

**Possible Extension of Regular Winter Range of the Great Black-backed Gull.**—The A. O. U. 'Check-List' of 1931 states that the Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) "Winters from southern Greenland south to the Great Lakes and Delaware Bay (casually to Florida), . . ." During the past winter (1933-34) the writer has observed this bird in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina in numbers that would indicate that the species occurs more than "casually" south of Delaware Bay. A single individual was observed at Rehoboth Bay, Delaware, December 14, 1933, and another January 12, 1934, feeding on the carcass of a recently killed Greater Scaup at Holland Straits, Dorchester County, Maryland, on Chesapeake Bay. F. C. Kirkwood in his 'Birds of Maryland' (1895) states that he "saw one of the birds circling over the mouth of the Gunpowder River," January 27, 1895. This seems to represent the only published record of this species for Maryland. He regarded the bird as being exceedingly uncommon south of New Jersey.

On December 21, 1933, a single adult Great Black-backed Gull was noted by the writer on Isle of Wight Bay near Ocean City, Maryland. On December 20, another was encountered at Chincoteague, Virginia. During the afternoon of February 23, 1934, seventeen adults were seen in Pamlico Sound, North Carolina, between Rodanthe and Pea Island Gun Club. Seven of these were seen in one large mixed flock in company with Herring and Ring-billed Gulls. Another was observed on the back of a recently killed Loon. On February 24, six were noted in the Sound between Rodanthe and Avon, a distance of perhaps 18 miles. On the 27th seven others were seen in a single flock with other Gulls opposite Hatteras Village, and later on the same day three more were observed about three miles south of Hatteras. In the evening of this same day six additional individuals were seen near Ocracoke. On March 2, 1934, one lone individual was observed near the junction of Currituck Sound and Roanoke Sound, North Carolina.

One Great Black-backed Gull was seen at Cape Hatteras January 14, 1933, and several others were noted farther north in Pamlico Sound a few days earlier. Miss Phoebe Knappen of the U. S. Biological Survey reports that she observed one Great Black-backed Gull at Bethany Beach, Delaware, October 1, 1932, and three at Ocean City, Maryland, October 21, 1933.

Such a large number of individuals noted as far south as Pamlico Sound and Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, would seem to indicate either an extension of range of this species or that the extremely cold weather farther north, this year, has driven the birds southward to open water. Without doubt, the frozen bays in the north have caused the Gulls to move southward. A probable increase in the Gull population may also be responsible for an extension in the winter range.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**Brünnich's Murre in Brooklyn, N. Y.**—On January 28, 1934, I saw

a Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia lomvia*) at Manhattan Beach Park, in Brooklyn. It came within 35 or 40 feet of me and was observed with x8 binoculars from an elevation of about ten feet above the water. The sea was quite rough and the bird probably took refuge in the small inlet where I found it. The species is an irregular winter visitant out at sea but rarely comes in shore.—JAMES M. CUNNEEN, *St. Johns Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.*

**Note on the Guadeloupe Macaw (*Ara guadeloupenis*).**—Mr. Herbert W. Krieger has just been so kind as to call my attention to a passage referring to the Guadeloupe Macaw in Michael Herr's translation of J. Huttich's 'Die New Welt, der landschaften vnnnd Insulen, so bis hie her allen Altweltbeschrybern vnbekant, Jungst aber von den Portugalesern vnnnd Hispaniern jm Nidergenglichen Meer herfunden' published at Straszburg (Strasbourg) in 1534.

In this very rare work we read (Chapter XCII, p. 31, bottom of left and top of right column) "The island [Guadeloupe] has psytacos larger than our pheasants and not dissimilar to them in feathering, for they have divided feathers [that is, the feathers are provided with aftershafths]. Otherwise they are red in color and are present in such numbers as grasshoppers are with us, and although the forests are full of psytachen, they feed some of them so that they are better to eat. . . . When our people entered their houses they found utensils in which human flesh was cooking together with psytachen, geese, and ducks."

*Ara guadeloupenis* was originally described by the writer in a paper on the Lesser Antillean Macaws (The Auk, vol. 22, p. 272, July 1905) on the basis of the account given by du Tertre in 1667. The habitat was given as "Guadeloupe, ?Dominica, Martinique"). In a paper on the Macaws of the Greater Antilles (The Auk, vol. 22, pp. 345-348, October 1905) the habitat as previously given was repeated. In his work on extinct birds published in 1907 Lord Rothschild said he believed that each of the three islands named had been inhabited by a distinct species of Macaw, so he restricted the name *guadeloupenis* to the Guadeloupe bird. In 1908 (The Auk, vol. 25, p. 310) I described the Macaw from Dominica as a separate species, *Ara atwoodi*, on the basis of a meager account published in 1791 in 'The History of the Island of Dóminica' by Thomas Atwood.—AUSTIN H. CLARK, *U. S. National Museum.*

**Panyptila cayenensis (Gmelin) nesting in a House.**—In July 1932, I paid a short visit to the Panama Canal Zone with Dr. Thomas Barbour. In the course of a conversation with Dr. Herbert Clark, director of the Gorgas Institute, he mentioned that Swifts had been making their nests over the lights suspended from the ceiling of the long piazzas of the Ancon Hospital. He described them as remarkable long sleeve-like nests and wondered whether the bird could be building there for the warmth or the light. Never had he seen these Swifts near houses before the previous summer, he said.