

BIRDS RECORDED IN 1957

(All records previous to the opening of the Observatory on February 19th are from the notes of M. and V. Squires.)

One hundred and thirty-two species have been recorded during the year ; seven of them new to the Lundy list.

Colymbus immer. **Great Northern Diver.**

One March 20th.

Colymbus stellatus. **Red-throated Diver.**

One November 19th.

Podiceps griseigena. **Red-necked Grebe.**

A first year bird present from August 23rd to 31st. A first record for Lundy.

Podiceps aurita. **Slavonian Grebe.**

One March 20th.

Procellaria puffinus. **Manx Shearwater.**

First heard calling March 26th, last heard August 18th. Some seen offshore after this date, the last record c. fifteen on October 22nd. Throughout the summer David Mapp from North Light has visited regularly Puffin Slope where seventy-three adults have been caught, but no evidence of successful breeding has been obtained. By the end of the season apparently a large proportion of the population had been ringed. On the night of July 23rd, for instance, sixty-seven birds having already been ringed, of the nine birds caught only five birds were unringed.

Fulmarus glacialis. **Fulmar Petrel.**

Present in numbers at breeding colonies by February 22nd, last seen there August 18th ; one or two seen occasionally patrolling cliffs until September 16th. Two new sites were occupied this year, one at Long Ruse where one chick was hatched but not reared, and an inaccessible site just north of Dead Cow Point where a pair present throughout most of the season reared no young. The records of the established colonies were :

Jenny's Cove May 21st, 11 pairs, at least 3 eggs.

June 25th, 12 eggs.

August 8th, 8 chicks.

Gannet's Rock April 30th, 37 birds.

May 14th, 1 egg.

May 30th, 10 eggs.

June 27th, 6 eggs.

July 12th, 4 chicks.

August 12th, no chicks nor any sign of recent occupation.

It would seem that no chicks were brought off from Gannet's Rock this year. A blue bird was still present.

Sula bassana. **Gannet.**

Seen offshore in all months, greatest numbers during summer and early autumn.

Phalacrocorax carbo. **Cormorant.**

One pair bred just north of Quarry Beach, rearing three young. Seen in all months. Thirteen flying north April 12th. Southward movements fairly frequently between August 22nd and October 1st. Maximum nineteen, August 22nd.

Phalacrocorax aristotelis. **Shag.**

One hundred and thirty-one pairs bred, the season being earlier than in the previous three years.

Ardea cinerea. **Heron.**

One June 21st to 27th, two June 30th. During July, August and until September 21st one or two occasionally ; three August 21st.

Egretta garzetta. **Little Egret.**

One April 22nd to 26th when it died. A male in breeding plumage. First record for Lundy.

First seen flying in from the south at 1100 hours on April 22nd, it landed on Pondsbury where it was mobbed by gulls. Probably its subsequent selection of habitat was influenced by the rather severe mobbing received from gulls and Lapwings, for, although on the first day it was seen feeding on Pondsbury, on the following four days it was usually to be found either on a small artificial pond on the west side near the Devil's Slide or on Egret Pool, a small temporary pool about forty yards north of threequarter wall. It was never seen on the shore. It was found dying on April 26th, probably from starvation as it was extremely light.

Wing measurement 274 mm.

Anas platyrhynchos. **Mallard.**

One May 9th to 12th, and July 6th, 16th, 18th, 20th and 21st.

Anas crecca. **Teal.**

One May 29th, 30th ; one seen most days between September 15th and October 3rd ; two September 28th, 29th ; one October 22nd ; six November 9th.

Anas penelope. **Wigeon.**

A duck November 10th, 15th, 19th.

Branta bernicula. **Brent Goose.**

One May 9th to 13th. The dark-breasted form.

Buteo buteo. **Buzzard.**

One pair attempted to breed, a nest with two eggs being found at Knoll Pins Point on May 27th, but this was empty and deserted on June 13th. Four birds recorded June 5th, otherwise one or two fairly frequently throughout the year.

Accipiter nisus. **Sparrow Hawk.**

Single birds February 26th, April 21st and on six days between September 28th and October 13th.

Falco peregrinus. **Peregrine Falcon.**

A pair frequently present at the Gannet's Combe eyrie but no evidence of breeding, nor of a second pair on the island.

Falco tinnunculus. **Kestrel.**

At least two pairs bred, one on the cliffs below Benjamin's Chair, one just north of the Sugar Loaf. Possibly a third nest in the Jenny's Cove area. First recorded March 6th, then frequently throughout the season ; maximum nine September 8th.

Falco columbarius. **Merlin.**

A female regularly between November 7th and 23rd.

Phasianus colchicus. **Pheasant.**

Maximum recorded in spring four. Two different broods seen during summer, and autumn population probably about twelve birds.

Rallus aquaticus. **Water Rail.**

No spring records. One September 24th and 27th. One and occasionally two seen frequently in October and November to November 22nd.

Crex crex. **Corncrake.**

Single birds April 21st, 22nd, May 2nd, 9th.

Fulica atra. **Coot.**

One in St Helen's Valley, October 10th.

Haematopus ostralegus. **Oyster-catcher.**

About fifteen breeding pairs. Largest spring flock seen eleven. Flocking noticed from the first week of August, the maximum autumn flock being twenty-three September 7th.

Vanellus vanellus. **Lapwing.**

Six or seven breeding pairs. The territorial flight call first heard February 26th. The breeding birds appeared not to disperse in late summer, a flock of ten to twenty birds being seen on most days in July to September. Numbers increased slightly in October, with a maximum of thirty-four in November.

Charadrius hiaticula. **Ringed Plover.**

Single birds June 3rd, September 25th, 26th.

Charadrius squatarola. **Grey Plover.**

One flying south over the island October 12th.

Charadrius apricarius. **Golden Plover.**

Few early season records, presumably due to mild weather. Two January 21st; single birds on three days in March; four March 31st and April 2nd; one May 13th, 14th, 18th, and on five days in August. One or two frequently September and October; a flock of eleven or twelve October 1st, 12th, 13th; one November 16th, 18th, 20th, 21st.

Arenaria interpres. **Turnstone.**

No spring records. One July 12th. From one to three frequently during last fortnight of August; eleven August 31st. One or two on six days in September.

Capella gallinago. **Snipe.**

No records for January or February. Single birds on three days in March and seven days of April. Two July 19th, one on four days in August; one or two occasionally during September and October.

Limnocryptes minimus. **Jack Snipe.**

One October 2nd.

Scolopax rusticola. **Woodcock.**

One January 27th, March 10th, three November 9th, one on two other days in November.

Numenius arquata. **Curlew.**

One pair bred in the vicinity of Pondsburry. First recorded March 7th, and first heard bubbling March 29th. Numbers increasing towards the end of June, with a maximum of thirty on the 23rd. Less than ten on most days in July, a larger flock recorded occasionally, maximum sixty July 10th. Usually less than ten throughout August and September: from one to five frequently in October.

Numenius phaeopus. **Whimbrel.**

Spring passage unusually large with over forty on April 30th and on three days during the first week of May. One or two frequently between mid-May and June 13th. Return migration started July 10th. Not more than five on any day in July and eleven the maximum in August. Single birds September 21st and 25th the last records of the season.

Limosa limosa. **Black-tailed Godwit.**

One May 29th to 31st.

Tringa ochropus. **Green Sandpiper.**

One April 27th, on nine days between May 2nd and 26th, and August 14th.

Tringa hypoleucos. **Common Sandpiper.**

Recorded in spring between April 30th and May 13th, never more than three birds on one day. One or two occasionally July 14th to August 30th. Eleven August 12th.

Tringa totanus. **Redshank.**

Single birds August 12th, 28th, October 11th.

Tringa nebularia. **Greenshank.**

One August 16th.

Calidris minuta. **Little Stint.**

Eight September 26th, six 27th, four 28th.

Calidris minutilla. **American Stint.**

One September 24th to 26th. First record for Lundy. The bird arrived soon after there had been hurricane force winds in the west Atlantic, which may also have affected the eastern seaboard. A difficult bird to identify, but with such excellent views obtained (it was watched by myself (B.W.) and A. J. Vickery for a total of at least two hours at a range of from five to ten yards) there is little doubt of its identity. I have also examined skins of American and Little Stints in the British Museum and thereby confirmed the identification. It was first seen on September 24th feeding with Dunlin, when the black legs of the latter were contrasted with the moderately dark olive-yellow of the stint. On this day three different call notes were distinguished : (i) a faint 'peep' made at infrequent intervals while feeding ; (ii) a disyllabic repeated call 'chi-peep' made when the bird was flushed, flew a few yards low over the water and landed again ; (iii) a loud 'cheep, cheep' made on one occasion when we drove it rather hard and it flew up to about ten feet and circled before landing again. On September 26th it was seen in company with eight Little Stints and the following contrasts were noticed : smaller size, darker upper parts particularly on the head and nape, darkish olive-yellow legs, cf. black of the Little Stint. The American bird was silent this day but flew round with the Little Stints which were making their 'chit' call.

Calidris alpina. **Dunlin.**

Twelve records between April 6th and June 1st, maximum five April 27th. Single birds July 22nd, 24th ; one or two almost daily August 11th to the end of the month ; two September 7th. Recorded daily September 20th to 29th, maximum five on 26th. One on five days between November 8th and 17th.

Both the Northern form, *C.a.alpina* and the Southern, *C.a.schinzii* were trapped in August and September.

Calidris testacea. **Curlew Sandpiper.**

One September 28th.

Larus marinus. **Great Black-backed Gull.**

A count of thirty-five nests was made during the breeding season. Most pairs had returned by the last week of February ; first egg found April 19th. Late summer and autumn population believed to be about twenty to thirty birds, a mixed population of adult and immature birds, the former in the majority.

Larus fuscus. **Lesser Black-backed Gull.**

About thirty-five to forty breeding pairs, at least half of them in residence before the end of March. Most of the birds had left by the end of August. Some passage movement on September 14th when thirty-one recorded, and on September 23rd, fifteen. Single birds October 20th, 22nd.

Larus argentatus. **Herring Gull.**

Many breeding birds on their sites by February. First egg found April 23rd, four days earlier than the mean date for the previous two years. Numbers in the SW. area had decreased slightly from last year. Dispersal of breeding birds from early August, only a normal wintering population of between thirty and sixty birds remain by September and October.

Larus ridibundus. **Black-headed Gull.**

Two February 16th, 19th, April 30th. Five records of single birds during July and August and one October 11th. Five seen offshore July 31st. Three November 13th, 14th ; one regularly between November 11th and 23rd.

Rissa tridactyla. **Kittiwake.**

Present at breeding stations when the Observatory opened on February 18th. First egg seen May 13th, first chicks June 8th first juvenile on the wing July 8th. Last seen at breeding colonies Aug. 18th. About fifty fishing off the Landing Beach November 22nd.

Alca torda. **Razorbill.**

First seen ashore February 21st. First eggs found April 29th, seven days earlier than the mean date for the years 1952-56 (except 1954, no date). First chick May 31st. Apparently quite a successful breeding season for the species. Numbers in the SW. area showed no appreciable change from last year.

Uria aalge. **Guillemot.**

First seen at breeding colonies February 21st. First eggs found April 30th, twelve days earlier than the mean date for the years 1952-56 (except 1954, no date). First chick June 3rd. No general census taken this year. Most of the birds had left by the end of the first week in July and all by the end of the third week.

Fratercula arctica. **Puffin.**

First seen April 12th. The largest flock counted off Puffin Slope was 156 on June 14th. Between sixty and seventy birds counted off the west coast during June. First adult seen carrying fish June 10th. Last seen in any numbers July 20th, odd records of single birds after this.

Columba palumbus. **Wood Pigeon.**

Single birds on two days in February and two in March. Seen fairly regularly April onwards and may well have bred. Usually less than ten recorded but from ten to thirteen recorded May 23rd, June 5th, July 24th, Sept. 19th.

Streptopelia turtur **Turtle Dove.**

First recorded May 22nd, thereafter seen fairly regularly until June 28th; maximum six on May 26th. Small return migration. Single birds on two dates in August, one or two on five dates between September 4th and 13th.

Cuculus canorum. **Cuckoo.**

First recorded April 27th, thereafter fairly regularly until end of May. Maximum three May 8th, 9th. One present from June 14th to 24th. An unusually meagre autumn migration between July 19th and August 22nd; never more than two birds recorded and none trapped.

Tyto alba. **Barn Owl.**

One in V.C. Quarry October 10th.

Strix aluco. **Tawny Owl.**

One October 14th. The first verified record for Lundy.

Asio flammeus. **Short-eared Owl.**

One September 26th, October 12th, November 16th.

Caprimulgus europaeus. **Nightjar.**

One September 26th.

Apus apus. **Swift.**

First seen May 2nd. Frequent in small numbers during May and in larger numbers in June. Maximum c. forty, June 22nd. Maximum during autumn passage c. thirty July 30th, 31st. Seen frequently throughout August, maximum twenty August 7th.

Alcedo atthis. **Kingfisher.**

One September 2nd.

Upupa epops. **Hoopoe.**
Two March 30th.

Dendrocopus major. **Great Spotted Woodpecker.**
One present from September 18th to 26th.

Lullula arborea. **Woodlark.**
One March 3rd, 5th, 6th.

Alauda arvensis. **Skylark.**
No change observed in the breeding population. Singing recorded from the opening of the Observatory on February 20th until July 9th, and resumed September 21st. A rather small autumn passage noticed between September 17th and October 19th with maxima c. forty-five October 3rd, 15th, c. thirty-five to forty September 23rd, October 12th-13th, c. forty November 20th.

Hirundo rustica. **Swallow.**
First recorded March 20th, but no sizeable movement until April, when c. 150 on 19th; from this date until end of May seen daily, between fifty and eighty recorded on nine days. From June 9th to August 21st occasional records of a few birds. Peak autumn movements were: c. 240 August 30th, c. 200 September 18th, c. 300 September 19th, c. 130 October 2nd, c. 100 October 4th. One November 8th.

Delichon urbica. **House Martin.**
First recorded April 13th and seen in small numbers during the rest of the month. A small movement continued during May and early June with maximum twenty-seven May 22nd. Meagre autumn movement; five single birds in July, eight in August and a total of thirty-six birds in September. Latest record October 15th.

Riparia riparia. **Sand Martin.**
First recorded March 21st. Main spring movement between April 19th and 25th, peak of c. sixty-five April 22nd. Occasional records in May and June, twenty May 31st. A few recorded occasionally during the last fortnight of July and the first part of August. Main autumn passage from August 19th to 31st; maxima c. ninety 29th, c. fifty 30th.

Oriolus oriolus. **Golden Oriole.**
A male May 30th.

Corvus corax. **Raven.**
Two pairs bred successfully, at Raven's Gully and Long Ruse respectively. A flock of seven seen occasionally in the autumn.

Corvus corone. **Carrion Crow.**

Six or seven pairs bred. Maximum recorded in the early part of the year twenty-seven January 27th. Between twenty and thirty recorded frequently from mid-August until the end of the season ; fifty September 29th. Apparent increase in numbers observed October 17th to 20th, with a maximum of sixty-nine 17th, may have been due to the large amount of carrion on the island at this time.

Corvus frugilegus. **Rook.**

One April 26th, 27th, May 19th, November 20th.

Corvus monedula. **Jackdaw.**

One or two on five days in May, four May 26th.

Parus major. **Great Tit.** (See also special notes on autumn movements of tits.)

One September 28th, 30th, then recorded daily from October 4th to 23rd ; from ten to fifteen recorded daily between October 9th and 15th.

Parus caeruleus. **Blue Tit.**

Up to four seen on all but two days between September 26th and October 3rd. On October 4th *c.* eighty, October 5th *c.* sixty-five. Between October 6th and 16th numbers fluctuated between ten and forty. From four to six recorded daily from October 17th to 23rd.

Parus ater. **Coal Tit.**

Seen daily from October 1st to 23rd. More than ten recorded on October 7th (fourteen), 9th (fifteen), 11th (thirty).

Aegithalos caudatus. **Long-tailed Tit.**

Six October 16th.

Certhia familiaris. **Tree Creeper.**

Single birds seen September 22nd, 23rd, 26th, 30th, October 15th, 16th, November 9th, 11th.

Troglodytes troglodytes. **Wren.**

No change in breeding status observed. Heard singing throughout the season. Slight increase in numbers in early October.

Turdus viscivorus. **Mistle Thrush.**

One September 2nd, 4th, 26th ; two October 1st, 22nd ; up to three recorded daily October 10th to 13th ; one November 13th to 22nd, two November 17th.

Turdus pilaris. **Fieldfare.**

One or two on three days in February and on March 2nd. Five records of two or three birds between October 1st and 23rd ; over 300 November 7th reduced to *c.* thirty during rest of month.

Turdus ericetorum. **Song Thrush.**

One or two seen on most days before the Observatory opened (by M. and V. Squires) ; only spring movement February 24th when fifteen recorded. One pair bred successfully rearing at least two young. Slight increase in numbers during October, maxima of eight October 12th, six November 15th.

Turdus musicus. **Redwing.**

Two January 2nd, twenty-two February 24th, the only spring records. Under ten recorded on most days from October 1st to 22nd ; *c.* 100 October 13th, *c.* twenty October 14th, 22nd, over fifty November 7th, thereafter much reduced in numbers.

Turdus torquatus. **Ring Ousel.**

Earliest spring record March 22nd, latest April 29th. Nine records between these two dates, maximum five April 8th. Earliest autumn record August 27th. Thirteen records of five or six birds during September, ten September 18th. Five records of single birds in October, the last on the 10th.

Turdus merula. **Blackbird.**

Spring passage movement observed only on February 24th. About thirteen to fifteen breeding pairs. Autumn migration started October 2nd. Between fifty and 100 birds observed on October 5th, 9th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, *c.* 180 October 7th.

Oenanthe oenanthe. **Wheatear.**

First spring record March 11th, first singing March 21st. Spring passage noted April 30th (*c.* forty), May 2nd (*c.* fifty-four). A About seven or eight pairs bred. Return migration during August and in small numbers in September ; maxima *c.* forty August 6th, *c.* thirty-five August 22nd, twenty September 1st. Less than ten recorded frequently during October. One November 16th, a very late date.

Saxicola torquata. **Stonechat.**

There seems little doubt from the records kept by M. and V. Squires that one or two birds wintered on Lundy, being present up to the end of February. No records in March ; eight between April 15th and May 10th, maximum five April 27th. Autumn records from September 5th onwards, numbers increasing slightly towards the end of this month and in October. Maxima eleven October 12th, five November 9th.

Saxicola rubetra. **Whinchat.**

Two April 29th the only spring record. Single birds August 9th, 25th, 27th, 31st. Six records during September, maximum four September 1st. Last record one October 9th.

Phoenicurus phoenicurus. **Redstart.**

Eleven spring records between April 15th and May 8th, maximum four April 27th. One or two, occasionally three, infrequently between August 22nd and October 20th.

Phoenicurus ochrurus. **Black Redstart.**

Single birds February 12th, March 13th, 15th and two March 12th the only spring records. In autumn single birds on eight days between October 8th and 22nd, and on November 8th.

Luscinia megarhynchos. **Nightingale.**

One trapped August 31st. First authenticated record for Lundy.

Erithacus rubecula. **Robin.**

No change recorded in numbers of breeding birds. Robins were unusually numerous on the island during the last fortnight of August and in early September, probably because of a particularly successful breeding season, but possibly due to immigration.

Locustella naevia. **Grasshopper Warbler.**

One or two on eight days between April 16th and May 6th. Single birds July 24th, 30th, September 18th, 26th, 27th, October 2nd.

Acrocephalus scirpaceus. **Reed Warbler.**

One May 5th, August 15th.

Acrocephalus schoenobaenus. **Sedge Warbler.**

Up to three seen frequently from April 21st to the end of May. Infrequent records from July 31st to September 27th, four August 12th, September 18th the highest daily numbers.

Sylvia atricapilla. **Blackcap.**

No spring records. Nine autumn records between September 15th and October 16th, maximum six October 9th.

Sylvia borin. **Garden Warbler.**

Single birds on three days towards end of April and on May 8th. Seen on thirteen days between September 1st and October 12th; maximum four September 18th.

Sylvia communis. **Whitethroat.**

At least one pair, possibly two, bred. First spring record April 17th, main movement between April 22nd and May 19th; maxima *c.* thirty April 27th, *c.* twenty May 10th. In autumn, slight increase in numbers August 12th, the peak of the movement being on August 22nd when *c.* sixty birds observed. Seen almost daily during September until the 26th; maximum *c.* twenty-five September 5th.

Sylvia curruca. **Lesser Whitethroat.**

One trapped May 1st.

Phylloscopus trochilus. **Willow Warbler.**

First spring record March 24th, main passage during April with peaks on 1st, 21st, 22nd. A few recorded up to May 20th. One heard singing June 6th. Autumn dispersal from July 19th with maximum movement during August, maxima fifty to seventy August 6th, 7th, 12th. A few seen during September, last record September 27th.

Phylloscopus collybita. **Chiffchaff.**

Spring records between March 11th and April 22nd, maxima twelve March 29th, eighteen April 2nd. A few between August 17th and the end of the month. Main passage in mid-September with *c.* thirty on 18th and 19th. Records in October up to the 22nd, and one November 19th, 20th, probably of the Northern form.

Regulus regulus. **Goldcrest.**

One or two records of single birds January and February; some passage during the last three weeks of March, maximum sixteen March 11th. One or two recorded fairly frequently up till April 23rd; two May 1st. Return passage started August 22nd. Recorded on all but one day in September and up until October 22nd. Maxima twelve October 6th, 19th, eight November 12th.

Regulus ignicapillus. **Firecrest.**

One regularly between November 9th and 23rd, two trapped November 9th.

Muscicapa striata. **Spotted Flycatcher.**

One pair bred rearing at least two young which flew by July 26th. First spring record April 27th, a small passage between May 8th and 31st, maximum fifteen 19th. Main autumn passage between August 7th and September 26th, maxima twenty September 1st, twenty-four September 18th. A few single birds in October the last on the 7th.

Muscicapa hypoleuca. **Pied Flycatcher.**

Only two spring birds, on April 27th, 30th. First autumn record August 26th, thereafter recorded frequently until September 26th. Maximum seventeen August 31st.

Muscicapa parva. **Red-breasted Flycatcher.**

One October 18th, 19th.

Prunella modularis. **Hedge Sparrow.**

An estimate of seven breeding pairs. The species is extremely inconspicuous during August and early September. A resumption of some singing September 23rd. No passage observed.

Anthus pratensis. **Meadow Pipit.**

Possibly a slight decrease in breeding numbers but no census taken. First sign of spring passage February 26th when a flock seen arriving from the SE. Passage recorded intermittently throughout March but in small numbers. Two hundred on April 27th the only sign of movement during this month. Main autumn movement September 20th to October 12th, maxima c. 200 September 20th, c. 150 September 21st, c. 100 September 27th, October 12th.

Anthus richardi. **Richard's Pipit.**

One October 1st. A new record for Lundy. This bird was seen rather briefly but the following observations leave little doubt of its identity. The bird was first noticed by its call in flight, a loud un-pipitlike 'itch-orp' with the accent on the second half of the call. It was a large pipit, almost skylark size, with dark, well-marked upper parts, pale underparts streaked only on the upper breast and a conspicuous white belly. The eye stripe was noticeably distinct and white by comparison with other, common, pipits. As it took off and landed a long tail with white outer tail feathers along the full length of the tail was eye-catching and in distinct contrast to the same view of the Meadow Pipit.

Anthus trivialis. **Tree Pipit.**

Five recorded between April 20th and 23rd, two May 9th, one May 17th. Records fairly frequently from August 13th until the end of the month, maximum nine August 22nd. Six records of single birds during September, one October 1st.

Anthus spinoletta. **Rock Pipit.**

No change observed in breeding status, nor passage migrants detected.

***Motacilla alba*. Pied Wagtail.**

At least two pairs bred. One record in January, fairly frequent during February. Up to three recorded almost daily in March. Slight spring passage during April, maximum nine April 15th. White Wagtails, *M.a.alba*, recorded on April 24th, May 5th, 8th, 9th. A marked autumn passage from August 28th to September 2nd, which included some White Wagtails, maximum fifty-two August 30th. Small movements, usually less than ten, throughout the autumn until October 22nd.

***Motacilla cinerea*. Grey Wagtail.**

Between February 27th and April 23rd eleven records of one or two birds. One July 26th. Frequent records of one or two from September 12th to October 18th, four October 5th. One November 18th, 23rd.

***Motacilla flava*. Yellow Wagtail.**

Four single birds in April, the first on 22nd. Five records in first half of May, maximum six May 2nd. First autumn record August 13th. Seen daily August 19th to September 2nd, maximum nine August 22nd. A few records, mostly of single birds, up to September 26th.

***Lanius senator*. Woodchat Shrike.**

One June 5th, 10th, 11th.

***Lanius collurio*. Red-backed Shrike.**

Immature or female seen by R. C. Stone September 17th.

***Sturnus vulgaris*. Starling.**

Almost daily from January 1st to March 13th, maxima *c.* 150 January 18th, *c.* 120 January 17th, March 3rd, 11th, 12th. Small numbers seen infrequently from mid-March to April 24th. A flock mostly of juveniles appeared on June 21st and remained; a smaller flock throughout most of July. Almost daily records of less than ten throughout August and the first three weeks of September, increasing to *c.* fifty September 27th. More marked passage during the first seventeen days of October. *c.* 900 seen moving south October 7th, *c.* 280 October 12th.

***Coccothraustes coccothraustes*. Hawfinch.**

Two October 10th, one October 11th.

***Chloris chloris*. Greenfinch.**

Up to three seen occasionally from the opening of the Observatory to the end of April. Three records of single birds in May, rather more frequent records in June. A total of five birds in July, August and September. Seen on all but one day from October 12th to 22nd, maxima twelve October 16th, nine November 10th.

Carduelis carduelis. **Goldfinch.**

One or two on four days in January, seven days in February. Small passage from April 12th to 30th ; four records during May and early June. Then not seen until October 4th after which seen regularly until 22nd. Maxima eight October 6th, 12th, eleven November 12th.

Carduelis spinus. **Siskin.**

The biggest autumn passage since 1949, a total of fifty-nine birds between October 7th and 22nd, nearly all birds seen moving south. Maximum movement October 15th, 16th, 19th.

Carduelis cannabina. **Linnet.**

Infrequent records of less than ten during January, February and the first three weeks of March. From March 29th to April 22nd twenty to forty seen fairly regularly. By the end of April the breeding population appeared to be in residence and no changes were observed in numbers. The first flown juveniles were noticed on May 18th. Autumn flocking noted July 13th, flocks increasing during August when c. eighty observed occasionally. In September between forty and fifty usually recorded daily ; c. 140 September 19th. Little change in flock size until after October 14th, after which less than ten usually recorded. One or two on three days of November.

Carduelis flammea. **Redpoll.**

One September 27th, 30th, October 6th ; four November 22nd. A good view was obtained of the bird on September 27th which was thought to be of the race *C.f.cabaret*.

Pyrrhula pyrrhula. **Bullfinch.**

One April 12th, September 1st.

Fringilla coelebs. **Chaffinch.**

About five breeding pairs. Some additional birds present during February and the first three weeks of March. Numbers unusually low during August and September. Main autumn movement started October 6th, maxima c. 1135 October 7th, c. 480 13th, c. 440 15th.

Fringilla montifringilla. **Brambling.**

No spring records. A total of thirty-one seen between October 7th and 22nd.

Emberiza citrinella. **Yellowhammer.**

Two records of single birds in February, three February 8th. Single birds on three days in March and on April 12th, 13th. A total of five birds between October 13th and 21st. One November 22nd.

Emberiza melanocephala. **Black-headed Bunting.**

A female believed to be of this race on September 20th and 22nd. The females of *E. melanocephala* and of the Red-headed Bunting, *E. luteola*, are said to be indistinguishable in many cases. Skins of the two races were therefore examined in the British Museum and the bird seen on Lundy was placed as *E. melanocephala* on the following characters :

(i) longer and larger bill. This was noticeable in the field as contrasting with the male *E. luteola* seen in 1956 ;

(ii) lightly streaked upper parts with an interruption of streaking across the nape giving a collared effect ;

(iii) no yellow on the rump.

The Lundy birds lacked rufous tints on the upper parts, a condition said to be characteristic of *E. melanocephala*, but four of the nine specimens examined in the British Museum also lacked this feature.

Emberiza hortulana. **Ortolan Bunting.**

Two September 2nd.

Calcarius lapponicus. **Lapland Bunting.**

Nine records between September 7th and October 14th, usually of single birds, but five on September 8th.

Plectrophenax nivalis. **Snow Bunting.**

One October 18th to 20th, two October 21st, 22nd. A flock of twenty-four on most days between November 7th and 20th. One November 23rd.

Passer domesticus. **House Sparrow.**

Three October 6th, one October 7th, 16th, two October 14th.

