

question. A reply has been received from Mr. Nicholson, who states that, for some years, he did not receive the Auk, and was therefore "unaware of any previous breeding records of this tern for Okeechobee Lake." He followed this statement by saying that, at this time, he was not at all well, and while he regretted exceedingly his precipitancy in making the claim, he requested that this writer make the necessary correction as soon as possible. Hence this item.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *National Audubon Society, Charleston 50, South Carolina.*

The Louisiana Heron in Connecticut.—On June 14, 1947, I found an adult Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa tricolor*) feeding near the mouth of a small stream that forms the boundary line between the towns of Westport and Fairfield, Connecticut. I sat in my car and observed the bird for about five minutes, using a 10 × prism monocular. Later I paced the distance between the position of my car and that of the bird and found it to be about 120 feet.

A Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) in adult plumage was near by and gave me opportunity for comparisons of size and build. The slightly smaller size and much more slender build of the Louisiana Heron was very apparent. The bluish-gray upper parts, purplish brown neck and breast, and the abrupt line between the latter and the pure white under parts were all made out clearly. There were, however, no nuptial plumes.

It was a cloudy day, and raining lightly during part of the time that I was observing the bird, but my glass has a coated objective lens which helps greatly under such conditions. Had the day been sunny I should probably not have seen the details so well, for it was morning, and I was looking from west to east. I should have liked to observe the bird for a longer time, but a pedestrian came along the road, and the bird flew off and took refuge in some tall grass.

There have been reports of sight identifications of this bird in Massachusetts (Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, 1 [no. 9]: 149, 1917; and 2 [no. 9]: 123, 1918) and it may be that this species is gradually extending its range northward much as the Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) has done.—ARREAS A. SAUNDERS, *Fairfield, Connecticut.*

Wilson's Phalarope in the District of Columbia and Virginia.—Mud-flats created on Columbia Island, D. C., during operations incident to the construction of the Memorial Bridge and the Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway, attracted numerous species of shore-birds. Among those observed was the Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*), first seen by Mr. and Mrs. William J. Whiting in September, 1930. Three individuals were seen by the Whitings at the same place, September 27. Mr. and Mrs. Leo D. Miner, Mr. and Mrs. Whiting and I saw three on Columbia Island, September 30. At the same place October 2, 1930, in company with Mrs. T. M. Knappen, I collected an immature female. The Whitings saw one at Alexander Island, near Gravelly Point, Va., October 5. While with M. T. Donoho, I secured an immature male at Alexander Island, October 9, 1930. Both of these specimens are in the collection of the U. S. National Museum. These are believed to be the first examples of this species taken in the District of Columbia and Virginia.—W. H. BALL, *4311 W. Knox Road, College Park, Maryland.*

Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Cape Henry, Virginia.—On May 22, 1944, a flock of about fifty of these sparrows was found in a small salt marsh on Little Creek, some six miles up Chesapeake Bay from Cape Henry. Hoping to secure a specimen which would prove the birds to be breeding in that locality, I collected two birds and sent the skins to Alexander Wetmore for identification.