

water birds have evidently not been slow to take advantage of the situation.—V. A. DEBES, *Prospect Park, Pa.*

Hudsonian Curlew in the West Virginia Panhandle.—On the afternoon of July 24, 1933, a Hudsonian Curlew (*Phaeopus hudsonicus*) flew over the village of Bethany, Brooke County, West Virginia, headed southeastward. The bird's loud cries attracted our attention to it. It was not following Buffalo Creek, the largest stream of the vicinity, nor had it, apparently, been feeding nearby. There had been a heavy rain and considerable wind during the morning, and the bird had probably been blown off its course by the storm.

I have not heretofore noted this species in the West Virginia Panhandle, and this record is apparently the second for the state, a specimen having been taken at Cranberry Glades, Pocahontas County, on May 25, 1926, by Mr. A. B. Brooks and his co-workers (*Auk*, XLIII, 1926, 541; and *Wilson Bulletin*, XLII, 1930, 246).—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.*

Spotted Sandpiper Eludes Eastern Kingbird by Diving.—On July 29, 1924, at Moorhead, Minnesota, while I watched from a bank of the Red River, a mild exigency caused a Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) to exhibit its propensity for diving. A Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) gave chase to the passing Sandpiper which was flying about three feet from the surface of the water near the center of the forty yard stream. After a chase of about ten yards, at which time the Kingbird was close upon the innocent passer-by, the Sandpiper dived into the water. It remained submerged four or five seconds and then as it came to the surface it took wing directly. On shore it stopped to preen before continuing its course down the river.—ADOLPH MURIE, *Museum of Zoology, Univ. of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

The Western Willet in Michigan.—Mr. W. P. Proctor, of Benton Harbor, Michigan, has accorded me the privilege of recording what seems to be the second definitely known occurrence of the Willet in the state of Michigan—near Benton Harbor, on August 7, 1933. The only previous record that I can find in available literature is for Ann Arbor in May, 1889 (Bent, 'Life Histories of North American Shore Birds,' Part 2, 1929, p. 41). There is little doubt but that both records refer to the western form (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus*).

Mr. Proctor reported four birds in all, on the beach of Lake Michigan. At first, only two were seen. These soon flew out over the Lake, where they were joined by two others coming from a northerly direction, when all four returned to the beach near the observer. Altogether, Mr. Proctor had some or all of the birds before his glasses for more than an hour, sometimes at distances of not more than forty feet. He watched them feeding, preening, and sleeping, and several times heard their characteristic notes. It is his opinion that, because of their tameness, all four were birds of the

year.—FRANCIS M. WESTON, *Bldg. 45, U. S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.*

Rufous-necked Sandpiper Nesting in Alaska.—The first eggs of the Rufous-necked Sandpiper (*Pisobia ruficollis*) collected in North America—possibly the only known eggs of this species in any collection—were received recently, with the nest and skin of the brooding parent (not sexed), by the Chicago Academy of Sciences from its representative, Dwight Tevuk, at Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska.

According to published records the only available evidence of the nesting of this species on the American continent was presented in an account by Alfred M. Bailey (Condor, XXVIII, p. 32). On June 14, 1922, he observed a pair building a nest along a stream bed—a small pit similar to the nest of the Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes mauri*) in which the birds had placed about twenty small willow leaves. Later the nest had been abandoned.

W. Sprague Brooks (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., LIX, 1915, p. 382) recorded two sets of eggs of this species taken at the head of Providence Bay, north-eastern Siberia, on June 11, 1913, but Bent was unable to locate these eggs or any others of this species.

The specimens received by the Academy were taken June 23, 1933. They are quite similar in appearance to those of the Western Sandpiper, but are not so thickly marked and hence are lighter in general tone. Also, they are somewhat larger, averaging 32 mm. by 22.6 mm.: (31.5 x 22.8; 33.6 x 22.3; 31.8 x 22.5; 31.0 x 22.8).

The nest was made of dry willow leaves and dry tundra moss. There were present a few feathers from the parent, one of which was a characteristically marked scapular.

The skin, showing the bare abdomen of a breeding bird, together with the nest and eggs, were shipped in a single container, and the usually brief field note of the collector was enlarged by the words, "on plains." Mr. Bailey explains that this signifies that these specimens were taken on the flat tundra in distinction to the hilly country beyond, which is usually described as "up hills," and is the locality in which the Western Sandpiper usually nests at Cape Prince of Wales.

The collector sent also two other containers in each of which were the eggs, nest, and skin of the Western Sandpiper. These were labelled "least sandpiper." The strange bird was marked simply "sandpiper" and the supplementary description as to the locality was obviously intended to make a further distinction.—EDWARD R. FORD, *Curator of Birds, Chicago Academy of Sciences.*

First West Virginia Record for the Sanderling.—While walking along the Buckhannon River near Tennerton, Upshur County, West Virginia, on September 22, 1933, my attention was attracted to a flock of very light-colored Sandpipers. When observed with the glasses, they proved to be Sanderlings (*Crocethia alba*), and, so far as I know, constitute the first record of this bird for the state.