

nigra americana) taken October 15, 1941, in the entrance to the Salt Lagoon near St. Paul Village. This scoter was unable to fly because of a wing injury and was captured after being pursued in shallow water where it was rapidly exhausted by its efforts to swim under water. Its stomach was empty. American Scoters have been taken north of the Pribilofs at St. Lawrence Island and south of them in the Aleutians; therefore, it was only a matter of time until one was collected at St. Paul. Other ducks of the same species were observed on the Salt Lagoon during the fall. This specimen is now in the Fish and Wildlife Service collection at the U. S. National Museum.

A Sanderling (*Crocethia alba*) was shot on the shore of the Salt Lagoon on October 15, 1941, where it was feeding in company with Pacific Golden Plovers (*Pluvialis dominica fulva*), Black Turnstones (*Arenaria melanocephala*), Wandering Tattlers (*Heteroscelus incanus*), Pribilof Sandpipers (*Arquatella ptilocnemis ptilocnemis*), and Red Phalaropes (*Phalaropus fulicarius*). It appears to be the first record for this shorebird on the Pribilof Islands. The skin is in the possession of the Economic Investigations Laboratory of the Fish and Wildlife Service near Washington, D. C.—FORD WILKE, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Fur Animal Experiment Station, Saratoga Springs, New York.

***Bubulcus ibis* in Venezuela.**—A specimen of this small white heron, native to southern Europe, Africa, and southern Asia, was collected on January 27, 1943, near San José de Tiznados, west of Calabozo, State of Guárico, Venezuela.

The collector was Octavio Arleo B., of the Museo de Ciencias Naturales, of Caracas, and the specimen is the property of that institution. It was identified by Dr. Ernst Mayr of the American Museum of Natural History.

Mr. Walter Dupouy, Director of the Museo de Ciencias Naturales, writes: "According to Arleo, the specimen was together with three others which looked exactly the same to him. The four flew past him and he shot one. Arleo states that the flight of these birds seemed much quicker than that of the small herons found around that habitat and in other places in country."

The question arises as to whether this individual, or the four seen together, were stragglers from Spain or North Africa, or whether the specimen in hand was an escaped captive bird. The species occurs in southern Spain and there is a passenger line of steamships from there to Venezuela. The locality where it was collected is on the prairies of the Apure River, in the Orinoco Valley, many hundreds of miles from the seacoast. The specimen does not show any signs of captivity but it is possible, nevertheless, that the bird may have escaped from the zoological gardens at Maracay, only 100 kilometers distant.—WILLIAM H. PHELPS, Caracas, Venezuela.

The Snowy Owl in New York State: 1942-1943.—Following the marked southerly mass movement of the Snowy Owl (*Nyctea nyctea*) into New York and other eastern states in late 1941 and early 1942 (see Stoner, D., Bird-Banding, 14, no. 4: 116-127, 1943), it occurred to me that a supplemental investigation of the bird's status immediately succeeding a peak-year of abundance might be profitable. Accordingly, I addressed communications of inquiry to fifty-five taxidermists in New York State who had furnished me with the greatest number of records in 1941-1942. In addition, some twenty other letters of inquiry were transmitted to correspondents who had supplied data and records on that invasion.

It will be appropriate to mention here that my own observations and letters of inquiry on the 1941-1942 Snowy Owl movement in New York State provided 419