

S.S. *Ruapehu* our official noon position was 14° 26' S., 100° 40' W. Reference to a map will show that this is about half way between Easter Island and the Galapagos group and roughly 1,000 miles from each and from the coast of Peru. Greatly to my surprise I saw a small bird on the water ahead of the ship about 4:30 P.M. and it remained settled on the calm sea till we were quite close to it. It then rose and flew straight away over the water to the northward with rapid wing-strokes. Before this I had seen through my 8 power glasses that it was a Phalarope with a conspicuous dark band on the side of the head continued down the side of the neck. This appears to identify it beyond a doubt as a Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) in spring plumage. This species is known to winter "from central Chile and central Argentina south to the Falkland Islands" so that this observation extends its winter range to the westward over the South Pacific, unless the bird's presence in the locality was purely accidental. This is perhaps suggested by the fact that it was solitary.—W. B. ALEXANDER, *Croydon, England*.

Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) in North Carolina.—Late on the afternoon of November 11, 1926, a strange bird was seen on the edge of a field near Siler City, Chatham County, North Carolina. The next morning, Mr. Edward T. Noel, of Siler City, on whose land the bird had been seen, took the field with one of his tenants to try to secure the stranger, which they succeeded in doing.

Three days later, Mr. Noel brought the bird to me for identification, and as a donation to the Museum—if we cared for the specimen! It proved to be a perfectly-plumaged male Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) or Peewit, as we called it when I was learning wing-shooting during my boyhood in England a good many years ago, where the species was plentiful.

Our bird is, of course, in winter plumage, but fully adult. Decomposition had set in by the time the specimen reached my hands, the feathers slipping rather badly on the belly during the skinning, though not enough to prevent it making a first-class mount. It was in fair physical condition, with fragments of food in the gizzard which was preserved and will be sent to the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey for examination.

The specimen showed the following dimensions and weight: length 13.62 ins.; wing 8.75; tail, 4.12; tarsus, 2.62; extent of wings, 29.5; longest feather of crest, 3.38; weight, 5.25 ozs.

So far as my information goes, this is the fourth specimen recorded from the continental United States, the other three having been taken on Long Island, N. Y., in 1885 and 1905.—H. H. BRIMLEY, *Raleigh, N. C.*

Near Cannibalism in a *Buteo*.—The morning of April 25, 1925, I was walking up the inlet of Keuka Lake at Branchport when I noticed a lot of feathers under a large willow tree and investigating found a freshly killed Red-shouldered Hawk. The head and neck were missing though I did find a small piece of the skull. The body was plump and was still warm. Evidently I had interrupted the feast of some animal (?) that had fled without