

temperature at 6 a. m. was 17° F. The high temperature for the area on November 4 was 25° F. and the low, 10°. On November 3 the temperature had reached 7°. The highest mean temperature there for the first week of November was for the first, 33°, the next highest, 31° on November 7. Where the cranes roosted, we were not sure, but as they came over the woods into the corn field they carried the legs drawn in under the body, not trailing as is usually the case. All but four or five flew with the feet tucked into the feathers of the belly region. Once, I watched one crane, which was flying with feet stretched out behind, draw them in and fold them underneath, tucking them into the feathers. When they prepared to land they dropped their legs in the usual manner, but during their circling flight preparing to land in the field, they flew with feet drawn in. Their tails were much more conspicuous while flying when the feet were drawn in and were apparently spread more than usual. During the morning when the cranes rose periodically from the corn field to circle the area, they immediately tucked their feet into the lower feathers. From time to time, groups of two, three, and up to twelve cranes wheeled off to the south. Whether they were leaving for their southward flight we did not know, but a letter from Cecil H. Rowe, manager of the area, reported that 593 cranes were counted there on November 11, indicating that the low temperature of the previous week had not produced an early migration.

Copulation.—In the Mud Lake marsh, Leoni Township, Jackson County, Michigan, Dr. and Mrs. Powell Cottrille, Ken Bunting, and I were observing birds with a 20-power spotting scope on March 18, 1951. At 6:30 a. m. we observed two Sandhill Cranes along the west side of the marsh, standing beside each other. Suddenly one gave a jump, followed immediately by the other. One then stood still and the second hopped with outspread wings onto her back. She stood, without crouching, perfectly still as he settled down onto her and with his wings vibrating slowly he copulated with her. Apparently the wing motion was merely to aid his balance. He was on her less than a minute, then hopped off, and both stood preening for some time a few feet from each other.

In some notes from the Michigan Conservation Department sent to me by C. T. Black, Marvin Cooley observed copulation by a pair of Sandhill Cranes at the Rose Lake Wildlife Experiment Station area on March 25, 1942.—LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, 1703 Wolverine Tower, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Terns Recorded at Lake Texoma, Oklahoma, in Summer of 1951.—From June 7 to August 7, 1951, my ornithology class and I recorded terns of four species at Lake Texoma, on the Oklahoma-Texas border. Our base was the University of Oklahoma Biological Station along the lake's north shore, in Marshall County, Oklahoma. As a result of heavy rains the lake was exceptionally high in June.

From June 9 to July 29 we saw a few Least Terns (*Sterna albifrons*) almost daily, but we found no breeding colony. On June 15, Kenneth J. Starks and I each collected an adult. Starks's specimen, probably a female, weighed 38.8 grams. My specimen, a male with much enlarged testes, weighed 43.7 grams. We did not see any young birds before July 24. On that date, and again on July 29, we saw two or three young birds at the so-called "Engineers' Tract," a mile or so southwest of the village of Fobb. I believe that most Least Tern colonies were flooded out in June and that very few young birds were reared anywhere in the area.

We recorded a few Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*) between June 15 and July 24. Not one of these was, so far as we could ascertain, in full breeding plumage, nor was one of them obviously a young bird of the year. Two specimens collected by Starks on June 20, and a bird found dead by William H. Adams, Jr., on July 1, were adults

in mixed plumage. Several birds which we saw at the Engineers' Tract on July 24 seemed to be in almost complete breeding plumage.

The Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) we recorded only once. On the morning of July 11, Mrs. John Whitaker and I saw three adults on a mud-bar about a mile west of the Station. We could not get very close, but identified the birds wholly to our satisfaction. The pileum of each was solid black. Mrs. Nice (The Birds of Oklahoma, rev. ed., 1931: 98) calls the Caspian Tern a "rare transient." She mentions a specimen taken August 19, 1925, near Okarche, in Canadian County.

On the evening of July 24, as a storm from the west was blowing up, Carl D. Riggs, Director of the Station, collected an adult male Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) about half a mile west of the Station. It was by itself. It weighed 176.2 grams, being quite fat, and was in excellent plumage. There was a scattering of white in the black of the pileum. The bill was dull orange throughout the basal half, dusky on the distal half. The feet and legs were bright orange-red, the eyelids dark gray and the eyes dark brown. The testes were very slightly enlarged (about 2.5 by 6.5). The tail measured 189 mm., each of the outermost rectrices being broken off at the very tip.

On July 31, I collected a young male Forster's Tern about a mile west of the Station. It was sitting on a stub in the middle of a large shallow arm of the lake. It weighed 154.8 grams and was quite fat. The bill was brownish black, the mouth lining dull orange-flesh color, the eyelids dark gray, and the eyes dark brown. The crown was white largely, though the occiput was flecked with dark gray and a large black spot enclosed each eye. The tail was much shorter than that of the male taken July 24, measuring only 134 mm. (The outer rectrices were in perfect condition.) The primaries were molting, the two outermost in each wing being old, frayed, and rather sharply blackish-brown and white, all the rest being new and silvery gray. The testes were very small (about 1.5 by 4 mm.). In both the adult and young bird the outer web of the outer rectrix was wholly white, the inner web being dusky toward the tip.

To the best of my knowledge the Forster's Tern has not been taken in Oklahoma before, though there must be unpublished sight records. The two above-discussed specimens (respectively, GMS Nos. 11157 and 11169) are, for the time being, in my own collection.—GEORGE MIKSCHE SUTTON, *University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.*

Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*) Taken in Erie County, Ohio.—On March 28, 1951, Mr. Herb Nielson, a commercial fisherman, and his associates were fishing with a drag seine near Bay Bridge on Sandusky Bay, Erie County, Ohio, when their attention was attracted to two rather small birds swimming near their seine. One of the birds suddenly swam over into the net and dived beneath the surface of the water. Upon examination of their net, they found the bird had become entangled in the mesh and drowned. Meanwhile, the other bird flew away and did not return. The specimen was sent to Mr. Kosak of Cleveland, Ohio, who mounted it. The incident was reported to the writer by Clifford Morrow, Erie County Game Protector. On May 8, 1951, the writer examined the mounted bird, which has since been deposited in the Ohio State Museum through the kindness of Mr. Neilson. The accompanying photograph of the specimen (plate 5) has been provided by Dr. Edward S. Thomas of that Museum.

The only previously known record for this species on Lake Erie appears to be that cited by Bent (Bull. U. S. Natl. Mus. 107: 141, 1919) from Canadian waters. The