

the forehead than the rest. It was later seen again by Ludlow Griscom and S. G. Emilio and identified as Wilson's Plover. It kept by itself a little apart from the Ring-necks, and had noticeably paler upper-parts and a breast-band of the same color—betokening, I suppose, a female.

This is said to be the fourth record for Massachusetts, the second for Essex County.—S. A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Mass.*

**Vitality of Plover Embryo.**—The unusually high tide of June 16<sup>th</sup> 1932, partially swept away the eggs of a colony of Royal Terns, Least Terns and Black Skimmers on Deveaux's Bank, near Seabrook's Island, S. C. On the afternoon of the 17<sup>th</sup> many of the eggs were found washed up on the beach of Seabrook's Island. A few of each kind were collected, among them being one egg of the Wilson's Plover, and packed in cotton in a tin box. The next day they were carried by automobile to Charleston, a distance of about thirty-six miles and when they were blown, on the afternoon of the 20<sup>th</sup>, the egg of the Wilson's Plover, after being out of the nest for at least three days and probably longer, was found to contain a large embryo which was still alive. Two days later, on the 20<sup>th</sup>, they were taken to the Charleston Museum, where their identification was confirmed by Mr. E. Burnham Chamberlain.

Although the Plover egg was found among the sedge and debris of the high water mark, there is a possibility, though not a probability, of its having been by some means transported from the breeding area of the Plovers on Seabrook's Island, about a quarter of a mile from the spot where the egg was found.

The temperature for the dates mentioned ranged from 68 (minimum) to 89 (maximum).—WILLIAM W. HUMPHREYS, *15 Limehouse Street, Charleston, S. C.*

**Northern New England Woodcock.**—In the vicinity of Farmington, Franklin Co., Maine, a party of three or four sportsmen, headed by the late Richard C. Storey of Boston, hunted Woodcock for thirty years. Through the courtesy of Mrs. Storey I was able to study the records of these annual shooting parties. They extended through the best part of the October flight and averaged about fifteen days of shooting each autumn.

The records are a model for this kind of upland shooting. In nearly all cases each individual "cover" is mentioned by name and the number of birds started and shot in it are recorded every day. Thus it is easy to total the number of birds started and shot each year, and the length of time in days of each annual hunt.

There has been a great difference of opinion on the status of the Woodcock and as in all cases of the sort, loose statements based on casual observations have been given more credit than they deserve. A generation ago it was held by some competent naturalists that the Woodcock was a doomed species. Even now, when for at least twenty-five years we in New England have noted a rather steady advance in numbers, the story is