

**Branta canadensis occidentalis** (Baird) vs. **Branta canadensis** (Linnaeus). Proposed elimination as a subspecies (*cf.* Figgins, *THE AUK*, XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1920, pp. 94-102) rejected. (*Cf.* Swarth, *THE AUK*, XXXVII, No. 2, April, 1920, pp. 268-272).

**Branta canadensis minima** Ridgway vs. **Branta minima** Ridgway. Proposed change in status (*cf.* Figgins, *THE AUK*, XXXVII, No. 1, January, 1920, pp. 94-102) rejected. (*Cf.* Swarth, *THE AUK*, XXXVII, No. 2, April, 1920, pp. 268-272).

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### GENERAL NOTES

**A Loon (*Gavia immer*) Caught on a Fishing Line.**—Under this heading, Mr. Verdi Burtch in 'The Auk' for April, 1920, calls attention to the capture of a Loon, while trolling for bass. Though I have never taken any of our loons while trolling, I have caught a score or more while fishing with live bait, in the waters of San Diego Bay. There have been times, when live bait was not easily obtained, that the Loons were quite annoying and could have been taken almost as easily as the bass or sea trout, which were the real objective.

The Red-throated Loon was as often captured as its larger relation and either never failed to furnish a lively fight before being at last "brought to gaff."

In every case where I have hooked a Loon, the bait was taken near the bottom and with a run, that led me to think I had to deal with one of the several species of shark, that abound in these waters. The bird seldom, if ever came to the surface with the bait—usually a smelt—before it had been hooked and then only for air. They always furnished abundance of "fight" and usually taxed rod and reel to the limit. At times when an attempt was made to escape along the surface of the water, I found that the strain on the line was reduced at least 50%. From the fact that the hook was often well down in the throat, I think that fish are often swallowed without coming to the surface.—A. W. ANTHONY, *Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif.*

**Dovekie (*Alle alle*) at Wallop's Island, Va.**—An immature female Dovekie was taken on an oyster rock at low tide near Wallop's Island, about five miles from Chincoteague, Va., on February 2, 1921, and is now in my possession. A small flock of these birds had been reported previously several miles out in the ocean east of the town.—B. H. WARREN, *West Chester, Pa.*