

the skin, was preserved as described above. It was identified at the time by all who saw it as a Ruby-throat. Indeed, the question of its being anything else never entered anyone's mind. Since that time, it has lain in the Museum's study collection and has been seen by several ornithologists. When I joined the staff some years ago, I knew of the bird, of course, but that it was anything else than the label indicated, did not cross my mind. My experience with Hummingbirds other than the Ruby-throat is nil, and but for the sharp eyes of Mr. Riley, the bird would no doubt have remained for many more years under its wrong identification. This specimen has been twice recorded as a Ruby-throat, once in the Charleston Museum 'Bulletin,' vol. VI, 1910, p. 10, and once in Wayne's 'Birds of South Carolina,' as an editorial footnote on page 98.

When the correct details were ascertained I at once wrote Mr. Hyer, who is with the Kent Scientific Museum of Grand Rapids, Mich., telling him of it, and he has asked me to record the specimen.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.

#### **Ruby-throated Hummingbird Wintering in Northern Florida.**—

January 17, 1929, I observed a Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) feeding among the blooms of the single pink Japonica trees in our front yard in Tallahassee, Florida. The bird was seen again on the 19th and 26th, possibly the same individual. I am convinced that the species winters in northern Florida in small numbers. At this season several kinds of plants and shrubs are in full bloom, especially the Japonicas which furnish ample insect and other food for those of the Hummingbirds that are hardy enough to remain in a section visited occasionally in winter by sufficient cold to produce very substantial crusts of ice on exposed pools and the like. A Hummingbird is reported to have been seen in Pensacola, Florida, in the same latitude as Tallahassee, on February 20, 1927 (Weston—Bird-Lore, XXIX, 199). These two observations extend the winter range of the Hummingbird in Florida considerably farther north than any previous record.—ROBERT W. WILLIAMS, *Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

**Possible Reasoning Power in a Phoebe.**—The following occurrence is not a recent observation, but one that happened in my boyhood and has remained vividly in my memory. I regret that I had not formed the habit of recording notes at the time. I am not even sure of the year in which it occurred, though it was probably between 1900 and 1904, but memory of events in our youth is often clearer, stronger and more accurate than memory of much more recent events. About the time that this observation was made I read somewhere a warning against assuming too readily that birds and animals had reasoning power when they did things that seemed remarkable. This led me to note the event in this case carefully and ponder over it, so that I do not doubt that the facts as I remember them are essentially as they occurred.