

GENERAL NOTES.

Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) in Wisconsin.¹—On May 10, 1930, while walking along the Lake Michigan beach near Cedar Grove, Wis., a completely white Gull was observed in a flock of about fifty Ring-billed and Herring Gulls that rested on the sand. The bird was decidedly larger than the Herring Gulls and easily identifiable as a Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) in second year plumage, even by one not familiar with the species. At the time the writer was not prepared to collect the specimen.

A search was made on May 17 in the same neighborhood because commercial fishermen had reported seeing the bird in the vicinity during the week. After examining every Gull that came into vision, the Glaucous Gull was again located on the afternoon of the 18th and collected. It was only winged and was taken to the Milwaukee Public Museum alive, where Mr. O. J. Gromme made color notes and sketches of it.

The bird was quite vicious and had a much more powerful beak than the Herring Gull, to which several scars will attest!

It was a male. The viscera were badly infected and the specimen in poor flesh in spite of the fact that food was abundant in the vicinity where it was collected. The plumage was completely white with a few faint traces of buff on some of the neck and breast feathers.

This species is a rare visitor on Lake Michigan. Kumlein and Hollister mention a series of Glaucous Gulls collected in Milwaukee Harbor, January 8, 12, and 14, 1895 and Frank Woodruff reported one from Millers, Ind., August 8, 1897, but there is no published report for Lake Michigan since that date.

It is interesting to note that all the birds collected on Lake Michigan have been immature.—CLARENCE S. JUNG, 518 Stratford Ct., Milwaukee, Wis.

Play Instinct in Gulls¹.—The question frequently arises whether birds possess the faculty of play, wherefore the following observation for the affirmative is contributed:

The Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company has erected a dam a short distance above the natural falls on the Exploits River, at Grand Falls, Newfoundland. The Herring Gull was observed nesting here, on the rock islands formed in the river by the natural falls. Our attention was attracted to a number of individuals flying about over the dam and settling into the water a distance of twenty to fifty feet above it. They allowed the swiftly moving water to carry them just beyond the edge of the dam, when they would rise quickly, fly back and ride over the fall again. As many as five or six Gulls were observed doing this at the same

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