

GENERAL NOTES.

Caspian Tern on Long Island, N. Y.—Mr. Ludlow Griscom in his 'Birds of the New York City Region' (1923), gives the status of the Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) on Long Island, N. Y., as "a rare or casual transient" and mentions the fact that but nine records of its occurrence had been published—only one of these being in spring (May 11, 1898). He cites three additional recent fall observations (September 8, 1914, September 28, 1916, and August 30, 1921).

It was, therefore, with great interest that I observed a bird of this species at Long Beach, Nassau County, L. I., on April 29, 1928. A close view, through 8x binoculars, was obtained, and the size, in comparison with Herring Gulls, the heavy red bill, the dark forehead and crown, the slate-gray undersides of the primaries and the rather short, forked tail were all carefully noted.

I have recently learned of four other observations of the Caspian Tern on Long Island, all by members of the Linnaean Society of New York. They are as follows:

1. One bird seen at Jones Beach, Nassau County, on May 30, 1925. (Messrs. Ludlow Griscom, Julius M. Johnson and Warren F. Eaton.)
2. Fourteen birds, also at Jones Beach, on August 15, 1926. (Mr. Ralph Friedman.)
3. One specimen seen at Long Beach, September 12, 1926. (Mr. Allan D. Cruickshank.)
4. Two at Oak Island Beach, Suffolk County, September 12, 1926. (Mr. Charles Johnston.)

My own observation, therefore, to the best of my knowledge, is the third of the occurrence of this species on Long Island in spring. It has, however, been recorded at two other localities in the New York City region at this season. Mr. J. L. Edwards saw two on Newark Bay, May 20, 1928, and Mr. John Kuerzi one at Todd's Neck, near Sound Beach, Connecticut, June 3, 1928. Messrs. C. A. Urner and T. Donald Carter also report one at the Manasquan Inlet, New Jersey, May 20, 1928.

Does the unusual "abundance" of the Caspian Tern on New York and New Jersey shores this past spring perhaps indicate a return to its former breeding grounds in Labrador and the Magdalen Islands?—E. R. P. JANVRIN, M.D., *New York City*.

Lesser Scaup Duck in Michigan in Summer.—July 1, 1928, there were present on one of the small lakes of Newaygo County, a group of Lesser Scaups consisting of one male and three females. These birds showed a great deal of reluctance about taking flight and, when approached in a row-boat, sought escape by diving. Believing them to be crippled individuals in association, I pressed the pursuit. But they were well able to fly and took wing when I had come within ten or twelve yards of them.