

GENERAL NOTES.

Holboell's Grebe (*Colymbus holboelli*) in Georgia.—On February 22, 1930, Norman Giles, Jr., reported to me that he had seen what he firmly believed to be a Holboell's Grebe in the lake at the East Lake Country Club in Atlanta. So early the next morning he and I visited the spot and positively identified the bird. It was in winter plumage but seemed to be almost crested and we had a wonderful view of it, preening itself, opening and shutting its bill as if yawning, and although rather nervous it did not appear to be very wild, staying part of the time with some Scaup Ducks. This species is on Wayne's Hypothetical List in 'Birds of South Carolina' and I understand that Dr. Murphey of Augusta procured two specimens on February 13, 1904 and that Mr. Isaac Arnow shot a specimen at St. Marys, Ga. on February 18, 1904. This bird identified here on February 22, and 23 is the only record I can find for this part of the State.—EARLE R. GREENE, 642 Orme Circle, Atlanta, Ga.

Simultaneous Loss of Primaries in Prenuptial Molt of Loon.—On April 1, 1930, while investigating the killing of water-fowl by oil from steamers, my attention was drawn to a Loon (*Gavia immer*), which had washed up on the beach at Lambert's Cove, Marthas Vineyard, Massachusetts. The bird had been dead for some time and in addition to being badly oiled was waterlogged and bedraggled. It was evidently passing through the prenuptial molt and many of the feathers of the back and especially the upper wing-coverts were black with white spots. The primary feathers were very short and my first impression was that the bird had probably crawled out upon the beach in order to preen its plumage and remove the oil which had matted down its feathers, and that after the poisons in the crude oil had begun to affect the bird, it had thrashed about on the pebbles and sand and had worn off the ends of its primaries during its death struggles.

Two days later, in company with Mr. Alden H. Hadley of the National Association of Audubon Societies and Mr. Winthrop Packard of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, I inspected several more Loons at Gay Head and Squibnocket on Marthas Vineyard and on April 4, at the Millpond, a small land-locked salt pond at Chatham on Cape Cod, we inspected ten dead Loons in a distance of less than a mile. One of these birds (they had all been dead from a week to a month or more) was in typical winter plumage and showed no signs of a prenuptial molt. This bird was very heavily oiled so that it showed no white feathers below but the feathers of the back were not so badly affected. The old flight feathers were all present. A Red-throated Loon, (*Gavia lumme*) also examined at the Millpond, showed a similar lack of molt and was the only bird of this species examined.

All the other Loons at the Millpond had molted in greater or less degree as was indicated by the presence of black feathers with white spots on the