

The Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsi*) in Colorado.—The Yellow-billed Loon was placed on the list of Colorado birds by the late Wells W. Cooke (Further notes on the Birds of Colorado, Bull. 44, Tech. Ser. 4: 155, Fort Collins, Colo., Mar. 1898) on the strength of a specimen in the collection of Manly Hardy of Brewer, Maine. It was recorded as a young male, collected on May 25, 1885, at Loveland, Colorado, by W. G. Smith. This record was included in the third edition (1910) of the A.O.U. Check-List of North American Birds, and it also was repeated by W. L. Sclater in his "A History of the Birds of Colorado" (Witherby and Co., London, 1912, p. 11).

After examining the specimen, which had finally become a part of the collections of the Park Museum in Providence, Rhode Island, A. C. Bent published a note (Condor, 17: 130, 1915), in which he definitely established the fact that this bird was not *adamsi* but "a very curious specimen of a Common Loon (*Gavia immer*)."
He went on to say that "Its bill is certainly yellow, the yellowest or lightest colored bill I have ever seen in any young Loon . . . but the size and shape of the bill agrees with *Gavia immer* and not with *G. adamsi*."

It appears, however, that *adamsi* must be restored to the list on the strength of a specimen taken at Brighton, Adams County, Colorado, on November 7, 1922, by F. J. Smith. It is curious that both of these specimens should have been collected by men named Smith, but we have no knowledge of any relationship. This specimen, in the collections of the Denver Museum of Natural History, is also an immature bird, but is unsexed. It has been compared with specimens in similar plumage of undoubted *immer* and *adamsi*, in the collections at Denver and in the U. S. National Museum. The tip of the bill is damaged so that its exact length cannot be determined, but (as pointed out by Bent), the shape of the bill, particularly the angle of the anterior half of the lower mandible, appears to be diagnostic. Other measurements are readily matched by specimens of *adamsi* taken in Arctic Alaska.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Denver Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado* and FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.*

On the Correct Names for the Caracaras and for the Long-winged Harrier.—The name *Falco brasiliensis* Gmelin 1788 and the genus *Polyborus* Vieillot both have as their type a miniature colored drawing by Marcgrave in his *Historia Naturalis Brasiliae* of a raptor he called the "Caracara." In a paper on Marcgrave's birds (1938, *Journ. für Ornith.*, 86: 94), Schneider reproduced this drawing in black and white and decided that it represents not a caracara but the harrier known for a long time as *Circus buffoni* (Gmelin). Schneider proposed to replace *Polyborus* as the generic name for the true caracaras by the later *Caracara* Merrem and to substitute the name *brasiliensis* for *buffoni* as the name of the Long-winged Harrier. The latter action, though unfortunately followed by Hellmayr and Conover (1949, *Cat. Birds Americas*, 13, pt. 1, no. 4: 224) is unnecessary in any case since *brasiliensis* and *buffoni* were described by Gmelin in the same work. Page priority alone is involved and this under the Rules is not allowed as a basis for changing an established name.

Professor E. Stresemann, who at first was inclined to agree with Schneider's determination, wrote to me (February 8, 1954) that because no harrier has apparently been recorded from northeastern Brazil he now feels doubtful about the determination of the drawing as a Long-winged Harrier. "I therefore would prefer to declare the drawing as unidentifiable. In this way the name *Circus buffoni* will be retained for the Long-winged Harrier."