

a very close approach; one bird (possibly the same individual) on January 7, 1935 near the same place.—EARLE R. GREENE, *New Holland, N. C.*

**Notes on Some Unusual Birds in Florida.**—During the past winter I spent a part of each day (November 19, 1934 to April 1, 1935) afield in various parts of Florida. My observations covered 155 species and subspecies of birds, of which the following seemed noteworthy.

*Gavia stellata*. RED-THROATED LOON.—On December 30 I saw a Red-throated Loon between Islamorada and Metacumbe, of the upper Florida Keys. Again on January 13 my wife and I studied a bird of this species in Biscayne Bay. It was swimming close to the causeway which connects Little River with Miami Beach. Howell, in his 'Florida Bird Life' (page 74) gives the status of this species in Florida as uncommon in winter, and cites R. H. Howe's specimen at Lemon City (winter of 1899) as the most southerly record in that State.

*Ictinia mississippiensis*. MISSISSIPPI KITE.—For upwards of quarter of an hour during the mid-afternoon of December 28, I watched an adult of this species as it circled over the Tamiami Trail, about fifty miles west of Miami. Howell's data include six previous winter records for the state.

*Buteo brachyurus*. SHORT-TAILED HAWK.—I saw three specimens on February 4. The first, a splendid bird in dark plumage, was also seen by Mrs. E. Peterson and Mrs. Mary Lott, both of Miami. We came upon the bird in the forenoon, between Florida City and Card Sound, and studied it at some length as it sailed and circled over the highway, once only thirty feet or so off the ground. The bird was moving slowly northward. About an hour later I saw two more Short-tails, one in the dark and the other in the light phase, over the upper end of Key Largo, and these birds were also headed north.

*Falco peregrinus anatum*. DUCK HAWK.—On December 30 I saw an adult of this species at Tavernier.

*Larus marinus*. GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL.—While driving through the upper Florida Keys on February 4, accompanied by the ladies mentioned above, two immature specimens of this Gull came to our attention. The birds were five or six miles apart, associating with Herring and Laughing Gulls that made up small flocks on sandy beaches, just before reaching the Metacumbe ferry. The Black-backs were studied at very close range; their husky build, heavy beaks and very brown backs distinguishing them from their companions instantly. So far as I know this record represents the southernmost appearance of the species on the Atlantic coast.

*Gelochelidon nilotica aranea*. GULL-BILLED TERN.—On November 19 I saw two birds resting on Jacksonville Beach, in company with a small flock of Royal Terns.

*Tyrannus verticalis*. ARKANSAS KINGBIRD.—Howell lists eight occurrences of this species, all dating from 1918. An Arkansas Kingbird which I saw on February 23, on the Tamiami Trail about forty miles west of Miami, permitted me a full twenty minutes of observation. Once the bird disappeared for a moment in some undergrowth beside a ditch. When it regained its perch on a telephone wire, I was amazed to see a small frog clamped in its bill, and dispatched quickly!

*Vermivora leucobronchialis*. BREWSTER'S WARBLER.—In the early morning of November 21 I was concealed in a weedy patch of farm land bordering Biscayne Canal, seven miles north of Miami, attracting numerous small birds to me by means of whistling and squeaking. Suddenly, in the tall "dog fennel" within five feet of me, exposing itself to full view, appeared a beautiful specimen of this hybrid Warbler. The bird's curiosity led it to remain barely long enough for me to recognize it as a

fairly typical *leucobronchialis*. The bright yellow crown, distinct black line through the eye, and yellow washing on the breast extending slightly down the bird's flanks, impressed themselves most forcibly on my mind.

While I have had no previous field experience with the Brewster's Warbler, a number of years ago I had occasion to make an intensive study of several series of skins of both *leucobronchialis* and *lawrencei*, the details of which study appeared in my history and discussion of the hybrids in Forbush's 'Birds of Massachusetts,' Vol. III.

*Seiurus motacilla*. LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH.—Howell gives the status of this species in Florida as "casual in winter," and cites its presence during the winter of 1910 at Eau Gallie. I studied two individuals under very favorable circumstances at Royal Palm State Park, Dade County, in the early morning of January 18. The birds were feeding within thirty feet of me, along the border of the ditch which parallels the highway on the east side of the park. I have had a good deal of experience with this Water-Thrush at its various breeding localities in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

*Passerina cyanea*. INDIGO BUNTING.—Records of Indigo Buntings wintering in Florida are so meager that I am tempted to add the following, of two females observed seven miles north of Miami, on January 4.

*Chondestes grammacus grammacus*. EASTERN LARK SPARROW.—Of the nine instances of the occurrence of Lark Sparrows in Florida, given by Howell, two only are of wintering birds, and none are reported for the Miami region. In the late afternoon of December 9 I came upon a pair of these birds at the eastern end of Gragny Highway, eight miles north of Miami. The birds were very tame. Upon being followed up they flew but a few yards to the top of a scrub oak from which they were studied advantageously. Again on December 20 I found this pair, in exactly the same place. On two subsequent visits I failed to find them.—MAURICE BROWN, *Orleans, Cape Cod, Mass.*

**Additional Notes on Ohio Birds.**—*Tympanuchus cupido americanus*. GREATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN.—Fifty years ago the Prairie Chicken was still present in some of the prairie areas of western and northwestern Ohio. By 1900 the species was virtually, if not actually extirpated in this state, as it was not reported by observers for many years. Recently, Ohio game protectors and others have reported seeing individuals of this species in some of the Ohio counties bordering Michigan. Apparently these birds are invaders from southern Michigan, where the species is not uncommon in restricted localities. During the early fall of 1934, Game Protector A. D. Meagley found a Prairie Chicken on a road near Bowling Green, Wood County, that had obviously been killed by an automobile. This bird is now mounted and in the collection of the Ohio Division of Conservation.

During the late summer of 1933 a few young and adult Prairie Chickens, originally from Wisconsin, were released by the Ohio Division of Conservation on one of the largest original prairies of Ohio, in Marion County west of the city of Marion. Since then Game Protector O. H. Neimeyer and I have seen one or more of these birds on two occasions, the last time on December 31, 1934; and Mr. Neimeyer reports having seen four young birds of the year during the summer of 1934. Whether this species will again establish itself in Ohio remains to be seen.

*Phalaropus fulicarius*. RED PHALAROPE.—This species is probably not as rare an Ohio bird as was formerly supposed, for during the past nine years I have collected three individuals. The records of these birds, which were taken on September 29,