

incubated. The behavior of the parents, while the eggs were being collected, was very much different from that of other large hawks of my experience. They circled continually overhead, uttered shrill cries, and dove twice to within a couple of feet of the nest.—E. C. JACOT, *Tucson, Arizona, October 19, 1933.*

The Status of *Phalaropus fulicarius jourdaini* Iredale.—Some years ago Mr. Tom Iredale described (Bull. Brit. Ornith. Club, 42, 1921, p. 8) a Palaearctic race of the Red Phalarope as being "separable at sight from the typical form (type-locality, Hudson Bay, North America) in the paler coloration of the edgings of the feathers on the back, scapulars, and tertials, . . . in the present form they are only creamy and appear appreciably narrower." The type was taken July 7, 1921, at Liefde Bay, Spitzbergen.

I have recently had occasion to inquire into the validity of Mr. Iredale's form, basing my studies chiefly on the material in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, supplemented by a series of ten breeding birds collected by Mr. George Miksch Sutton on Southampton Island, kindly loaned me by Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd of the Carnegie Museum, and specimens loaned by Dr. Van Tyne from the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, comprising birds collected in June off the coast of Labrador, and breeding birds from the west coast of Greenland.

Laying out the material chronologically it is at once evident that the characters assigned to the proposed Palaearctic form have no taxonomic or geographic correlation but are the result of unusually rapid fading and wear. *Phalaropus fulicarius* carries its winter plumage well into the spring, but in most individuals nuptial dress is assumed by early May. Members of a long series taken off the Massachusetts coast at the time of the great flight between May 20 and 23, 1892, have the feathers of the upper parts broadly edged with shades between light ochraceous buff and ochraceous buff (females), or with ochraceous tawny (males). Birds from north-eastern Asia (Nishny Kolymsk and East Cape) and the northern coast of Alaska taken early in June (1-16) show a decided paling of these colors, as do specimens taken in Labrador June 12, Southampton Island June 12-16, the west coast of Greenland June 8-9, and the east coast June 8 and 20. At this season birds from Siberia are indistinguishable from those taken in Greenland. In the series from Siberia and Alaska I have been able to trace the progressive wear and bleaching up to the time that the first traces of winter plumage make their appearance about July 20; in fact by late June and early July the prevailing color of the upper parts is black with narrow white or creamy white edges.

It is quite obvious, therefore, that *jourdaini* based on worn breeding birds collected early in July is nothing more than a synonym of *P. fulicarius* and shows once more that comparisons based on noncomparable series are misleading and only create erroneous impressions.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 10, 1933.*

Second Record of the Red-billed Tropic-bird in Arizona.—On June 22, 1928, while in Pinery Canyon, Chiricahua Mountains, I called at the home of Mr. Frank H. Hands, who is always, as many well know, interested in the fauna, and helpful to visiting collectors. On this occasion Mr. Hands produced a mounted bird, of a species unknown to me, but which he presently informed me had been identified by Mr. J. Eugene Law as a Red-billed Tropic-bird (*Phaëthon aethereus*). Mr. Hands expressed a desire to present the specimen to the University of Arizona, and thus it came into our possession.

I later wrote to Mr. Law concerning this specimen and in the ensuing correspondence it was mutually agreed that he should publish the record of its occurrence. Before the record had been committed to print, however, occurred the regrettable passing of Mr. Law. In March, 1933, still having the matter in mind I communicated with Mrs. Law concerning the desirability of placing this record in the permanent literature. She graciously responded with a transcription of Mr. Law's notes and signified her desire that the record be published.

The essential facts are these. The bird was found on September 15, 1927, by Mr. Frank H. Hands and Mrs. Hands, alive, but apparently exhausted, in the road between the Dos Cabezos and Chiricahua mountains in "Apache Pass draw". Mr.