

most of the time watching me rather than in obtaining food. Again the next year, on July 15, I was surprised to find a single Curlew on the same beach feeding with ten or a dozen Spotted Sandpipers. I approached as nearly as I dared and watched him for some time until he finally took wing and flew east over the breakwater. I found him again later and this time as he left the beach he made the "pip, pip," note five or six times in rapid succession as he flew past me.

This year (1924) on the first touch of cool weather on July 10, I walked to the breakwater where I found about seventy-five or a hundred immature Bonaparte's and Herring Gulls, twenty Spotted and one Least Sandpiper. As I returned a Curlew flew from a bunch of Gulls and called "pip, pip," as he took wing. He alighted farther on and was busy preening his feathers as I watched him. On August 1, we had another cool spell and I found a Curlew on the beach, and apparently the same bird the next day. He seemed to be feeding on light colored moths with bodies one-half to three-quarters of an inch in length which had been washed ashore some dead and others still living.—*E. W. Haderler, Painesville, Ohio.*

#### **The Red-backed Sandpiper and Hudsonian Godwit in Oklahoma.**

—During the spring of 1924, a large number of shore-birds frequented a shallow pond in a corn field a half mile south of Norman, Oklahoma. We recorded sixteen species of Limicolae here, two of which are new to the State list. The Red-backed Sandpiper (*Pelidna alpina sakhalina*) was seen on only one date, May 15, at which time there was a flock of five in full summer plumage. One was collected and given to the museum of the University of Oklahoma. The Hudsonian Godwits (*Limosa haemastica*) were seen May 12 and 15; four on the first day when one was watched through field glasses for some time at a distance of fifteen feet, and three on the fifteenth. No specimen was secured, as on the first date we were without a gun, and the next time the birds were too wary. However we have found in the University museum three specimens that had previously been overlooked; they were taken by Mr. E. D. Crabb in Canadian County in 1911.

A single Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*), observed on May 15, was collected and is the first specimen recorded from the State, the only other instance being a sight record. Other birds of special interest were four Long-billed Dowitchers seen April 5, 6 and 8, five Willets May 12, and four Still Sandpipers May 14 and 15.

Semipalmated Sandpipers were the most abundant species and were seen for the longest period—from April 4 (our first visit to the pond) till June 8 at which date there were still two of these birds as well as two White-rumped Sandpipers. Two days later the last transient shore-bird had left.—*MARGARET M. NICE AND L. B. NICE, Amherst, Mass.*

**Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) in Africa.**—We have received a specimen of the Red Phalarope at the Transvaal Museum, a

male in winter plumage, taken by Mr. R. D. Bradfield in April, sixty miles north of Okahandja, S. W. A. Prot., which seems to be the first record of any Phalarope from Africa. It is surprising that it has not been taken previously in this country, having regard to its circum-polar distribution in the northern summer.—AUSTIN ROBERTS, *Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, S. Africa.*

[We notice that this species has recently been reported from Africa and in Sclater's 'Systema' the Cameroon coast is given as its farthest south on this continent. Mr. Roberts had of course not seen this work at the time his note was written and it is mentioned simply to supplement his interesting record.—ED.]

**Phalaropus fulicarius: A New Bird for Alabama.**—Recently, while a guest at the home of Mr. Kenneth Underwood, a taxidermist of Montgomery, Alabama, my host showed me a Phalarope skin which he wished determined more specifically. The bird agreed very well with the description of the Red Phalarope given in Chapman's 'Handbook'—the only manual then at our command—but as the specimen was in winter plumage and the species entirely unfamiliar to me I forwarded the skin to Dr. Alexander Wetmore, of the U. S. Biological Survey, for more expert diagnosis. Dr. Wetmore has sustained my identification; therefore the specimen constitutes the first record of the Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) for the State.

The label on this skin contains the following data: "Pickett Springs, Montgomery, Ala. Last half January, 1924. Male. Shot while swimming on small pond. No other bird of same species observed. Shot by Mr. Dan Holt whilst Duck hunting. Bird restless, constantly bobbing head."

The specimen is preserved in the collection of Mr. Underwood, by whose courtesy I publish this record.—ERNEST G. HOLT, *312 Bell Building, Montgomery, Ala.*

**Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) in Alabama.**—Some months ago I was informed of the capture of a Golden Eagle in Autauga County, Alabama, but absence on a field trip precluded, at that time, examination of the specimen. On May 23, however, I made a special trip to Prattville to see this bird, then mounted and on exhibition there in the store of Mr. B. W. Moncrief, and found it indeed a Golden Eagle.

Our advent, for the sole purpose of examining the big bird, aroused great interest among the staff of the store who crowded around us, asking questions. One clerk seemed most anxious to know if the bird was really more than a hundred years old, as she had been informed. She seemed quite disappointed when we reluctantly told her that the buffy "boots" and white bases of the rectrices, indicative of immaturity, would hardly sustain the centenarian idea.

The Eagle was killed December 1, 1923, about five miles south of Prattville, by Mr. J. E. Churchill. It was flushed from shrubby growth, where