our meetings or one of our field trips, you may still render service to your local society in the cause of conservation. You have supported the Condor Fund most generously, and we shall again ask you for funds. Many of you have given of your time and labors in the thankless task of mailing the Western Tanager. Many of the standing committees of your society are operated by you. Many of you offer your support by attending the Wildlife Films. In these and other ways, your time, labor, and money has been well invested. But what volunteer organization does not need more help? Specifically, our relationship with civic and other conservation groups needs strengthening - for this we need a Public Relations Chairman who will be willing and able to speak upon occasion to such gatherings. Feature and other articles are always needed for the Western Tanager, and in this, we solicit your help. We should be able to fill the auditorium at John Burroughs Junior High School on the presentation of each Audubon Wildlife Film - but we don't. This ac-

Continued...

tivity enables us to finance the Audubon Camp Scholarships. You can help by joining us at these eminently worthwhile programs, and by bringing along friends and family. You can help us by contributing new books to the library. You can help us by serving on one of our many committees enumerated in the Yearbook. Don't wait to be asked if you find a committee that interests you, contact the Chairman. And most important of all help us spread the doctrine of conservation. You can do this by bringing in new memberships. New memberships serve two most important functions. Dues help us achieve our stated goals. But even more important, a new member is a new supporter of the conservation movement. Elsewhere in this issue of the Western Tanager we appeal to your aid in building our membership. It is a rather sad commentary to note that out of a city of this size we can muster only some 860 members 860 members who are so devoted to conservation that they are willing to invest their time, labor, and money in it. It is most worthy.

New members are asking, "Why haven't we heard about the Audubon Society before? How can others learn that there is such an organization and that it has an open membership?" This month we are giving our members an opportunity to have their friends and acquaintances receive a colorful brochure on the National Audubon Society, a membership blank and a copy of our Western Tanager. Just fill in the enclosed card and drop it in the nearest mailbox, the new Membership Committee will do the rest. Let's make that "1000 members" goal this year.

Conservation Meeting

Thursday, October 15th.

Fourteen members and friends attended the first Conservation Meeting, September 17, 1964, held at Audubon House. The theme of the meeting was, as it will always be, "How can I be more effective in conservation as an individual?" It was agreed to have a Conservation Meeting every third Thursday evening of every month. The next will be held on Thursday, October 15, 1964, again at Audubon House, at 7:30 P.M.



THE WESTERN TANAGER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
LOS ANGELES AUDUBON SOCIETY

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3918 S. Sycamore Ave., LA
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1426 Woods Pl., LA
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4672 Barker Way, Apt. 3, Long Beach
Dr. & Mrs. Robert L. Swezey
3121 Purdue Ave., LA



CONSERVATION NOTES

BY BILL WATSON

After the Glen Canyon gate closing episode and following the proposal to open the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge to hunting, it is a pleasure to find the conservationist Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall at work again.

On September 3, 1964, Secretary Udall announced the establishment of the new Cibola National Wildlife Refuge on the Lower Colorado River in California and Arizona. It includes about 9,400 acres previously acquired or withdrawn from public entry, and eventually is expected to have a total area of about 16,600 acres.

In implementing the new Land and Water Conservation Fund legislation recently signed by President Johnson, Secretary Udall announced on September 4, 1964, that he was naming Daniel H. Janzen, the present Director of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, to a special assign-

ment to develop a program for preserving wildlife threatened with extinction. Mr. Janzen is to prepare plans for a 10-year program for preserving endangered species of wildlife.

On the same day, Secretary Udall announced the issuance of stringent rules regarding the use of pesticides on the more than 550 million acres of public lands administered by the Department of the Interior. First priority is to be given to nonchemical methods in pest control. When chemicals are deemed necessary, safety will be the main consideration. Interior agencies were told to avoid using compounds which are known to concentrate in living organisms, such as DDT, chlordane, dieldrin, and endrin. Secretary Udall also said that particular care must be taken to avoid injury to pollinating insects. If the Department of Agriculture should follow this example it would be a great thing.

The Forest Service, California Region, has happily placed restrictions on vehicle travel on a part of the Los Padres National Forest, to take effect on October 1, 1964. The restrictions will apply on all National Forest lands in Santa Barbara County and in Ventura County west of State Highway 33, south of the Ozena-Lockwood county road, west of Mutau Road and south of

Continued on page 7

RARE BIRD ALERT

An important new service is now being instituted for those members who wish to be informed, with the least possible delay, of the appearance of rare and unusual birds in our area. This RARE BIRD ALERT will have two phases, as follows:

1. If you should observe a bird of most unusual nature, phone as soon as possible to AUDUBON HOUSE, 876-0202. Please do this as soon as possible. Confine your reports only to native birds, or exotics which may possibly have gotten here on their own power. For example, a Budgerigar (Parakeet) should not be reported, but a Magnificent Frigate-bird should.

To obtain information regarding the present status of unusual birds in our area (generally speaking, this is all of southern California), phone AUDUBON HOUSE and ask for information.

2. An additional feature of this system will be to notify certain selected people in the event that AUDUBON HOUSE is closed. For this purpose, we are assembling a telephone list of all those people who wish to be telephoned as soon as a rare bird is reported. To subscribe to this phase of the RARE BIRD ALERT, you need only send the following information to: ARNOLD SMALL, 3028 Cavendish Drive, Los Angeles, California 90064.

YOUR NAME
ADDRESS
HOME PHONE
BUS. PHONE
BEST HOURS FOR PHONING

You will shortly thereafter receive a complete set of instructions and telephone numbers for you to call.

A list will be started at the TUESDAY EVENING MEETING in October for those who wish to sign up at that time.

Los Angeles Audubon Society



calendar

HEADQUARTERS, LIBRARY AND NATURE MUSEUM LOCATED AT AUDUBON HOUSE
 PLUMMER PARK, 7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD., LOS ANGELES 46. 876-0202
 HEADQUARTERS CHAIRMAN: MRS. MARTHA EDENS
 REGISTRAR OF MEMBERS: MRS. RUSSELL WILSON

ARNOLD SMALL, President

MRS. DONALD L. ADAMS, Executive Secretary

OCTOBER 1964

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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	4	5	6	7	8	9
	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18	19	20	21	22	23
	25	26	27	28	29	30
						31

OCTOBER

Oct. 1 THURSDAY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 7:30 P.M., Audubon House.

Oct. 3 SATURDAY - SPECIAL PELAGIC TRIP from Monterey in cooperation with the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Boat leaves from Sam's Fishing Pier at 9:00 A.M. and returns at 3:00 P.M.
 Leader: Mr. Harold Peterson, 3548 65th Ave., Oakland, Calif. 94605

Oct. 10 SATURDAY and SUNDAY TWO DAY PELAGIC TRIP Departure time 7:30 A.M. from Oxnard. Don't be late. (For late reservations call trip leader.)
 Leader: Irwin Woldman 346-9226

Oct. 10 SATURDAY FIELD TRIP Cabrillo Beach and Harbor Park, planned for those who do not take the pelagic trip. Meet at 8:00 A.M. at the Cabrillo Beach Museum, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro. Take Harbor Freeway to San Pedro, go south on Pacific Ave. to 36th Street, turn left and follow signs to the Museum. Previous trips have provided good observations of terns and jaegers. Bring lunch.
 Leader: Bill Watson

Oct. 13 TUESDAY EVENING MEETING 8:00 P.M. in Great Hall, Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. "Golden Opportunity", Walt Disney film, followed by discussion of Proposition One. Mr. Don K. Porter, of the Angeles National Forest Service will speak on conservation practice and problems in the National Forest.
 Program Chairman: Don Adams 372-5536

Oct. 15 THURSDAY CONSERVATION MEETING 7:30 P.M., Audubon House, Plummer Park, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd. Group will continue discussions begun at last month's very successful meeting, on such issues as Harbor Park, Malibu Lagoon, Sacramento N.W.R., etc.
 Chairman: Bill Watson

Oct. 17 SATURDAY A "SEE HOW AND HEAR WHAT" FIELD TRIP 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. at Audubon Center of Southern California, 1000 N. Durfee Ave., El Monte. Take San Bernardino Freeway to Rosemead Blvd., south on Rosemead to San Gabriel Blvd., left to N. Durfee and left to Audubon Center. This one hour field trip especially for members of the Los Angeles Audubon Society has been scheduled in response to questions from our members as to why we couldn't have a field trip like those the Center conducts for school groups. The tour will start and end promptly--just like the regularly scheduled school and youth groups, but members are invited to bring a sack lunch and spend the remainder of the morning birding or just looking around.

Paul M. Howard, Director, Audubon Center of Southern California

CALENDAR CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

AUDUBON

Activities

BY OTTO WIDMAN

Sept. 5

Some boat trips can be smooth sailing as 40 members and guests of the Los Angeles Audubon Society found out. The Saturday, Sept. 5 pelagic trip was in great contrast to the last attempt at birding at sea. I talked to Herb Clarke who said there were a few Parasitic Jaegers--hawk-like in their hunting down migrating Arctic Terns to rob them of their catch. Arnold Small said there were more Pomarine Jaegers. Several Skuas were probables--not fully identified, but they have been casuals here. Not so the Xantus's Murrelets, which are native to our Anacapa and Santa Barbara Islands. Quite a few were seen. The migrants, sometimes in the millions, were the Sooty and the Pink-footed Shearwaters, their sleek-narrow wings cresting the waves in their search for food. Now is the time for Phalaropes and many were riding the smooth waters. My thanks to both Herb Clarke and Arnold Small for supplying information for this account.

Sept. 8

The 1964-65 season of the Los Angeles Audubon Society, opened by President Arnold Small introducing Mr. and Mrs. Bozmuller and the Levensons as new members. Miss Jenner explained that costs for the Wildlife Film series had been raised and that the funds raised from the films helped pay the scholarship to the Audubon Camp of the West. Conservation Chairman Bill Watson reported on several successes gained in the last several weeks. Our Sales Department, under the guidance of Gene Rose, announces new stocks including many Christmas gift items. Mr. Small stressed the unparalleled opportunity of viewing migratory birds on pelagic trips about the Channel Islands and especially off Monterey. The two field trips for the month were outlined by Field Trip Chairman Russ Wilson. A Rare Bird Alert communication system was discussed by Arnold Small; further details are in this issue for those who wish to join this special service. It will give members a chance to be notified of exceptional observations. Mrs. Eppeler reported the presence of a Java Rice Bird in the weeds above Ferndell in Western Avenue entrance to Griffith Park. Arnold Small said the Elegant Terns are appearing along the coast.

Continued on page 20

CALENDAR

Continued...

Oct. 25 SUNDAY FIELD TRIP - Bolsa Chica and Upper Newport Bay - Meet at 8:00 A.M. on Coast Highway just south of the traffic circle in Long Beach. We will be looking for wintering ducks and shorebirds. Bring lunch, binoculars and spotting scope.

Leaders: Don and Caroline Adams 372-5536

Oct. 9 THURSDAY WILDLIFE FILM - "Ranch Life and Wildlife", by Albert J. Wool, 7:45 P.M., John Burroughs Junior High School, 600 S. McCadden Pl., Los Angeles. This is the first of the 1964-65 Wildlife Film Series. See folder and application form for season tickets included with this issue.

Chairman: Miss Laura Jenner 748-7510

Nov. 5 THURSDAY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 7:45 P.M., Audubon House.

Nov. 10 TUESDAY EVENING MEETING 8:00 P.M. in Great Hall, Plummer Park. Dr. Edmund C. Jaeger, authority on desert wildlife and botany and discoverer of hibernating poorwills, will give a program, "Diapause, Estivation and Hibernation".

Program Chairman: Don Adams 372-5536

CONSERVATION

----- CONTINUED

Piru Creek. In addition to a large area of the National Forest, the two condor refuges are now to be protected from the invasions of two-wheeled vehicles.

On September 8, 1964, the California State Park System announced that it was unable to cope with the heavy visitor demand over the Labor Day weekend. Director Charles A. DeTurk said, "In fact, the whole month of August was one of consistent over-capacity and continuing turnaways at beaches and parks throughout our System."

This brings me to the subject of our October Program Meeting in Great Hall, Plummer Park, October 13, 1964. Part of the program is going to be devoted to the need in California for the kind of services that the passage of Proposition One will satisfy.

Walt Disney has contributed his talents and energies to produce a short, sparkling motion picture titled, "Golden Opportunity." It details briefly and effectively the critical situation which California now faces insofar as its areas of grandeur and magnificence are concerned--there are not too many great areas still open and those few are disappearing before the blade. The film will be shown to us at our meeting. There will be a brief discussion afterwards about Proposition One.

Certainly, as conservationists, we all should help in the campaign for the passage of Proposition One in November by the voters of California. Come to the October meeting and get yourselves inspired to encourage everyone you know to VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION ONE.

Another feature of our "conservation" program will be the presentation of Don K. Porter of the Angeles National Forest, who will speak to us on the conservation practices and problems of our own National Forest. The people of Los Angeles not only use this National Forest for recreation, they also see it, whenever smog permits, for it forms the scenic background of our metropolitan area. Let's learn something about its operation on October 13. Don Porter will be with us, provided that there is no fire disaster to interfere with his availability.

A lot of you have been wanting to see more conservation action. I hope there will be plenty for you this year, and I have arranged this program for just that purpose. Do come, if you possibly can.

Vote YES on ONE

1

FOR THE RECREATIONAL FUTURE
OF OUR CHILDREN AND THEIR'S



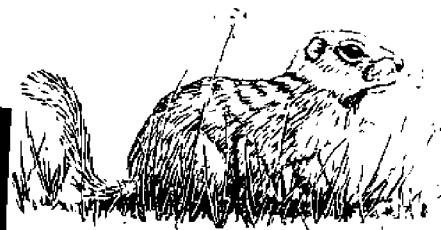
Announcing
the forthcoming new

1964 AUDUBON

WILDLIFE FILMS

**FIRST: THURSDAY
OCT. 29**

******* Albert J. Wool
***** RANCH LIFE
and WILDLIFE**



You
are cordially
invited
to attend

**Purchase
Tickets**

Miss Laura Lou Jenner
639 W. 32nd Street
Los Angeles 7
748-7510

**Season Ticket \$5.00
Single Admission \$1.25**

John Burroughs Junior High School

600 S. McCadden Place

7:45 P.M.

PESTICIDE HAZARDS

by ROGER TORY PETERSON

The manufacturers of the hydrocarbons ask "What would agriculture do without these pesticides?" But are they indispensable? The New York TIMES of March 24, 1964, reports a ban in England on many uses of aldrin, dieldrin, and heptachlor, and reports estimated losses in agricultural production of only 1% to 3-1/3% as the result of the ban now imposed. I'm sure that even this small margin of loss could be reduced by some less damaging pesticides. One to 3-1/3% is a small price to pay if it results in saving a declining fishing industry, declining wildlife and declining health standards.

We are in a sad way if we always think in terms of profit regardless of the general good. But suppose we do put everything on the ruthless profit basis. Why is this extra 1 to 3-1/3% production so essential when we already produce 5% more than we need and our government has even had to pay farmers to take vast acreages out of production to avoid greater surpluses?



visit the house

Members and friends of the Los Angeles Audubon Society are invited to visit Audubon House and grounds to see the progress being made in exhibits and facilities, but more particularly to enjoy the landscaping which is transforming the surrounding yard. Over the past several years Otto Widman has been developing the landscaping and more recently has been aided by William Johe. Plantings are continuing predominately with native shrubs.

Injury Hospitalizes Roger Tory Peterson

As this issue of the WESTERN TANAGER was going to press, word was received that Roger Tory Peterson was in the Tompkins County Hospital in Ithaca, New York recovering from injuries received in an automobile accident. No information was available as to the seriousness of his injuries, however, well-wishers may reach him at the above address.

PART III ... Conclusion

We must think seriously about these things and not allow the tyranny of special interests to ruin America. These interests will insist they are dedicated to public service. That was the original idea, but some of them have lost their vision.

I realize that some of the more responsible chemical companies are engaging in research to find substitutes for the more dangerous poisons. I have seen the wildlife research laboratories at Dow Chemical and I am much impressed. Some of the staff admitted that there are even now less harmful chemicals that would do the trick but that they are more expensive to produce. In short, they found themselves not only fighting the research battle but also the economic battle.

So long as the manufacture of the dangerous chlorinated hydrocarbons is permitted the chemical industry is forced to compete in this sphere. Outlawed completely, all companies would be on the same footing. Only our government can give the direction. I am sure that responsible management in some companies would welcome it.

The pest problem is largely man-made, a result to mono-culture and the futile expectation that we can go on squeezing nature for more and more production. We must go back to cultural modifications, back to such time-tested methods of crop rotation--almost abandoned since synthetic pesticides came to hand, break up the size of our crop areas so as to re-introduce diversity.

What is most needed, as Charles Elton the English ecologist wrote in 1958 and my colleague, Roland Clement, has often restated in this country, is to bring about a gradual change of emphasis that will consider chemicals only one among many approaches to insect control. The long-run, ecologic solution of this problem will bring Nature back into the act as the farmer's partner, and use natural controls as much as possible, design new cultural methods, use chemical controls as a surgeon uses a scalpel instead of as a bludgeon, and finally, develop biological controls for the major insect pests.

Fortunately, this approach is already being worked on at the university level by certain young scientists and to a minor extent by individuals within USDA who need simply to be encouraged at the policy-making level.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I wish to conclude by offering some recommendations. First it is my opinion that aldrin, endrin, dieldrin and all compounds of the chlorinated hydrocarbon complex be banned. Permits to manufacture them should be withdrawn. As I remarked earlier it is impossible to keep these poisons from contaminating our entire environment so long as winds blow, waters flow and fishes swim.

I wish to commend you, Senator Ribicoff, for moving promptly in the sponsorship of legislation to eliminate the marketing of unapproved chemicals that are "under protest."

It is evident that there is very little effective coordination among the different federal Departments and Bureaus that have responsibilities and functions pertaining to the use of chemical pesticides. In fact, they have been working at cross purposes. The Pest Control Review Board created by administrative action under President Kennedy's leadership had a laudable purpose, but it has two fatal weaknesses. First, it is composed of representatives of agencies sitting in judgment on their own policies and programs. Second, even if it were likely to come up with important reforms, it has no authority to impose or enforce them. Insofar as can be observed from outside the government, the Pest Control Review Board has exercised no influence over the policies pursued by the Department of Agriculture in the registration and labeling of pesticides in interstate commerce.

The Department of Agriculture represents a special economic interest group--the producers of agricultural crops. This Department has been almost arrogant in tending to ignore, even to scoff at, the proven damages to wildlife resources and the potential hazards to human health.

The Public Health Service has been ambivalent. With one voice it has warned of the increasing pollution of our streams by the persistent agricultural chemicals. But with another voice it has encouraged the broadscale use of DDT for the control of nuisance insects. I am speaking of spraying programs aimed not at the vectors of human diseases, but at mosquitoes, black flies, and other insects that merely annoy people.

The U. S. Forest Service, a Department of Agriculture agency, has important responsibility for conserving fishing streams and wildlife along with other resources of the National Forests. Still the Forest Service, even though it should know better, uses DDT in most of its insect control programs.

Nor is the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior blameless. It has used powerful, chain-reacting poisons (e.g., Compound 1080) in predator and rodent control programs and through its own carelessness and lack of applied ecology, has caused damage to endangered species of wildlife. This fact was brought out clearly in the recent report of Secretary Udall's special advisory committee on wildlife. (The Leopold Committee report of March 9, 1964.)

In one of her statements to a committee of Congress about a year ago, the late Rachel Carson urged the creation by law of a federal Board of Control that would have authority to regulate the distribution and use of chemical pesticides. I endorse Miss Carson's proposal. Such a Board should not be made up of representatives of pest-control bureaus sitting in judgment on their own programs. To be effective a Control Board should be so constituted as to permit the over-ruling of the special interest in favor of the broader public interest. Someone must have the veto power when a veto is necessary to prevent the progressive pollution of the environment.

A bill introduced by Representative John Dingell and Senator Maurine Neuberger ought to be passed in this Congress. I refer to their bill which would remove the present \$2.6 million limitation on annual appropriations for research on pesticide-wildlife problems. It would also authorize the Fish and Wildlife Service to do advance screening of new chemicals to determine their potential effects on fish and wildlife resources. The same Dingell-Neuberger bill would direct the Secretary of the Interior to make known the fish and wildlife finds to the Secretary of Agriculture, and it would require the labels on packaged pesticides to carry adequate warnings about the potential dangers to fish and wildlife. The Department of Agriculture says it has ample authority under present law to put this kind of information on the labels. Perhaps it has--but it has not done so, it is unlikely to unless the law clearly requires it.

The Department of Agriculture, through its pesticides registration branch, has the power now to restrict drastically the use of the persistent chemicals. But is it likely to do so? If the Department of Agriculture will not or cannot act under its own steam, then Congress should give it some help. Congress can help by amending the pesticide laws, or by creating a new Control Board that will have the power it needs to protect our environment.

Presented in Washington, D. C.
April 22, 1964

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BIRDS

By Arnold Small

Many birders consider the fall season in southern California to be the most exciting and rewarding time to be afield. Yearly this view is supported by the appearance of literally dozens of unusual birds. The shorebird migration is at its peak, waterfowl are commencing to arrive, pelagic species abound, Elegant Terns are here, and rare landbirds seem to pop up here and there like mushrooms after a rain.

By far one of the most exciting birds to grace our shores in many years was the White-tailed Tropic-bird. It was first noticed by members of the Harbor Soaring Society at Newport Bay. It called attention to itself by soaring among the model gliders, and indeed, upon at least one occasion, it attempted to mate with one of the gliders. It took a while for birders in the Santa Ana area to become aware of it, but it was photographed by several people, and Guy McCaskie even attempted to grab it bare-handed for purposes of determining its sex. Although many people searched for it during the third week in June, it was seen sporadically, and was seen for the last time on June 23. This is the first record of this species on the west coast of the United States.

Pelagic birding was only fair during early fall, and the best birding was to be had where the albacore were found. This, unfortunately for us, was some distance south of San Diego. Our pelagic trip to San Clemente Island on Sept. 5 encountered small numbers of Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters, 2 Xantus' Murrelets, 20 or so Black Terns, and a fair number of Pomarine Jaegers. A few Parasitic Jaegers were seen, and some members of the trip probably sighted 2 Skuas, which unfortunately were lost in the high seas. Guy McCaskie, on the same date, observing from an albacore "special" out of San Diego located the following birds: 25 Black-footed Albatrosses, Sooty and Pink-footed Shearwaters, 130 Leach's and 1 Black Petrel, 2 Sabine's Gulls, 3 Arctic Terns, and all three jaegers (including 3 adult Long-tailed). A female Hooded Merganser was at Upper Peters' Canyon reservoir Aug. 31.

The shorebird migration was well underway by Sept. 1 and numerous flocks of Northern and Wilson's Phalaropes were at Upper Newport Bay. A Solitary Sandpiper was at Malibu and about 18 Knot at Upper Newport Bay. The flight of Elegant Terns appeared very good with several hundred at Upper Newport Bay and smaller numbers elsewhere. Guy McCaskie submitted the following birds of interest which he found during an en-

ergetic summer: June 10 at Deep Springs in the White Mountains--Dickcissel, 2 American Redstarts, a Black and White Warbler, a Magnolia Warbler, 2 Catbirds, and a dead Indigo Bunting; July 18 at the south end of the Salton Sea--Franklin's Gull and Boat-tailed Grackle; Aug. 8 in the same area--Reddish Egret and 2 Franklin's Gulls; June 17 at Morongo Valley--Wied's Crested Flycatcher and Yellow-billed Thrasher; Aug. 23 at Doheny Beach--an Orchard Oriole and a Scarlet Tanager; Sept. 7 at Tijuana River valley--3 Virginia's Warblers, a Tennessee Warbler, and a Northern Water-thrush.

Some of us had good birding at Morongo Valley on Sept. 9 finding 5 Vermillion Flycatchers, 3 Summer Tanagers, a Crissal Thrasher, a Dickcissel, and, in general, a great many swallows, swifts, flycatchers, and warblers. So it would appear that the fall migration is off to a flying start.

October would be an excellent month to examine all fall warblers and finches very closely. Before going afield, acquaint yourselves with the fall eastern warblers plumages, immature and fall Dickcissels, all the buntings and sparrows, and the immature and winter plumages of tanagers and orioles. Coastal canyons in the southern part of the state, the Tijuana River bottom, desert oases, and coastal areas should prove the best birding areas.



AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

(CONTINUED)

The program for the evening was conducted by Miss Laura Jenner and Mr. Francis Curry, the two recipients of Audubon Camp Scholarships from the Los Angeles Audubon Society. Those at the Wind River Camp were put through courses that covered the geology and ecology of the region. The courses not only comprised lectures by experts in their fields but field trips and individual participation in experiments and studies of birds, insects, plants, and trees. Western Representative of the Audubon Society, Bill Goodall, was there to encourage and instruct the 'students' fortunate to attend the camp. Both Miss Jenner and Mr. Curry showed excellent slides of practically every phase of camp life, meandering rivers, dusk scenes, river crossings, wildlife about camp, with frequent cat naps interspersed--life in camp was not all work.