

feeding on some floating rubbish. Among the usual ring-billed gulls (*Larus delawarensis*), herring gulls (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*), laughing gulls (*Larus atricilla*) and Bonaparte's gulls (*Larus philadelphia*) was a fine specimen of a European black-headed gull (*Larus ridibundus ridibundus*). Even though this is probably the first report of this Old World species for the state of Florida, I submit the observation with confidence; I have seen thousands of these birds in other parts of the world and had an excellent opportunity to observe all the necessary field marks on this Florida vagrant.—ALLAN D. CRUICKSHANK, *Rye, New York*.

Sooty tern and northern horned lark in South Carolina.—There was brought to me on September 25, 1947, an immature sooty tern, *Sterna fuscata fuscata*. It was taken alive by a young man at the Great Pee Dee River, 10 miles east of Florence, Florence County, South Carolina. Evidently this bird was blown in from the south by the tropical storm that struck the coast of South Carolina two days previously. Two weeks later this bird had become quite tame and ate fish and raw shrimp from our hands.

On January 26, 1946, I collected two female northern horned larks, *Eremophila alpestris alpestris*, from a flock of American pipits, *Anthus spinoletta rubescens*, feeding in an oat field on the Revel plantation about two miles west of Florence, Florence County. A male northern horned lark was taken on January 29, 1946.

Identification of the tern and horned larks was made by Alexander Sprunt, Jr. of the National Audubon Society and E. B. Chamberlain of the Charleston Museum.—H. L. HARLLEE, *1301 West Palmetto St., Florence, South Carolina*.

Winter record of ivory gulls, St. Jean Port Joli, Quebec.—The College Museum received, in the flesh, three adult ivory gulls, *Pagophila eburnea*; the birds were captured on March 3 and 4, 1947, at St. Jean Port Joli, Quebec. Two of the birds are now in the Museum's collection.—REV. RENÉ TANGUAY, *Director, Museum Ste. Anne de la Pocatière, Province of Quebec, Canada*.

Status of roseate tern as a breeding species in southern United States.—As is well known, the distribution of breeding colonies of *Sterna d. dougallii* on the Atlantic seaboard shows remarkable gaps and is very highly localized. Particularly is this true in the southern states. If one reads the ranges given in "state" bird books of this region, he would get a completely erroneous idea. For instance, in the "Birds of North Carolina" (Pearson & Brimleys, 1942: 176) this statement appears, . . . "breeds from Nova Scotia to Virginia." Naturally, the assumption of the reader would be that it does not breed south of Virginia. In "Florida Bird-life" (Howell, 1932: 264) the range is given as "breeding . . . on the Atlantic coast of America from Sable Island, Nova Scotia south to Virginia." It is true that Howell, in the body of his text on the species, mentions the colony at Dry Tortugas, but *not* in his discussion of range. In "Birds of Georgia" (Odum, Stoddard, Tomkins *et al.* 1945: 43) there is listed but one occurrence in the state, this a late fall specimen. In "Birds of Alabama" (Howell, 1924) the species is not included in any way. In "The Bird Life of the Gulf Coast Region of Mississippi" (Burleigh, 1944) the species is likewise omitted entirely; there are no records. In "Bird Life of Louisiana" (Oberholser, 1938: 295) there is a record of a single bird, the only one for the state. Peterson's revised "Field Guide" (1947) gives the best indication of range, as he states that the species breeds "in widely separated localities from Nova Scotia to Texas." None of these authorities mention the Dry Tortugas in their "range" when, as a matter of fact, it is the *only* locality between Virginia and Texas where