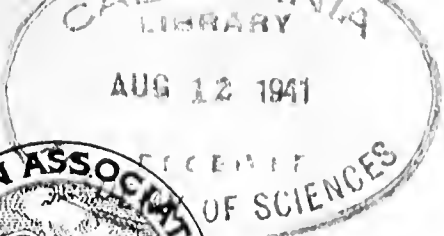


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Ravens in San Francisco

In the June, 1941 issue of *THE GULL*, is an article by Dr. Robert T. Orr, which gives records of ravens in Golden Gate Park since June, 1938, when he first began to keep them, together with others taken from *THE GULL* for the same period. He notes that there are no records for January, February, August and September. In view of this the following is of interest. In *THE GULL*, March, 1937, appears a record of one pair seen at Lake Merced, January 18, by Gordon Bolander. He also has another record of a pair seen February 13, 1937, at the same place. Miss Selma Werner saw one in the buffalo paddock, Golden Gate Park, August 3, 1938. This would leave only one month, September, in which there is apparently no record for this species in San Francisco.

At this time it might be well to mention other observations for Lake Merced: 1937, April 19 (1); 1938, March 20 (2), April 24 (2); 1939, November 11 (1); 1940, March 31 (1), and for Golden Gate Park: 1938, June 26 (2); 1940, February 11 (2).

The following shows the record by months with the number of ravens seen: January (2), February (4), March (7), April (5), May (6), June (4), July (8), August (1), October (7), November (4), and December (3), a total of fifty-one ravens seen over a five-year period.

Laura A. Stephens, San Francisco, California.



Cliff Swallow Nests in Northwest Berkeley

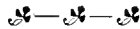
We moved to northwest Berkeley early in April and soon after we began to notice Cliff Swallows feeding above the houses. On June 3, I was watering our front lawn at 1710 Grant Street. The water ran down into the gutter, making little puddles. A Cliff Swallow appeared, swooped down and landed in one of these small pools ten feet away from me. It drank and bathed before being scared away by a passing car.

A week or so later we found a single nest at 1714 Virginia Street, under the corner eaves of a small, low house. I watched it for some time June 11. Two adult birds were at the nest. One remained in it while the other hunted for food

which it brought to the nest at short intervals. I saw only one young in the nest although there may have been more. This young one kept poking its head out and got pecked at and shoved back by the adult bird each time.

One block from this single nest, on Lincoln Street, under the peaks of the numerous gables of two adjacent houses (1734-1736) separated by a driveway, I found seven other Cliff Swallow nests. At my approach the swallows (seven counted) became very excited. I did not see any young in the nests. The lady of the house told me that she picked up a dead young bird a month ago (about May 10) which had fallen out of the nest, although it looked as if it could have flown. At both the Virginia and Lincoln Street houses I was told by the owners that this was not the first year Cliff Swallows had nested there. For other records of nesting Cliff Swallows in Berkeley, see *The Condor*, September, 1937.

Monique Le Braz Nichols, Berkeley, California. June 13, 1941.



Loons in Golden Gate Park

The record in the June issue of *THE GULL* on Red-throated Loons seen in North Lake, Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate Park, April 19th, should read "one in full summer plumage and one in winter plumage (not female as recorded). Those two birds were still present May 1st but on the 31st, only the one in winter plumage remained.

On May 31st a Pacific Loon was also noted. These birds were together and close enough for us to see the difference in their bills, one straight and the other upturned. On June 20th, the Pacific Loon only was found, resting on land at the edge of the lake. We got within a foot of it and noted that there was some oil on its breast and underparts. Mr. Stephens took a couple of pictures of it and only when I tried to place my hand upon the bird did it awkwardly flop into the water and swim away. Its movements on the water were free and natural but it is possible that the oiled feathers had some bearing on its long stay in a city park.

L. A. S.



July Field Trip

The July field trip, taken on the 13th, around Land's End to the Chain of Lakes, Golden Gate Park, was most uneventful although quite enjoyable. The weather was slightly foggy but warm.

As we rounded the cliffs above the wrecked ships, Pigeon Guillemots began to appear and we had excellent views of their red feet. Guillemots and Murres were seen in larger numbers than on any of our former trips here. A Farallon Cormorant was observed carrying nesting material. Many Brown Pelicans busied themselves fishing, but no Turnstones were noted. Three Ravens were seen at one time.

Twenty-nine species were observed, as follows:

Pacific Loon	California Murre	Russet-backed Thrush
Pied-billed Grebe	Pigeon Guillemot	English Sparrow
Brown Pelican	Allen Hummingbird	Brewer Blackbird
Farallon Cormorant	Red-shafted Flicker	House Finch
Brandt Cormorant	Cliff Swallow	Willow Goldfinch
Mallard	Raven	Green-backed Goldfinch
Surf Scoter	Chickadee	Spotted Towhee
Western Gull	Bush-tit	Nuttall Sparrow
California Gull	Bewick Wren	Song Sparrow
Heermann Gull	Robin	

Five members attended, namely: Mr. and Mrs. Dunshee; Miss Blake; Messrs. Bolander and Leffler; and three guests.

Frances J. Blake, Historian.



Western Gull Nestling

On the highest rock of Seal Rocks at the Cliff House, the one which has an old cable around its top, a very young Western Gull nestling was discovered by Gordon Bolander on July 13th. It was also noted there on the 29th by the writer, and undoubtedly can be seen for some time to come as it was very young. This particular rock is rather precipitous and doesn't offer very good nesting sites. It is remarkable that a single pair of gulls should separate from the large colonies that nest on the Farallon Islands or on the rocks at Pt. Reyes and choose this rock on which to nest alone.

On July 29th also one Ruddy and seventeen Black Turnstones and a Wandering Tattler were seen on the beach below the Cliff House.

Laura A. Stephens.



August Field Trip

The plans for the field trip August 17th call for a somewhat different type of field work than that usually undertaken by our Association. Rather than going into an area with the express purpose of finding as many species as possible, we are going to try a plan of limiting our efforts to a few species and to more intensive observations of those few. In the past it has been noticed that many of our members, not fortunate enough to spend much time in the field, have had some difficulty in readily identifying species and have had to rely on the words of others about the bird in question, because of the group moving on too rapidly. This trip is in the nature of an experiment to see if we cannot so thoroughly study a few species that they might quickly be identified by all when met with in the future.

Lying just to the south of us, San Mateo County supports a much larger population of raptorial birds during fall and winter seasons than most people realize. Already groups of Red-tailed and Sparrow Hawks may be seen in goodly numbers soaring over the hilltops in the face of the prevailing westerlies. Later they will be joined by Rough-legged, Cooper and Sharp-shinned Hawks and per-

haps even an occasional Golden Eagle. At night Barn, Burrowing and Short-eared Owls appear over the same open hilltops. We plan to visit such a spot this month in an all out study of the Red-tailed Hawk, its feeding habits, field marks and characteristics. Incidental species will be dealt with as completely as possible, but we will not go out of our way to accumulate a large species list.

This will necessarily be a private car trip and we will have to rely upon volunteer transportation. Anyone with a car planning to attend is requested to get in touch with Miss Frances J. Blake, 1505 Holly Street, Berkeley, as soon as possible, also others without cars who are interested in this plan. The group will meet at the end of Municipal car "L" line or Market Street car No. 12, at 9 a. m., near the Fleishhacker Playgrounds.

The probable route will be down the Skyline Boulevard to Sharp Park road, then down to highway number one on the coast and return to San Francisco.

Let's make this a co-operative affair. Bring all your information as well as your questions. The best way to learn a thing is to try to teach it to some one else.



The August Meeting: The regular meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 14th, at 8 o'clock, in the Old Mint Building, Fifth and Mission Streets.

A colored motion picture of Shore-birds will be shown by Mr. H. M. Bourland, of Eastman Kodak Stores Inc.

Mrs. Otis H. Smith will commence the series of bird talks which she was unable to do last month. Her subject will be the Quail.

Several of our younger members have spent their vacations in the high Sierra and will tell of their experiences.



July Meeting: The 287th regular meeting was held on Thursday, the 10th, in the Old Mint Building, with sixteen members and guests present. President James Moffitt presiding.

Dr. and Mrs. Eric T. Reynolds were elected to membership.

Two motion pictures were shown: California Waterfowl by Mr. Jefferson Doolittle of San Francisco and "Ice Peaks of the Cascades" by the Travel Bureau, U. S. Department of the Interior.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....	Mr. James Moffitt.....	California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mr. Joseph J. Webb.....	519 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer and Editor.....	Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....	1695 Filbert St., San Francisco
Associate Editor.....	Mr. David G. Nichols.....	1713 Dwight Way, Berkeley

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 p.m., Little Theatre, Old U. S. Mint Building,
Fifth and Mission Streets.

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.00 per year.

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00.

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.