

annals of the Weather Bureau, I walked several miles along the coast at Rockport, Massachusetts. Tremendous waves were pounding in and, although the day was one of brilliant sunshine, the air was filled with an invisible mist which constantly drenched my field-glasses. Some 25 Black Guillemots, *Cephus grylle grylle*, were scattered along the shore, being in many instances only a few yards from the rocks. To see more than three of this species from the mainland in one day is a rare event. Perhaps 40 American Eiders, *Somateria mollissima dresseri*, were flying aimlessly back and forth or resting near shore. While this species is found commonly inshore in numbers on Cape Cod, but few birds winter off Rockport and the species there stays well offshore. More rare yet was an Atlantic Puffin, *Fratercula arctica arctica*, a bird almost never seen from the mainland in Massachusetts. Apparently deciding the worst was over the bird headed far out to sea.

Folly Cove, so named because it faces practically due north and affords no shelter to any unsuspecting sailor, was a set-piece for the study of waterfowl. In this tiny basin, which could not contain a large schooner, were two White-winged Scoters, *Melanitta fusca deglandi*; a drake American Eider; two Common Loons, *Gavia immer immer*; a Red-throated Loon, *Gavia stellata*; a Horned Grebe, *Colymbus auritus*; three Holboell's Grebes, *Colymbus grisegena holboellii*; and a Western Grebe.

Mr. Robert Walcott, President of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, saw presumably the same Western Grebe in the general region on December 9, 1945.—WENDELL TABER, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Cowbird young in western Oregon.—In late May, 1946, two females and one male Nevada Cowbird (*Molothrus ater artemisiae*) appeared in my back yard here in Eugene, Oregon. Though it is an unusual bird west of the Cascades, here in Oregon, I did not record the date.

Then about June 10, I noticed a Rusty Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia morphna*) feeding a youngster almost its same size only much lighter in color and gray rather than brown. My observations of this bird were rather casual, and it was not until the sparrow began bringing its ungainly youngster to a feeding tray that I really took notice of it. Then its shorter tail, much differently shaped bill, and walking rather than hopping gait became evident.

The last day on which I saw the sparrow feed the young cowbird was June 26. At that time the youngster was one-quarter again larger than its foster parent.

The bird is still about (July 9), feeding itself a good deal of the time on a tray about eight feet from our kitchen window. It seems to prefer the seeds of millet to anything else that I have put out. Although it has very completely taken over the feeding tray and spends much of its time there it does not monopolize the tray. It pretty generally ignores any other birds on the tray and because of its larger size, they seldom bother it.

In correspondence with Dr. Stanley G. Jewett, Pacific Flyway Biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service, I learn that this is the first definite record of the cowbird 'breeding' west of the Cascades in Oregon.—GORDON W. GULLION, Eugene, Oregon.

Yellow-billed Loon on Long Island, New York.—One day in June, 1930, the late Gerald H. Thayer brought to me the mandible of a bird that he had recently found on the shore of eastern Long Island. The carcass of the bird was so badly decomposed that he had made no attempt to salvage more than the fragment in question. A careful comparison of this with a variety of other skeletal material showed the bird to have been a Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsi*), and more recent reexamination has confirmed the earlier identification.