

GENERAL NOTES

A specimen of the Black-capped Petrel.—Mr. L. Dalencour, who last year reported to me the occurrence of the Black-capped Petrel (*Pterodroma hasitata*) in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, has recently forwarded to the U. S. National Museum, under date of August 1, 1939, the bill, wing and foot of a specimen secured at Lafond, inland from Jacmel, on the southern coast of Haiti. This occurrence at about the same season as that of last year is further indication of the possible breeding of this rare petrel in the mountains of Haiti.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Another record of *Puffinus diatomicus*.—A finely preserved specimen of *Puffinus diatomicus* was secured in 1938 by Dr. G. Dallas Hanna from the Miocene diatomaceous shales of Lompoc, California. This constitutes the sixth known specimen, all from these deposits, five having been recorded by Loye Miller (Publ. Carnegie Inst. Washington, no. 349, pp. 111–112, 1925) in his original description of this species. This additional example, now in the Paleontology Collection of the California Academy of Sciences, is in a fairly good state of preservation. The imprint of the bones indicates but little sign of distortion; the head, cervical vertebrae and trunk, however, are too poorly preserved to be of much value. While there is little doubt as to the allocation of the specimen to the species *diatomicus*, it differs considerably in certain measurements from those given by Miller for the earlier-found specimens, thus indicating a greater range in variation. The length of the ulna is 72 mm. as compared with 75, 76 and 79 mm. The second phalangeal element measures 24 mm. as compared with 21 mm., and the foot measures 48 mm. against 53 mm. given by Miller. These differences are considerable but are still within the range of individual and age variations. Other measurements were found to be in close agreement with those of the earlier-taken specimens.—ROBERT T. ORR, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California.*

Young Great White Heron and Würdemann's Heron in the same nest.—On March 10, 1939, I visited the recently established Great White Heron Refuge, near Key West, Florida, with Earle R. Greene, the refuge manager. On several mangrove islands, known as Snipe Keys, we found a number of nests containing eggs and young in all stages of growth of both the Great White Heron (*Ardea occidentalis*) and Ward's Heron (*Ardea herodias wardi*). One nest was found with a young Great White Heron and a young Würdemann's Heron (*Ardea würdemanni*), both nearly full grown. The Great White Heron was somewhat more active than the Würdemann's Heron and tried to climb away from us as we approached for a photograph. Lack of time prevented our staying to see the parents of these birds, but we believe that one was a Great White Heron and the other a Ward's Heron.

The finding of mixed broods of herons in the Florida keys, where both Great White and Ward's Herons nest commonly, was reported by Holt (Sci. Publ. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., 1: 1–35, 1928). At the time he made his study of the herons, in December 1923, he found three nests with mixed broods. I believe there has been no recorded mixed brood since then. The status of Würdemann's Heron has long been clouded with doubt and differences of opinion, but on March 10 we found several adult Würdemann's Herons in this same locality, which may indicate a regular cross-breeding between the Great White and the Ward's Herons.—HAROLD S. PETERS, *U. S. Biological Survey, Charleston, S. C.*