

10/11/42

Was witness of a totally unsuspected chain of events this rainy afternoon, they being of a notable instance as existing without precedence or parallel in my north-west field observations. One has merely to mention Sand-hell crane and white fronted geese as well as blackbellied Plover and Duck hawk, to get what is meant. Not only because of exceptional bird listings but because of the unusual aggregation of these rare ^{ones} in an area in which I was occupying by pure happenstance. One hour of solid performance and in such rapid succession that I knew not whether I was going or coming. Suffered from a physiological reaction of bursting with exuberance and shrinking from excessive confusion. To correlate the weather find that early morning foggy, gradually diminishing until clear skies directly above about 1:00 P.M. at 3:00 skies closed in on all sides bringing with them thunder reports and rain showers. The rain started in earnest at the Vancouver Lake area at 4:15 and continued in a moderate drizzle until 5:15 P.M. I chanced to be in the lake area at about 4:10 P.M. which was incidental to the beginning of the shower and at the same time that the wildfowl commenced their activity. Wind slight but cool. The course of the trip up to the point of Lake no 1 was as usual with notations conforming to those of previous trips. Witnessed again the *Nyroca marila* (?) in same pond as of last trip. It was the last duck to leave the lake and then only leaving after considerable encouragement with flying sticks and clods of mud. Selling unaffected by these missiles soon returned and took its position as the sole occupant of the pond. This duck feeds as does the Canvas back duck with slow forward movement but accentuated rotation of the head. The ^{feeding} shovellers pass by this duck as if without speed limitations in contrast to the advancement made by the larger sculp. The pipits were found in cultivated field with very few on shorelines as usually found. *Passerculus sandwichensis alaudinus* as usual with another group situated in same spot bordering bush covered knoll