BIRDS RECORDED in 1959

- 2. GREAT NORTHERN DIVER (Colymbus immer). Singles in the Landing Bay October 18th and 21st and November 26th-27th.
- 14. STORM PETREL (Hydrobates pelagicus).
 One picked up dead beneath the telephone wires near North End on the morning of August 11th, after a night of thick fog.
- 16. MANX SHEARWATER (Procellaria puffinus). First heard calling March 23rd, and seen regularly until September 10th. A young bird, still bearing traces of down, was found near the Beach Road on the night of September 7th, thus providing unexpected proof that this species still breeds in the Southern part of the island. This is the first evidence of successful breeding of this species since 1953.

Large flocks were seen close offshore in the South Race during late June and early July, the largest count being c.500 on July 8th. A bird of the Balearic race (P.p. mauretanicus) was identified about 600 yards off Rat Island on July 16th by J.K.B. and W.B.W.

26. FULMAR PETREL (Fulmaris glacialis).
About 35 pairs enjoyed an undisturbed and apparently successful breeding season at the two main colonies this year. The 'blue' bird was not seen among the 17 pairs at Gannet's, but one was reported on two occasions at Jenny's, but never on a nest site.

Last seen on colonies August 25th, last record October 18th.

- 27. GANNET (Sula bassana). Recorded offshore all months.
- 28. CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax carbo). Nine flying North over the island March 15th, the earliest record. One pair again bred at the Quarry Beach site, rearing four young.

Another pair, seen frequently on the West coast, probably bred, but the nest was not discovered. A few birds seen moving South in September, but in small numbers.

- 29. SHAG (Phalacrocorax aristotelis).
 No significant change in breeding population, and another successful season.
- 30. HERON (Ardea cinerea).
 No spring records. Singles on July 19th and 20th, on five days in August (two or more on the 16th), and one on October 13th, making fewer records than in recent years.
- 45. MALLARD (Anas platyrhynchos). At least four, and possibly fivepairs bred, with very little success, due to the dry summer and the number of ducklings killed by the large cat population, only four young reaching the flying stage. One of these was shot at Yelland Marsh in October.

Most of the breeding birds were Lundy-bred last year, but at least two individuals were "strangers" - additions to the Lundy population.

Although most of the 1958 youngsters remained throughout the winter it is interesting to see that one was recovered from France, where it was shot almost exactly a year from the date of ringing.

Six birds were still present when the Observatory closed.

A pair on March 21st and 22nd was the only spring record. A single on July 23rd, and four at Pondsbury on the 28th, a single again on August 13th, and singles on four dates in September and two dates each in October and November and nine on December 8th, were the only other records for the year.

47. GARGANEY (Anas querquedula).
1959 was an exceptional year for this species.
A considerable influx to the South and West of England took place during March and April.

The first to arrive on Lundy was a party of three on March 18th, two of which remained on the following day. Two males were seen on April 2nd, and daily until the 5th. There was a single on the 9th and the latest records were a male on 23rd, and a female on 26th of April.

The only previous record for the island was a male in March, 1958.

- 50. WIGEON (<u>Anas penelope</u>). One female on Pondsbury August 18th and 19th. Another, also a female, September 27th.
- 64. COMMON SCOTER (Melanitta nigra). One record, a male which was present on the unusual date of July 10th, when it was watched for several hours off the Landing Beach.
- 78. PINK-FOOTED GOOSE (Anser brachyrhynchus). One flew South after circling over the island on October 1st.
- 81. BARNACLE GOOSE (Branta leucopsis).
 A small dark goose first seen flying near
 Pondsbury by M. & V. Squire on April 26th was
 next day identified as a Barnacle. It remained
 on the island until May 5th, spending most of
 its time on the airfield. This was the third
 occasion the species had been recorded on Lundy
 the first being on April 24th, 1941, this
 bird staying nearly a month on the island, and
 the other a party of three on September, 1944.
- 84. MUTE SWAN (<u>Cygnus olor</u>). One on the water about a quarter of a mile out to sea off Jenny's Cove on 10th September. The first definite record for the Observatory.
- 91. BUZZARD (Buteo buteo). The bird with the white marking was again one of a pair which unsuccessfully attempted to

breed. The site chosen this year was a completely inaccessible gully on the East side, no young being reared.

A third bird was present on March 21st, but was not seen again.

- 92. ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD (<u>Buteo lagopus</u>). One in Millcombe on November 29th, when excellent views were obtained. Still present the following day, when it appeared to leave in a Southerly direction. The first record of this species on Lundy.
- 93. SPARROW HAWK (<u>Accipiter nisus</u>). A male on July 26th was the only record for the year.
- 104. HOBBY (Falco subbuteo). Single on September 10th.
- 105. PEREGRINE (Falco peregrinus).
 A single female was seen throughout the year.
 A second bird was present on June 29th, and on October 6th a male was seen. Two were seen together on several occasions in November.
- 107. MERLIN (Falco columbarius). Singles on 19th and 30th April, the only Spring records.

One on August 20th - a male; and singles on eight dates in September, eleven in October and three in November; the last being on the 20th.

- 110. KESTREL (Falco tinnunculus). Three pairs believed to have bred, none of the nests being accessible. Seen daily throughout the year.
- 118. PHEASANT (Phasianus colchicus). No counts above 8, but the population is certainly in excess of this figure. A Golden Pheasant which escaped in March may have survived.

- 120. WATER RAIL (Rallus aquaticus). Singles on eight dates in March and on 11th and 19th of April. Autumn records of singles on August 31st, September 2nd, 21st, 23rd and 29th. An exceptional passage throughout October, the maximum number being 6 on the 13th. One or two present most dates in November and singles on December 11th and 12th.
- 125. CORNCRAKE (Crex crex).
 One on May 9th, the only Spring record. One August 21st to 22nd, three on 30th, one the following day and again September 2nd.
 Further singles October 9th and 14th.
- 131. OYSTERCATCHER (<u>Haematopus</u> <u>ostralegus</u>). Present throughout the season, about 15 pairs breeding. No obvious movement recorded.
- 133. LAPWING (Vanellus vanellus).
 A further increase in the breeding population this year to about 15 pairs. First chicks found May 6th nearly a week earlier than last year. A flock of 40 had formed by May 30th, after which numbers decreased steadily and did not start to increase again until July 23rd.

Numbers fluctuated widely from then on, the peaks being 70 on August 12th-13th; 73 on September 22nd and c.90 the following day; c.65 on October 2nd, c.70 on the 10th; and the largest flock of the year, 130 on November 16th.

About 10 were still present when the Observatory closed in December.

134. RINGED PLOVER (Charadrius hiaticula). Singles July 14th, 20th, 22nd and 23rd; August 5th, 7th, 12th, 26th-27th, two on the 28th and one again on 30th. One on September 5th, at least one on 9th and 11th, four on 14th and two the following day, and the last one on September 19th.

- 139. GREY PLOVER (<u>Charadrius squatarola</u>). Flock of 7 on August 12th; and a single on September 15th.
- 140. GOLDEN PLOVER (Charadrius apricarius). Largest count in March, six on 27th; in April, twelve on 4th-5th. One May 6th, two on the 7th, one again on 25th and on June 1st.

Two on July 22nd, c.20 on 24th, c.12 the following day and one on 30th made an unusually early start to the Autumn records. Up to 3 were present on seven dates in August, but a single on 7th was the only record for the first half of September. Up to 20 were present on most days in the second half of the month. Seven records in October and eight in November up to the 20th; the largest flock during this time being nine on November 3rd.

- 142. DOTTEREL (Charadrius morinellus).
 One on May 27th just north of the Old Light.
- 143. TURNSTONE (Arenaria interpres).
 Two April records 2 on 21st and one on 30th.
 Singles August 14th, 22nd and 23rd; twelve on
 24th and four on 27th. A single again on
 September 9th and four on October 27th.
- 145. SNIPE (Capella gallinago). Up to ten most days in March; singles on three dates in April and five in May. Two July 9th, and singles 24th-26th and 30th. Recorded almost daily for the rest of the year, in numbers up to ten.
- 147. JACK SNIPE (<u>Lymnocryptes minimus</u>).
 One March 22nd. Singles October 8th-10th,
 four on 11th, two on 12th and singles on 15th,
 29th and on November 6th.
- 148. WOODCOCK (Scolopax rusticola).
 Recorded between October 7th and December 6th, the largest count being four on November 7th.

- 150. CURLEW (Numenius arquata). It is likely that one or possibly two pairs nested, although breeding was not proved. First population increase on June 14th, when there was a flock of c.20. Numbers rose to 69 on 29th of the month and then fluctuated widely during July, August and the first half of September. Over 100 birds were recorded on the following dates: July 20th, 24th and 27th. August 10th-13th and 18th. From mid-September to October 20th, up to twenty were present daily and singles occurred on October 29th, November 4th, 10th, 11th and 12th and December 7th.
- 151. WHIMBREL (Numenius phaeoptus).
 Spring records from April 22nd to June 2nd, the largest number was 19 on May 7th. More numerous than usual in Autumn, from July 18th until October 12th, the largest count being 25 on August 11th.
- 154. BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (Limosa limosa). A pair in breeding plumage near the Rocket Pond on the early date of April 2nd. A party of three on August 31st were all in winter plumage.
- 155. BAR-TAILED GODWIT (<u>Limosa lapponica</u>). Singles on June 22nd and July 28th. Two on August 11th.
- 156. GREEN SANDPIPER (Tringa ochropus). Singles on April 22nd and August 18th.
- 159. COMMON SANDPIPER (<u>Tringa hypoleucos</u>). Singles April 22nd and 24th, May 4th, 5th and 20th. Autumn records on 17 days between July 6th and August 27th, numbers being below 5 on all dates except August 6th, when about 30 were together on rocks near the Miller's Cake.
- 161. REDSHANK (Tringa totanus).
 One on June 14th the only record.

- 162. SPOTTED REDSHANK (<u>Tringa erythropus</u>). Two August 19th at Pondsbury, one moved to the Reservoir Pond and remained there the following day. This is only the second time that the species has been seen on Lundy, the first being one on March 27th-28th, 1954.
- 163. LESSER YELLOWLEGS (Tringa flavipes) One at Pondsbury on October 26th-28th. The first record for Lundy.
- 165. GREEN SHANK (Tringa nebularia). Singles August 6th, 11th and 30th.
- 169. KNOT (<u>Calidris canutus</u>). One August 14th and 15th.
- 170. PURPLE SANDPIPER (Calidris maritima) One October 27th, with Turnstone, north of the Landing Beach.
- 178. DUNLIN (Calidris alpina).
 One April 23rd-24th. Two 27th. One May 2nd and 4th, three on 23rd. Singles July 7th and 9th, August 7th and 9th and two on 10th and 11th. Eight records in September included a flock of seven on 14th. One on October 7th, the last of the season.
- 179. CURLEW SANDPIPER (<u>Calidris testacea</u>). One May 13th, flying with Whimbrel on the Airfield.
- 182. BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER (<u>Tryngites</u> subruficollis).

One caught by Mist-net in St. Helen's field September 24th, while netting finches. Not seen before capture, it was only the second bird of this species to be ringed in Britain. It was not seen after its release until the corpse was found on the 28th, apparently killed by a cat. The only previous record for Lundy was in 1858, when one was shot by S. de B. Heaven.

- 187. GREY PHALAROPE (<u>Phalaropus fulicarius</u>). Singles October 12th-13th, 18th and 20th in the Landing Cove.
- 198. GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL (Larus marinus). A further increase in the numbers of this species attempting to breed, and despite shooting and egg destruction the population continues to increase. Present throughout the year.
- 199. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (Larus fuscus). Recorded between March 18th and November 3rd. Probable increase in breeding numbers and a few pairs nesting among the Herring Gull colonies on the West coast.

Several large flocks Autumn, including 130 on August 14th.

- 200. HERRING GULL (<u>Larus argentatus</u>). First eggs April 23rd. No obvious change in numbers or distribution.
- 201. COMMON GULL (<u>Larus canus</u>).
 One flying North July 21st. Twelve on August 5th. Singles 10th and 18th. Six September 30th, singles November 3rd and 9th. Five on December 10th.
- 208. BLACK-HEADED GULL (<u>Larus ridibundus</u>). One May 31st, June 17th-19th. Up to three on six occasions in July, five in August, three in September and five in October, in addition to ten birds on the 28th. Ten records of up to four during November and a count of twenty on December 10th
- 211. KITTIWAKE (<u>Rissa tridactyla</u>). Another successful breeding season. Last recorded on October 19th.
- 217-218. COMMON or ARCTIC TERN (Sterna hirundo or S. macrura).

 Singles September 14th and 25th, and three on October 19th.

- 223. SANDWICH TERN (<u>Sterna sandvicensis</u>). One in the Landing Bay September 7th and seven feeding off Rat Island September 30th.
- 224. RAZORBILL (<u>Alca torda</u>).

 A more successful breeding season than last year. Seen offshore in small numbers in October and November.
- 227. GUILLEMOT (<u>Uria aalge</u>).
 No apparent change in breeding status. Present offshore in small numbers during October and November; on land again at Long Ruse and North Light colonies on December 5th.
- 230. PUFFIN (Fratercula arctica).
 First seen on land March 26th. Last record July 26th. It seems likely that the spread down the West coast is taking place at the expense of the North End colony.
- 232. STOCK DOVE (Columba oenas).
 Singles November 6th and 10th. The latter bird was caught in Millcombe in an exhausted state, but it recovered after feeding and was released.
- 234. WOOD PIGEON (Columba palumbus). Recorded intermittently in numbers of under 12 through Spring and Summer. At least one pair bred. Movement as usual during August and September, involving numbers of up to 30. By mid-October the passage seemed to be over, as is usually the case, but then a series of unusually large late movements took place. Similar movements were observed throughout the Irish Sea observatories and are as yet unexplained.

The first large flock appeared on October 26th when some 150-plus were put up in Millcombe in the early morning. The flock left the island in a Northerly direction. A week later, on November 3rd, two large flocks were seen, the first of about 60 on the East side at 11.00 hours moving North, and a second flock of c.150

was watched coming in off the sea from a southwesterly direction, over the Rocket Pond, at 12.15 hours. This flock also moved North over the island. About eight birds remained on the island in the evening, but the following morning there were about 100 in the Hotel garden and small parties along the East coast. On the 5th. 52 birds were counted on the island. after which there were only small numbers recorded until the 18th when a flock of c.100 flew South over Millcombe at 13.00 hours. Only two were seen the following day, but on the 21st a flock of 40 was present and on 22nd, 51 were counted along the East coast. The only record for the remainder of the month was two on 28th. A single was present December 1st, and the only other record was 20 on the 12th.

235. TURTLE DOVE (Streptopelia turtur).
Recorded in numbers of up to 4 from May 7th to the end of the month, single June 2nd, 9 on 4th, 3 the following day, one on 8th and eight on 9th brought the Spring passage to a close.
Singles recorded July 6th, 9th and 11th may well have been the same bird.

Very slight Autumn passage, of singles August 19th, 20th, 23rd, 28th, September 5th and 11th and October 6th, and four on the 7th.

- 237. CUCKOO (Cuculus canorus).
 First record May 4th one or almost daily until
 June 10th. Singles June 30th, July 11th-12th.
 Up to four regularly July 19th to September
 2nd. A very late juvenile on October 7th was
 the only other record. This is the latest
 date recorded for this species on Lundy.
- 249. SHORT-EARED OWL (<u>Asio flammeus</u>). Four March 14th, singles on 16th, 22nd and 30th and on April 29th. Autumn records of singles October 11th, 13th and 15th, November 7th, 8th and 30th (two), and December 1st.
- 252. NIGHTJAR (<u>Caprimulgus europeus</u>). Singles August 4th and 18th, the only records this year.

255. SWIFT (Apus apus).

Two April 29th, one the following day and then a gap until May 4th, when there were some 35 present, c.100 the two days following and then fairly regularly in numbers of up to 20, or occasionally more, up until August 19th, after which there was a single on 28th and at least 2 on 30th August and a very late single on October 6th. Largest numbers were c.90 July 15th and c.100 on August 4th.

257. ALPINE SWIFT (Apus melba).
One May 9th to 11th. The first record for Lundy. First seen with ordinary Swifts hawking after insects near Church Tower and Castle area; much bigger, brown in colour, white belly and throat separated by brown chest band which was clearly visible. It was watched at distances down to 10 yards and was seen by most of the islanders.

261. HOOPOE (<u>Upupa epops</u>). Three singles March 27th-28th, May 12th and September 7th-9th.

263. GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER (Dendrocopos major).

One in trees at Quarry Pond August 31st and September 1st is only the third record for Lundy.

- 265. WRYNECK (Jynx torquilla).
 One taken in terrace trap on September 21st.
- 271. WOOD LARK (<u>Lullula arborea</u>). Two birds present in potato field October 29th and 30th.
- 272. SKYLARK (<u>Alauda arvensis</u>). Flocks of c.100 March 18th to 20th. Bred but possibly in fewer numbers than in recent years. Autumn movement from October 6th c.50. Main movement October 12th-29th, when over 100 present daily. Peaks of c.200 October 19th, c.250 October 22nd-23rd; steady at c.thirty throughout November.

274. SWALLOW (<u>Hirundo rustica</u>). First one March 28th, then none until April 2nd, after which almost daily. First large movement April 28th when c.500 were feeding over the island for most of the day. The number had halved the following day and on 30th c.100 were recorded. May 2nd c.200, 500 on 4th, 100 on 5th, 250 on 6th was the period of greatest activity, only one more large flock of c.200 on May 22nd. One pair bred in the roof of the Reservoir building and the young were ringed.

First large Autumn flocks c.75 August 4th, 160 August 28th and 200 on 30th. Passage slow in September until 250 on 20th and a more spectacular movement of at least 2,000 on 23rd, parties of c.200 on 27th, 28th and October 1st. Movement virtually over by mid-October but odd birds seen until November 13th. The large number ringed were caught mainly in mist nets, the best site being over the stream at Millcombe.

276. HOUSE MARTIN (<u>Delichon urbica</u>). First three on April 27th, then intermittently through May and June in number up to twenty-five except for c.250 on May 22nd. One on July 1st, two on 2nd and one on 19th. One again on August 4th and four on 17th. Autumn passage from September coinciding with Swallows, c.50 on 20th, c.60 on 23rd, c.80 on 27th, last one October 22nd.

277. SAND MARTIN (Riparia riparia).
About thirty on March 27th were the first, more recorded than in the previous year. April peak eighty on 4th. Large numbers in May when c.400 moved north with Swallows on 4th, c.60 on 5th and 75 on 6th, then small numbers of up to six until June 3rd. Slight intermittent passage from July 4th increased to eighty on 19th. August peaks c.75 on 4th, c.200 on 30th and 70 on 31st. In September c.50 on 2nd and c.60 on 23rd, last singles October 1st and 5th.

- 278. GOLDEN ORIOLE (Oriolus oriolus). A female on May 10th in the Quarry Pond area, the only record.
- 279. RAVEN (Corvus corax).
 Two pairs bred, one in Raven Gully and the other on Long Ruse site; additional birds were present, possibly a third pair but no nest could be found.
- 280. CARRION CROW (Corvus corone). Six or seven pairs bred. No large Spring flocks but about twenty-six at end of September and forty-four on October 4th rather too large a population.
- 283. JACKDAW (Corvus monedula).
 One March 14th-17th and one or two on four dates in April with singles May 11th and 31st.
 Two on October 14th and November 23rd and one from December 5th to 11th.
- 288. GREAT TIT (Parus major). Up to four most days October 3rd to 19th. Singles later and on four days in November and on December 2nd.
- 289. BLUE TIT (<u>Parus caeruleus</u>). Singles October 4th, 12th-17th and November 4th-5th.
- 290. COAL TIT (<u>Parus ater</u>). Singles October 6th to 19th and November 2nd.
- 298. TREE CREEPER (Certhia familiaris). One on September 10th.
- 299. WREN (<u>Troglodytes</u> troglodytes). No evidence of movement noted.
- 301. MISTLE THRUSH (<u>Turdus viscivorus</u>).
 One in the tillage field July 7th and another September 30th and small numbers most days
 October and November with maximum ten October 30th and eight November 28th.

- 302. FIELDFARE (<u>Turdus pilaris</u>).
 Singles March 14th, 17th and 18th and two on
 March 26th and April 1st. Small numbers from
 October 6th, fifty on 13th. Up to thirty most
 days in November and until 2nd December. A
 much smaller passage this year.
- 303. SONG THRUSH (Turdus ericetorum).
 No Spring passage; one pair bred, apparently rearing two broods. Autumn passage from October 7th to end of November. Main peaks October 13th 100, 29th 150 and 31st 250. November 6th 100, decreasing to about eight at end of month.
- 304. REDWING (Turdus musicus).
 Singles on March 16th and April 13th. Autumn records from October 4th, peaks coinciding with those of Song Thrush, c.300 October 13th, c.200 on 29th, 500 on 31st, c.300 November 1st, 150 on 3rd and 100 on 6th. The main movement was between October 28th and November 7th.
- 307. RING OUZEL (Turdus torquatus). One April 2nd, five on 13th. Autumn passage started August 27th and was recorded almost daily until October 18th, the largest number being twelve on 8th September and also on 7th November.
- 308. BLACKBIRD (<u>Turdus merula</u>).
 About twenty pairs breeding as usual. Migrants appeared as a slight increase on September 30th but no real movement until October 8th. Peaks occurred at the same time as the other thrushes and the highest count was 300 on October 31st. Numbers were down to fifty by the end of November.
- 311. WHEATEAR (Oenanthe oenanthe).
 A single male on March 13th, none until 20th, forty on 22nd and 100 on 25th, 150 on April 24th and 70 on May 9th-10th. Up to ten pairs bred. First large Autumn movement was on August 13th of c.100. More numerous than the previous year, the numbers exceeded fifty on

- twelve occasions, falling in mid-October with the last on 18th. One caught in the tillage field on May 8th with a Danish ring had been ringed as a juvenile in Greenland in 1958.
- 317. STONECHAT (Saxicola torquata). Single males March 13th and 16th, male and female on 15th. One September 9th, four on 13th, then most days until November 8th with ten or more on three occasions. Largest count fifteen on October 1st. Single birds on 25th and 29th November and a male and female on December 2nd
- 318. WHINCHAT (Saxicola rubetra).
 Singles May 9th and 10th and June 1st. One
 July 7th, three on 9th, two on 26th and up to
 four on ten occasions in August. Up to twelve
 daily in September, four singles in October,
 last on 12th.
- 320. REDSTART (Phoenicurus phoenicurus). Singles April 13th, May 13th and 25th-27th. Five on August 18th, one on 20th and 25th and two on 30th. Up to eight most days in September and on seven days in October up to four until 16th.
- 321. BLACK REDSTART (Phoenicurus ochrurus). One March 25th, one or two on thirteen occasions between October 5th and November 15th. This species has been less common on Lundy in recent years.
- 325. ROBIN (Erithacus rubecula). Breeding numbers as usual with no signs of movement.
- 327. GRASSHOPPER WARBLER (<u>locustella naevia</u>). One April 28th, six on 29th and three on 30th. Two on May 2nd and one on 5th. Singles on July 27th and August 18th-19th, up to five on dates between August 21st and September 22nd, with a last record of three on October 7th, one of these being caught at South Light at night.

- 331. MOUSTACHED WARBLER (Lusciniola melanopogon). One on May 2nd, the first for Lundy and the fourth British record. It was watched for ten minutes in Millcombe gardens with Sedge Warblers often in the same field of view. It differed markedly, being generally much darker in colour with a large conspicuous eyestripe and the back much darker brown and less streaked than the Sedge Warbler with paler underparts. A mist net was fetched but the bird could not be found again.
- 339/340. MELODIOUS or ICTERINE WARBLER

 (<u>Hippolais spp.</u>).
 One hippolais spp. seen by F. W. Gade in the

One hippolais spp. seen by F. W. Gade in the Hotel gardens September 6th and another by J. K. Bowes in the tillage field May 12th were both probably Melodious. Brief glimpses of another at the South Light on October 7th.

- 343. BLACKCAP (Sylvia atricapilla).
 Singles April 13th and 30th, both males.
 Autumn records of twelve on September 20th and two on 29th and up to six birds on sixteen dates in October and six in November. Last record December 1st.
- 346. GARDEN WARBLER (Sylvia borin).
 No Spring records Singles from August 10th on four dates and on six dates in September.
 Two on October 3rd and one on 8th-9th.
- 347. WHITETHROAT (Sylvia communis).
 One pair bred in Millcombe and raised two or three young First one seen April 17th, one on 25th, fifty on 28th and 200 on 30th.
 Steady passage throughout May with peak of 150 on 22nd. Autumn movement from August 4th with fifteen, 160 on 16th and 100 on 31st. Influx of 100 on September 2nd, 150 on 3rd. Numbers then dropped until a huge fall of some 900 took place on 8th during a period of slight easterly winds and sea mist. No other birds seemed to be involved in the movement. Only eighty seen on the following day and numbers

declined steadily to the end of the month. Up to four on several dates in October and one surprising late single on November 5th.

348. LESSER WHITETHROAT (Sylvia curruca). One on October 15th in the Terrace trap was the second of this species ringed at the Observatory.

354/356. WILLOW WARBLER (Phylloscopus trochilus).

CHIFFCHAFF (Phylloscopus collybita). First Chiffchaff seen March 16th, then daily from March 21st to May 25th with peak of fifty on March 28th. The first Willow Warblers were seen on April 2nd and most of 100 seen on April 2nd were Chiffchaffs, numbers fluctuated until April 28th when a large fall of Willow Warblers comprising most of the 800 phylloscopus estimated to be present, took place. Numbers decreased to 250 by the 30th and only occasional Chiffchaffs were recorded in May while the number of Willow Warblers fell from 100 on 1st to only one on 25th. Movement again took place from July 10th, the main activity being from 27th until August 1st when 100-130 were seen daily, nearly all Willow Warblers. August peaks, 100 on 8th, 350 on 12th and 300 on 13th which had almost all gone on the following day, 200 again on 16th, nearly all Willows. Numbers fluctuated until early October with one large count of 130 on September 3rd. Last definite Willow on October 3rd, but Chiffchaffs present until November 11th.

- 357. WOOD WARBLER (Phylloscopus sibilatrix). Two on May 11th and six on August 20th.
- 359. ARCTIC WARBLER (Phylloscopus borealis). One in mist net on September 6th was a problem as it showed none of the wing-bars normally associated with this species although it differed from a Willow Warbler when they were both in the hand together. The short first primary which characterises this species gave

the clue to identification. A detailed description was sent to the 'Rare Birds Committee' and it was accepted as being of this species, the first time recorded on Lundy.

- 364. GOLDCREST (Regulus regulus). Up to ten daily until April 16th. Singles on July 27th-30th and up to three on ten days in August and up to fifteen almost daily in September with a peak of thirty on 30th. Main movement on October 8th, 9th and 10th when over forty were seen, numbers then decreased and up to ten were seen on most days in November and singles on December 1st and 8th.
- 365. FIRECREST (Regulus ignicapillus). One on October 13th, two on November 4th and one on December 1st.
- 366. SPOTTED FLYCATCHER (Muscicapa striata). April 28th and May 6th were the first and then about ten daily until May 22nd when an influx of c.200 took place after strong easterly winds, numbers down to forty the following day and down to five on June 6th when the movement ceased. A pair nested in the creeper on Mill-combe House and four young were reared.

Autumn movement from July 25th with peaks of eighty on August 16th, seventy on 21st, up to fifty daily in early September with a peak of 120 on 3rd, the singles until October 10th. More numerous than usual.

- 368. PIED FLYCATCHER (Muscicapa hypoleuca). Singles May 9th-11th. Large numbers for this species in Autumn from August 8th with c.40 on 18th, c.80 on September 6th and forty on 11th. October numbers up to seven daily until 16th.
- 370. RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER (Musci apa parva). One September 11th-13th and singles on October 1st, 12th and 14th.
- 371. DUNNOCK (<u>Prunella modularis</u>). Nested as usual with no evidence of change of population or movement.

- 373. MEADOW PIPIT (Anthus pratensis). Flock of c.100 on March 13th and April 2nd. Breeding population unchanged. Largest August count was on 13th of 120. Little movement in September until 200 on 19th, but a large movement of 1,000 or more took place on 22nd after which numbers fluctuated between 200 and 600 daily. October peaks were 500 on 7th, 250 on 12th and 300 on 18th. Numbers down to the resident population of 30/40 at end of month.
- 376. TREE PIPIT (Anthus trivialis). Up to three almost daily August 21st to September 28th and singles on six dates between October 7th and 19th.
- 378. RED-THROATED PIPIT (Anthus cervinus). Two, almost certainly a pair, were in the tillage field on May 7th and still there on 8th when one was caught and ringed, the first to be ringed in Britain. This species has not previously been recorded on Lundy.
- 379. ROCK PIPIT (<u>Anthus spinoletta</u>). No change of status, a few moving with Meadow Pipits in late September.
- 380. PIED/WHITE WAGTAIL (Motacilla alba). Up to fifteen Pied in March. White were recorded from April 23rd to 27th with a maximum of three and one on May 8th. Four or five pairs again bred. Single Whites on six days in July and on August 4th, but main movement in September when thirty were seen on 8th.
- 381. GREY WAGTAIL (Motacilla cinerea). Three on April 30th and May 1st. Singles August 29th-31st. Almost daily in September and early October up to five in number and last date October 14th.
- 382. YELLOW WAGTAIL (Motacilla flava).
 One on April 26th, four on 29th, three on May
 8th. Again seen from August 18th to October
 16th with main movement at end of August when

a peak of twenty-two on 27th was reached.

388. RED-BACKED SHRIKE (Lanius collurio).
One trapped August 21st, a bird of the year.

389. STARLING (Sterno vulgaris). Only large Spring movement was of 200 on March 17th, only small numbers in April, May and June, ninety on June 21st being the largest count. On July 15th fourteen were seen and none in August. Seen almost daily from September 15th, reaching 175 on 29th. Numbers varied in October, reaching 850 on 11th, but not otherwise above 500 until 29th, when a flock of c.3.000 flew north at 08.00 hours followed by small flocks throughout the day This was the first of several terrific movements in the late Autumn, over 1,000 birds being recorded on eight occasions in the first three weeks of November. By far the most spectacular was on November 6th when at least 10.000 birds moved south in parties of 50/200 throughout the day, while on the 7th about twice that number flew north in one terrific movement between 07.45 and 08.15. At one time the Airfield and Acland's Moor, north of the Old Light, was black with Starlings which rested a few minutes before moving on. During these movements up to 500 or more frequently roosted on the island, usually on the Church Tower, occasionally on the Old Light itself and in rhododendrons. Night ringing marked nearly 300 birds before the supply of rings ran out. Many perished in the storms around November 15th, twenty or more being picked up daily while the bad weather prevented them from leaving the island. After a steady decrease about 200 remained at the end of the month.

391. HAWFINCH (Coccothraustes coccothraustes). Singles on October 8th, 14th and 25th.

392. GREENFINCH (Chloris chloris).
One on April 18th, the only Spring record.
Present on most days October 1st to December

- 12th in numbers up to fifteen.
- 393. GOLDFINCH (Carduelis carduelis). Almost daily in Spring with a maximum of fourteen on April 16th. One pair bred successfully while a second pair, found feeding young in Gannets Combe, might well have nested. Autumn passage in small numbers of less than twelve but fifteen seen on December 12th.
- 394. SISKIN (Carduelis spinus).
 An exceptional passage in Autumn. Seven on October 7th, sixteen on 9th, 58 on 13th and 103 on 14th, the peak being reached at the end of the month when 200 on 24th and 250 on 25th were estimated, mostly flying south. A small flock remained until November 26th and five on December 12th. Four were ringed, the first time that this species has been caught on Lundy.
- 395. LINNET (<u>Carduelis cannabina</u>). Small flocks of up to forty in April and May before pairing off. No influx until August 18th when 100 were seen, 200 on 19th, building up to 300 by September 19th, decreasing to 30 during October. A few were seen during November and about thirty on December 4th.
- 397. REDPOLL (<u>Carduelis flammea</u>).
 One on September 27th, one on October 5th, three on 6th, five on 7th, two on 8th and 13th. Singles in November on 22nd and 23rd.
- 400. SERIN (Serinus canarius).
 A first winter male on April 23rd in the High
 Street near the hen run, the second record for
 the island, the previous being of four on
 April 21st, 1943.
- 401. BULLFINCH (Pyrrhula pyrrhula). One or two on seven dates between November 3rd and 29th.
- 402. SCARLET GROSBEAK (<u>Carpodacus erythrinus</u>). One caught in a mist net on September 10th, the first record for Lundy, a female or first

- winter bird. It remained on the island until the 13th.
- 404. CROSSBILL (Loxia curvirostra).
 One on July 4th, three on 15th, one on 16th, then daily from 21st to August 12th with up to thirty-five on the island at a time. The first arrivals were exhausted and easy to catch and at one time nine were present and all were ringed. Only two remained on August 12th.
 Seen on six further dates in August and four dates in September, all of three or less and one late bird on October 13th.
- 407. CHAFFINCH (Fringilla coelebs).
 Nine or ten breeding pairs. Large Autumn movements from October 3rd, numbers being in excess of 150 on most days with many birds passing south in small flocks high over the island in favourable conditions. Peak days were October 14th and 30th with estimates of 5,000 each. In November numbers varied from 100 to 850 and a flock of 300 was on the island on December 12th.
- 408. BRAMBLING (Fringilla montifringilla). Almost daily October 6th to November 28th with main movement of fifty on October 13th and 77 counted on 14th, otherwise the highest daily total was fifteen on November 7th.
- 409. YELLOWHAMMER (<u>Emberiza</u> <u>citrinella</u>). A pair on April 10th and one on April 24th. Autumn singles on October 16th and November 10th-12th.
- 416. ORTOLAN BUNTING (Emberiza hortulana). One immature in the High Street on September 3rd.
- 421. REED BUNTING (Emberiza schoeniclus). Up to four on most days from October 6th to 15th and singles from November 2nd to 6th
- 422. LAPLAND BUNTING (Calcarius lapponicus). Singles September 22nd and 27th, two on 28th, at least three on 30th. One on October 1st,

- four on 7th, one on 12th, two on 13th. One again on November 26th-27th.
- 423. SNOW BUNTING (Plectrophenax nivalis). Singles April 9th, loth and 14th, a pair on 22nd. Two September 26th and one on the following two days. Up to four on eight dates in October and two on November 12th.
- 424. HOUSE SPARROW (Passer domesticus). One May 8th, a male and a female remained for some weeks from 9th. Three first year birds on October 20th.
- 425. TREE SPARROW (Passer montanus). Singles May 9th, 10th and 13th.