

is undoubtedly considerably reduced from its former numbers, extensive field work by the ornithologists of the State still produces a record every two or three years. My bibliography of Ohio ornithology indicates that there has been a total of seventeen published records for the State since 1900. These include 32 individuals seen in groups of from one to seven individuals each, from April 16 to May 29 and from August 10 to November 2.

Five specimens were taken along the Lake Erie shore as follows: Oak Point, Lorain County, September 17, 1906 (Lynds Jones); one at Bay Point, May 29, 1924, and one at Bay Ridge, September 7, 1925 (M. B. Trautman); one at Vermilion, September 14, 1931 (Emerson Kemsies); and one at Ashtabula on September 12, 1936 (L. E. Hicks). Only a single specimen has ever been taken in inland Ohio: five seen and one taken at Grand Reservoir, May 13, 1933 (Trautman and Hicks). There are five sight records from near the Lake Erie shore: April 30, at Oberlin and November 2 at Bay Point as recorded by A. C. Bent; August 12, 1917, at Painesville (E. A. Doolittle); seven on April 2, 1933, at Rye Beach (Emerson Kemsies); and one near Toledo on May 4, 1935 (Louis W. Campbell). Sight records from inland Ohio include: four at North Lima, Mahoning County on August 10 to 13, 1914 (J. P. Young); three at New Bremen, Shelby County, on August 30, 1915 (W. F. Henninger); one north of Dayton on April 16, 1924 (B. J. Blincoe); one at Pine Lake, Mahoning County, on September 28, 1930 (R. O. Marshall); one at Youngstown on September 15, 1933 (E. Minnech); and one September 10 to 18, 1924, near Columbus (M. B. Trautman).—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*.

A second North American specimen of the Bar-tailed Godwit.—On the afternoon of July 26, 1937, while we were looking over a large gathering of migrant shorebirds on the flats and marshes on the inside of Nauset Beach, Eastham, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, we noticed a large shorebird among the Dowitchers, Yellowlegs and Willets, that we for the moment assumed to be a Hudsonian Godwit. On closer approach, the bird took wing ahead of the rest of the flock and at that instant we realized that the bird was not a Hudsonian Godwit, since none of the characteristic field marks was visible. Fortunately we were able to find the bird again on some flats about half a mile away and this time a cautious approach behind cover brought us within gunshot and the bird was secured without delay. The specimen proves to be *Limosa lapponica lapponica* (Linnaeus), an adult female in good condition but one of those individuals that failed to moult into nuptial dress. Instead it wore a worn winter plumage, thickly shot through with fresh feathers of the corresponding plumage. In accordance with the custom generally observed among the ornithologists of eastern Massachusetts, we have presented the specimen to the Boston Society of Natural History in whose museum so many of the New England record specimens are gathered.

Limosa lapponica lapponica is a palaeartic form which breeds in northern Europe and northern Asia from Scandinavia to the Khatanga River; its inclusion in the fourth edition of the A. O. U. 'Check-list' is based on the following brief statement in Bent's 'Life Histories of North American Shore Birds,' part 1, page 295, 1927: "A specimen taken on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, on September 16, 1907, is referable to the European form—". Since no details relating to the capture or disposition of this specimen have ever been published, we give the following account with Mr. Bent's permission. The skin was originally no. 963 in collection of Charles R. Lamb of Cambridge; it is now no. 11017 in the Bent Collection. It is a characteristic female of the typical race of *Limosa lapponica*, in fresh fall plumage. Mr. Lamb's original

label bears the following interesting notation: "Purchased in the flesh Sep. 23, 1907, of H. L. Lawrence, 46 & 48 Faneuil Hall Market, Boston, Mass., who said this bird was shot on Cape Cod, Mass. & was received by them Sep. 17, 1907. The bird was exposed for sale with other No. American shorebirds, no European, all same condition, rather old." Thus the first North American record for *L. l. lapponica* is based on a market specimen with the incomplete data usual in such cases, though we do not feel any real doubt that the bird actually was wild-killed somewhere along the New England coast, though not necessarily on Cape Cod.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.*, and JOSEPH A. HAGAR, *20 Somerset St., Boston, Mass.*

Avocet taken in Ohio.—On September 21, 1936, the writer collected an Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) along the beach of Lake Erie at Ashtabula in extreme northeastern Ohio. The bird was an immature male, weighed 274.7 grams and was in fair condition though covered with a light oily scum from harbor waters. The skin has been donated to the Ohio State Museum Collection (no. 7123). This seems to be the first specimen of the Avocet taken in Ohio since 1882. The species was first recorded for the State by Dr. Kirtland in 1837, on the basis of reports to him that it had been killed by sportsmen in the vicinity of Cincinnati. This report was repeated by Landon and Jones, and by Charles Dury who added that the bird had been reported on sand bars along the Ohio River. However, the only Avocet specimen ever contained in the Cuvier Club collection at Cincinnati was one (no. 374) which actually came from either Calumet Lake, Indiana, or Calumet River, Illinois (Butler, A. W., *Proc. Indiana Acad. Sci.*, **36**: 341-344 (1926) 1927). Hence, no specimens are known to have been taken in the Cincinnati region and it seems highly probable that any sight records for the region which may have been reliable, were not actually from the State of Ohio.

Dr. Jones records a rumor of a Mr. A. Hall having observed a specimen from near Cleveland but there is no basis for accepting it. The only definite sight records known previous to 1936 are three recorded by A. C. Bent in his 'Life Histories of North American Shore Birds,' 1927. He lists Avocets November 4, 1907, and March 16 to 21, 1907, at Oberlin, Ohio; and May 24, 1914, at Sandusky, Ohio. There are only two known instances of Avocets taken in Ohio previous to 1936. These were: (1) a specimen taken by Mr. Clemens Utter at St. Mary's Reservoir on November 10, 1882, and reported by Dawson (1903) as being contained in the Ohio State University Collection and (2) a specimen taken in winter plumage at Lebanon Reservoir in the spring of 1880 by R. W. Smith and reported by Jones (1903) as being contained in Mr. Gould's collection. These specimens, if still in existence, are unknown to present-day ornithologists.

Recent eastern reports of Avocets in 'The Auk' include the following: Florida, January 1933; Iowa, spring 1934; North Carolina, December 1934; Illinois, October 1935; and Cape Cod, Massachusetts, September 1925. Drouth effects in the mid-west may have been responsible for some of these Avocets straying so far east. The species occurred in at least three localities on or near the Lake Erie shore in the summer of 1936, for in addition to the specimen recorded above at Ashtabula, Ohio, a second bird was discovered the same day (September 21, 1936) and observed for two hours at the entrance to the harbor at Erie, Pennsylvania. A third bird was not observed by the writer but was reported and well described by several persons living near Waterville along the Maumee River. This individual was present intermittently during the first three weeks of September 1936.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*