

Jersey. Joshua E. Shreve was my grandfather. This information was given to me by my father, Borgillea R. Shreve."

I feel sure there are more Heath Hens hidden away in some of the old houses in Burlington County. It is to be hoped they will find their way eventually into museums where they may be preserved.—WHEARTON HUBER, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*

American Coot in Puerto Rico.—Although a number of references to the American Coot (*Fulica americana americana*) in Puerto Rico may be found in the literature, these are all either erroneous or at best extremely doubtful, and in most, if not all cases pertain to *Fulica caribaea*. Accordingly *F. a. americana* has not been included in recent lists of the birds of the island. As this species is known from Hispaniola to the west and St. Croix to the east of Puerto Rico, it was no great surprise when on January 4, 1936, Mr. J. A. Ramos collected a male at Cartagena Lagoon. It was in a large flock of coots from which he also collected several *F. caribaea*. The specimen is now in my collection. It weighed 497.6 grams.—STUART T. DANFORTH, *University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.*

Purple Sandpiper in Ohio.—On December 27, 1937, we found on a partially ice-covered breakwater at Fairport Harbor, which is about thirty-five miles east of Cleveland, Ohio, on Lake Erie, a lone Purple Sandpiper (*Arquatella maritima*). We approached to within thirty-five feet and could see clearly the characteristic slaty coloration of the back and throat, and the whiteness of the under parts. Back on January 2, 1938, we again found the bird. This time it came closer and closer until it was but a scant six feet from where we crouched against the icy rocks. Now we could see clearly the bright yellow of the legs and of the base of the bill. After a minute or so, the sandpiper became alarmed, and flew off down the breakwater.—JAMES AKERS AND GORDON SPARE, *East Cleveland, Ohio.*

Red Phalarope at Oyster Bay, Long Island.—On April 25, 1937, Mr. Richard Allyn of the Columbia Medical School, and I observed two Red Phalaropes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) in the pond of the Oyster Bay Bird Sanctuary at Jones Beach, Long Island, New York. The bird first seen was in the pale winter plumage and was observed at a distance within twenty feet as it was feeding along the shore like a sandpiper. It then flew a short way over the water showing plainly its white wing stripes. On the water the bird rode the small waves jauntily, but occasionally darted here and there, with searching bill, dipping into the water for food. At other times, it spun rapidly for one or two revolutions as if on an axis. The second bird was a female in breeding plumage. Its reddish breast, white area on the sides of the head, and the yellowish bill were readily seen with the binocular at a distance of about one hundred feet. On May 9, Mr. Allyn and I again found the female Red Phalarope and three others in winter plumage on the Sanctuary pond. This is a very rare bird on fresh water in the Long Island area in spring.—CLEMENT B. P. COBB, M.D., *1261 Madison Ave., New York City.*

Red Phalarope in Michigan.—On the early evening of September 6, 1937, I found a Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) at Whitmore Lake, Michigan. During my half-hour of observation, the feeding bird was frequently disturbed by motor-boats and other craft, which forced it to fly from one portion of the lake to another. In flying about, the phalarope alighted in both Washtenaw and Livingston Counties, the two counties in which the lake is situated. The specimen was collected, and has been deposited in the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan. Examina-

tion of the specimen disclosed it to be an immature female. Dr. J. W. Leonard of the Institute for Fisheries Research examined the food in the partly filled stomach. This food consisted of numerous small Diptera of the series Brachycera; many small Hymenoptera of the family Chalcididae; several minute Coleoptera of the suborder Rhynchophora; several fragments, in early instar stages, of Hemiptera of the family Gerridae; a few fragments of Ephemeroptera; and sparse fragments of a terrestrial arachnid. Because of the finely triturated condition of the contents, generic and specific determinations of the remains could not be made. In an examination of thirty-six stomachs of the Red Phalarope that were taken from the vicinity of the Pribilof Islands (Alaska), New York and Maine, Dr. Alexander Wetmore ('Food of American Phalaropes, Avocets, and Stilts,' Bull. U. S. Dept. of Agric., no. 1359, p. 3, 1925) found that Crustacea was the group of animals best represented. No free-swimming Crustacea or other planktonic forms were found in the stomach of the Whitmore Lake bird, although at the time of capture the lake contained a large pulse of these animals, of which some forms were comparatively large in size. The Red Phalarope has been recorded previously only about five times in Michigan.—MILTON B. TRAUTMAN, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

Atlantic Kittiwake in Wisconsin.—On February 1, 1938, John Schaeffer reported a Kittiwake in the Milwaukee Harbor. On February 4, the Milwaukee Museum men took the bird for a specimen. It proved to be an Atlantic Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla tridactyla*) in immature plumage. While we have several sight records of the Kittiwake in Wisconsin (Dr. Hoy, 1853 and 1870, and Walter Mueller, 1930) this is, as far as I know, the first specimen taken in Wisconsin.—MURL DEUSING, *Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

Unusual perching habit of the Black Tern.—While engaged on a sanctuary-inspection trip in Texas during June 1937, what seems to be a unique departure on the part of the Black Tern (*Chlidonias nigra surinamensis*) in perching, was noted by the writer, Robert P. Allen and Guy Emerson, of New York, and J. J. Carroll, of Houston, Texas. While passing the several bayous which make up part of the Guadeloupe River Bottoms, Victoria County, several hundred of these birds were seen fishing. Running parallel with the highway was a line of poles carrying wires, and many of the terns were resting on these! At some little distance, they were taken to be swallows, as it is a typical swallow habit; but of course, closer approach showed what the birds were. At the point where most of them were congregated, the line was no more than thirty or forty feet from the road. The terns were massed on the wires thickly, to the extent of several hundred, and many were leaving or alighting on the wires continually.

During Mr. Carroll's long residence in Texas and in spite of his extensive knowledge of ornithology, it was the first time he had ever seen such a thing, and it was utterly new to the rest of us. Subsequent inquiry among friends and acquaintances of the writer have failed to reveal anyone who has seen this done by the Black Tern. Observers in the New York City region have failed to recall the procedure in that area, at least those who have been questioned. Everyone to whom the writer has spoken has been so interested, that it seems advisable to ask whether anyone anywhere has noted this behavior of the species.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *Natl. Assoc. Audubon Socs., Charleston, South Carolina.*

Development of remiges in the Atlantic Murre.—While the general appearance of the juvenal and the first-winter plumage of the Atlantic Murre (*Uria aalge aalge*) has been known for a long time, it has never been recognized that the young