

GENERAL NOTES

An Eared Grebe specimen from coastal Virginia.—On 8 November 1966 an immature Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) was seen at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Craney Island Disposal Area, Norfolk Co., Virginia. The writer returned the next day, found an adult in the same place, and collected it. On 12 November the immature was seen for the last time, but could not be collected.

The specimen of 9 November is the first taken in Virginia, the closest specimen locations being New Jersey and South Carolina. This is one of nine specimens of this species from the eastern Great Lakes and the Atlantic coast (Buckley, in press, *Audubon Field Notes*). It was a female (ovary, 17 mm \times 5 mm), almost certainly adult from the dark flanks, head and neck, and measured as follows: wing (chord) 126.6 mm; exposed culmen 26.9 mm; bill from nostril 16.9 mm; tarsus 47 mm; tail 33 mm. It was quite fat, weighing 242.9 gms. Soft part colors were: orbital ring and irides bright red-orange; bill: silver grey; legs and feet slate-grey anteriorly, blackish posteriorly; gape flesh. The specimen is now No. 786259 in the American Museum of Natural History collections and was determined by J. L. Bull and E. Eisenmann to be *P. n. californicus* on the qualitative basis of no white at the base of the innermost primaries. All other eastern North American specimens have also been *californicus*, as one would expect (see for example, Dawn, *Auk*, 76:521, 1959; Snyder, D., *Auk*, 71:313, 1954; Snyder, L. and Hope, *Auk*, 67:506, 1950; Woolfenden, *Wilson Bull.*, 69:181-182, 1957; etc.).

Prior to the fall of 1966 there were three sight reports of the Eared Grebe from Virginia, all within a few miles of Craney Island (see *Audubon Field Notes*, 16:316; 19:365; 20:406). After this specimen was taken, third and fourth individuals were reported from the Cape Henry area in December 1966, and from January to mid-April 1967 a fifth (in complete nuptial plumage when last seen) was present at Craney Island (*Audubon Field Notes*, 21:15 & 401, 1967). Another was seen at Craney Island from 6 November 1967 to the date of this writing (7 December 1967; P. A. Buckley et al.).

The status of the Eared Grebe in eastern North America has apparently been changing since the 1940s, and is discussed elsewhere (Buckley, op. cit.). At present, the species must be considered regular in limited numbers on the eastern Great Lakes and along the Atlantic coast; it probably occurs annually in Virginia.

I thank R. L. Anderson for assistance in collecting this specimen.—P. A. BUCKLEY, *Department of Biology, Hofstra University, Hempstead, Long Island, New York 11550, 14 December 1967 (originally received 11 August 1967).*

An Ohio record of the Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*).—On 30 September 1967, while observing birds in the vicinity of Clear Fork Reservoir, Morrow County, Ohio, Nye saw a frigatebird as it soared or sat in a dead tree. The next day Dr. and Mrs. Edward S. Thomas saw it, and on 1 October Trautman and his wife collected the bird. It has been deposited in the state research collection as OSM No. 13510.

The bird, an adult female, was greatly emaciated, weighing only 1253.2 g without the contents of its alimentary tract, which weighed an additional 356.6 g. These contents consisted of two white crappies (*Pomoxis annularis*) total lengths 256 mm and 175 mm; two yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*) 140 mm and 125 mm; and the posterior portion of a largemouth blackbass (*Micropterus salmoides*) 140 mm in length. These fishes appeared to have been dead before being swallowed by the bird, because there were traces of

fungus and evidences of decomposition on two of them. All of the fishes were in the anterior portion of the alimentary tract, the stomach and posterior alimentary tract were empty.

The bird was in fresh fall plumage. If it had been brought northward by a recent hurricane the feathers gave no indication of this.

The above appears to be the third record for the occurrence of this species in Ohio. The first account is the statement by Oliver Davie (Nests and eggs of North American birds. David McKay, Publ.:74, 1898) that "A specimen, which is now in the possession of Dr. Renshaw, of Sugar Grove, Ohio, was taken by Mr. Emmet Adcock in Fairfield County, Ohio, in the spring of 1880." The specimen appears to be no longer extant. This record is of particular interest because it was captured in *spring*; the majority of the more northern, inland and Atlantic coastal records in the eastern United States and Canada have occurred in summer or fall (Bent, Life histories of North American petrels and pelicans and their allies. *U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull.*, 122:315, 1922).

In a letter dated 10 November 1967 from Mr. Emerson Kemsies and from newspaper accounts I learned of the finding of the second Ohio record, a bird that had been "picked up dead in an eastern suburb" of Cincinnati, Ohio on 29 September.—MILTON B. TRAUTMAN, *Ohio State Museum, Columbus, Ohio 43210* AND THOMAS W. NYE, 20 October 1967.

Atypical behavior of a Green-winged Teal.—On 23 August 1967, while making a field trip to Great Island, near Bauline, Newfoundland, I noted an example of atypical behavior in an adult female Green-winged Teal (*Anas carolinensis*). I left the landing stage at the outport at approximately 9:45 AM and on the way out to the island saw a boat in which three men were jigging cod. A wild, adult female Green-winged Teal, which had been seen on a local pond since early spring, flew out to sea and landed next to the boat, which was lying approximately one-quarter of a mile from the coast. The teal then stayed "on station" around the boat until late afternoon when I was returning from the island. The fishermen who took me out to the island stopped their boat near the one that had been out all day, and we jigged for cod for a period of approximately 20 minutes. During this time the duck swam around our boat, before returning to the original boat. While swimming around the boat the duck was seen to make bill-dipping and occasional nibbling movements, as described by McKinney (*Behaviour*, 25:120-220, 1965). If pieces of paper, cigarette ends, matches, or any other waste material was dropped overboard by the fishermen, the duck immediately ate them.

When the fishermen returned to the settlement in the early evening, the duck flew inland to a local pond. This behavior of flying out to sea after the boat, and returning in the evening, was repeated over a period of several days.—WILLIAM THRELFALL, *Department of Biology, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, 23 October 1967.*

Specimen of the Harlequin Duck in Florida.—B. W. Evermann (*Ornithol. and Zool.*, 11:81-83, 97-98, 1886) reported seeing a Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) at Pensacola, Florida. A. H. Howell (Florida bird life. Coward-McCann, New York, 1932, p. 154) mistook Evermann's report to refer to a preserved specimen. The error was repeated by A. Sprunt, Jr. (Florida bird life. Coward-McCann, New York, 1954, p. 82), and probably also in the current A.O.U. Check-list (1957). The fourth edition