

'Life-Histories.' There is therefore a distinct soft, semi-downy plumage resembling that of the summer adult between the nesting down and the plumage of the first winter. A similar sequence of plumages is found in the Dovekie (*Alle alle*) but not in the Common Murre which goes from down into a conventional white-throated plumage similar in color and pattern to that of the first winter.—P. A. TAVERNER, *National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.*

The Wedge-tailed Shearwater off the Coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia.—During August, 1919, I received a skin of a pale-colored Shearwater from Oliver Trafford, a taxidermist of St. Eugene, Ontario, the inscription "Vancouver, B. C." being the only data on the label.

A short time ago, while Dr. H. C. Oberholser was at my home, he identified the specimen as *Thyelodroma pacifica* and advised me that this species had as yet not been recorded for the coast of the United States or Canada.

It is much regretted that neither the collector's name nor the date of capture is known, but on account of the apparent rarity of this Shearwater on the north Pacific coast this specimen is now put on record.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon.*

The Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*) at Stone Harbor, N. J.—On January 13, 1929 at Stone Harbor, Cape May County, N. J., the writer with Ernest Evans, Joseph Stokes, and Woodruff Emlen found a dead Sooty Tern on the salt marsh about a quarter of a mile back of the Coast Guard Station near the head of an inlet. Except for the wings, feet, bill and tail the bird was in a very decomposed condition and had evidently been lying there for a long time. The wing measured eleven and an eighth inches and answered the descriptions in several standard text-books as did the other parts that were collected. The bird had probably been blown north by a tropical storm during the autumn of 1928 as there have been several other records of the same species occurring along the Atlantic coast in September 1928.—WILLIAM C. DOAK, *Germantown, Philadelphia.*

A Flight of Ross's Gulls¹.—I recently received from a correspondent of mine at Point Barrow, Alaska, a series of Ross's Rosy Gulls (*Rhodostethia rosea*). He writes to me that late in September, with a strong northwest wind, these rare Gulls came in over the beach in thousands. He never saw them so plentiful before or quite so early in the season. They arrived on September 26, but are generally not seen until late in October or in November. They always come, however, with a northwest wind seeming to arrive from off shore somewhere and working along northward. As soon as the wind changes they leave the coast for the islands off shore, remaining around as long as there is sufficient open water for the boats to get out whaling. For two days they were so numerous

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