

stolidus) alight on the porch roof of the manager's dwelling at the Sabine National Wildlife Refuge near Hackberry in Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The bird was observed for about fifteen minutes before it was collected; it allowed me to approach within thirty feet without exhibiting signs of alarm. It is believed the Noddy was driven westward and inland by a storm which was accompanied by a southeast wind reaching gale velocity, on October 29 and on the morning of the 30th, along the Cameron Gulf coast. Examination after collection revealed it to be an adult male. Identification was later verified by Mr. George H. Lowery, Curator, Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology.

Oberholser (tom. cit.: 311) notes that this species has been reported by several authors to occur on the Louisiana Gulf coast but that he was unable to verify the reports. Correspondence with Oberholser and Lowery since the specimen was collected establishes this to be the first definite record for the Noddy Tern in Louisiana. The specimen will be deposited with the Fish and Wildlife Service collection in the U. S. National Museum.—EARL L. ATWOOD, *Sulphur, Louisiana*.

Violet-green Swallow in southeastern Minnesota.—On the afternoon of October 25, while watching some Mallards on a small pond three miles west of Rochester, Minnesota, I noticed a pair of swallows flying over the pond. On closer inspection it soon became apparent that the birds were not Tree Swallows as I had at first supposed but a species new to me. I observed them in good light for perhaps fifteen minutes from a distance of fifty feet through 6 x 30 Bausch and Lomb binoculars. It seemed certain that the birds were Violet-green Swallows (*Tachycineta thalassina lepida*). They were the size and shape of Tree Swallows. The back was an unusual shade of bright greenish purple and on each side of the rump there was a patch of white, the two patches nearly meeting in the mid-line. Another conspicuous mark was the facial configuration, the white of the throat apparently partly encircling the eye. The underparts were white and the wings and tail black.

The day was quite cold, with the temperature around 20 degrees F., and with a strong northwest wind blowing. The swallows faced into the wind, most of the time, hovering motionless a foot or two above the edge of the pond. Occasionally they alighted on the shore, apparently attracted by masses of foam whipped to the water's edge by the wind. At noon the following day they were seen again. During the night the pond had frozen solid and the wind had abated. The birds appeared tired and flew only a moment or two at a time. They spent much of the time sitting on the ice, frequently pecking at it. Shyness was so lacking that I was able to approach within a few feet and verify completely the notes previously made. There appeared little possibility the birds could survive, for the weather remained below freezing for several days after they were seen.

Dr. Thomas S. Roberts, of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, very kindly loaned me skins of the Tree Swallow and Violet-green Swallow for study. There was no reasonable doubt that the birds I had seen belonged to the latter species. Doctor Roberts ("The Birds of Minnesota") accords the Violet-green Swallow a place on the hypothetical list for Minnesota on the basis of a note by Hatch (Bull. Geol. Nat. Hist. Surv. Minn., 1881), but there is no other record of its occurrence in the state. Judging by the dates given by Bent, the bird is a rather early migrant in its normal range, so that its occurrence in this latitude at the end of October makes the foregoing record doubly remarkable.—F. R. KEATING, M.D., *Rochester, Minnesota*.