

Lesser Yellow-legs (*Totanus flavipes*).—One was seen in March feeding on the edge of a drained salt bed.

Sanderling (*Crocethia alba*).—Flocks of 15 to 20 Sanderlings were seen in March on both mud flats and open beaches; those on the open beaches were very restless, frequently flying long distances along the shore. Nearly all were still in pale winter plumage. Six were seen with the Yellow-legs and Turnstones on August 3. These were also in winter plumage.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*).—This species was the only one seen in March that could be definitely said to be migrating. Throughout the morning of March 17, flocks were passing northeastward, cutting across the sandy scrubby growth area to landward of the Cape.

One wonders to what extent these various migrants follow the shoreline. If they do so around the great eastward "bulge" of Brazil it would lengthen their journey enormously. In this connection, and showing that such is not always the case, it is perhaps of interest to record that I saw a Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) at sea, flying directly south, on November 18, 1952, at a point roughly 100 miles from the Brazilian coast at about 10° S. latitude, or a short distance south of the easterly tip of the "bulge."—MARGARET H. (MRS. OSBORNE) MITCHELL, *Caixa Postal 4965, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, April 24, 1953.*

Observations of sea birds off the southeastern Florida coast.—From September, 1952 to June, 1953 I was on eight voyages of the University of Miami Marine Laboratory's research vessel, T-19. Most of these one or two day trips were for the purpose of collecting plankton in the Gulf Stream between Miami and the Bahama Islands. Since little is known of the fall, winter, and spring distributions of many sea birds, careful observations and notes were made during the voyages. The results are given below by dates.

October 11: During about four hours of observation approximately 6 miles east of Miami, no sea birds of note were seen.

October 16-17: During this two day trip the T-19 maintained a position approximately 10 to 15 miles off the coast, drifting as far north as Ft. Lauderdale by the end of the second day. About eighty per cent of the daylight hours was spent on watch. On October 16 no sea birds of note were seen, but a Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*) circled the ship several times during the early morning. On the second day, in the late afternoon, an adult Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) in light plumage flew over the ship. Shortly after this a Cory's Shearwater (*Puffinus diomedea*) or a Greater Shearwater (*P. gravis*) flew across the bow. The light underparts were easily seen, but positive identification could not be made since there is a considerable amount of color variation in these two species. For several hours of the day a Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) remained aboard, apparently exhausted. This seems to be an unusual record of a species that normally winters in Mexico.

November 25: The trip on this day lasted about five hours, about 10 miles east of Miami. The seas were moderate to heavy, and the wind was about 20 m.p.h. from the east. Twelve Sooty Shearwaters (*Puffinus griseus*) and eighteen Audubon's Shearwaters (*P. lherminieri*) were counted. An adult Gannet (*Morus bassanus*) was seen at a fairly close range. Again one Pomarine Jaeger was seen at very close range. It was an immature bird and in dark plumage. I am convinced that the identification was correct, because of the large size of the bird and the robust appearance of body and bill.

December 4: The entire daylight period was spent from 10 to 25 miles east of Miami in moderate to heavy seas with a 20 m.p.h. wind. About nine hours were spent on watch. Altogether, twelve jaegers were seen. Five of these were definitely Pomarine

Jaegers. Of these, two were adult birds in light plumage, and one was an adult in dark plumage. The two immature birds were seen in company with one of the adults. One adult Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) was seen near dusk. The tail was very long; the bird was in light plumage and was certainly this species. Six other jaegers were seen, but could not be identified. I also saw two Sooty Shearwaters.

December 9: Again the entire daylight period was spent about 25 miles east of Miami. The seas were heavy and the wind strong. Three jaegers were seen, two of which appeared to be Long-tailed Jaegers, but identification was not certain.

January 8: The morning daylight hours were spent about 6 miles east of Miami. The seas were heavy. No sea birds were observed.

March 25: About eight hours of daylight were spent on watch 10 miles east of Miami. The seas were moderate to heavy. I saw only a single American Coot (*Fulica americana*) on the water about 5 miles from shore.

April 23-24: Most of the first day was spent en route to a position approximately 35 to 40 miles east of Miami within sight of Bimini, Cat Cay, and Gun Cay of the Bahama Islands. This position was maintained through the daylight of the second day. The seas and wind were moderate to slight. About seventy per cent of the daylight was spent on watch. During the first day only one doubtful Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) turned up. The second day produced six jaegers and two Audubon's Shearwaters. One of the jaegers was dark and large and probably was a Pomarine Jaeger. Five however, were definitely Parasitic Jaegers. Two were adult birds with variations of the light plumage, and three were immatures, seen with the adults. Many Sooty Terns (*Sterna fuscata*) and at least six Bridled Terns (*S. anaethetus*) were observed. In midday a Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) circled the ship for fifteen minutes, attempting to land several times. I saw it at very close range, and the size and lack of white identified it as this species.—RICHARD W. CASTENHOLZ, *Department of Botany, The State College of Washington, Pullman, November 16, 1953.*

King Eider in West Virginia.—On November 28, 1953, along the Ohio River about 15 miles northeast of Huntington, Cabell County, West Virginia, two boys shot an unknown duck. They brought the bird to me that night, when I identified it as a King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*). The presence of testes along with its plumage characteristics showed it to be an immature male. George Sutton has since verified the identification, and Maurice Brooks has informed me that it is the first record of the species for West Virginia.

The general color of the bird is dark brown above and lighter brown below. Many of the contour feathers have buffy tips which give the bird an overall mottled appearance. There is no indication of adult male plumage, and the large square frontal processes of the adult male are lacking. The feathers on the forehead extend to the hinder edge of the nostrils which is characteristic of this species.

It is interesting to note the occurrence of this species in neighboring states. For Ohio, Brooks (1940. *Auk*, 57:563-564) lists four records; for western Pennsylvania, there are seven records (Todd, 1941. "Birds of Western Pennsylvania."); for Virginia, five (Murray, 1952. "A Check-list of Virginia Birds."), all in the coastal region. There are no records of the species for Kentucky. There are occasional winter records on the coast for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. This West Virginia specimen then appears to be the most southern inland record of the species for eastern United States.

The testes were 3 mm. × 9 mm. The bird was not fat. The specimen, No. 44A-1, is in the Marshall College collection.—RALPH M. EDEBURN, *Marshall College, Huntington, West Virginia, February 16, 1954.*