

lake, observing thirteen wild species. These included Holboell's (?) Grebe, Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Cormorant, Mallard, Black Duck, Pintail, Redhead, Lesser Scaup Duck, Golden-eye, Buffle-head, Old-squaw and Ruddy Duck. Of these, the Mallards, Black Ducks, Lesser Scaups, Buffle-heads and Redheads were frequent in their visits and rather abundant in numbers. The Cormorant, Pintail, Golden-eye, and the Grebe identified as Holboell's, were solitary, and stayed only a day or so. The Grebe had the characteristic winter plumage of this species, and was considerably larger than the Horned Grebe. A flock of eight Horned Grebes and a pair of Old-squaws stayed only a short time, during a storm. The largest number of individuals observed at any one time during that fall was 78.

During the fall and winter season just closing I have found twelve species at the lake, including the Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, American Merganser, Hooded Merganser, Mallard, Black Duck, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Lesser Scaup Duck, Buffle-head, Ruddy Duck, and Coot. The number of individuals on the lake at any one time has never been as large as a year ago.

The Mallards and Black Ducks which came in the fall, arriving in early November, have remained through the winter. No visiting migrants except these two species were observed during December. On January 26, 1929, a pair of female American Mergansers and a Horned Grebe were seen on the lake.

As time goes on and the natural food of the water birds becomes more abundant, the lake should be a haven for increasing numbers of migrants. So far as I know, nothing has been done in the way of introducing natural plant or animal species as food for wild ducks. No wild species have been observed to remain for breeding.—RUSKIN S. FREER, *Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va.*

The European Coot in America.—Early in May of 1928 this museum received for identification the dried fragments (head, leg, foot and wing) of a European Coot (*Fulica atra*) from Mr. Gower Rabbitts, Secretary of the Game and Inland Fisheries Board of Newfoundland.

Under date of May 7, Mr. Rabbitts informed me that it was taken in Exploits Harbor some time in the previous December, and that two others had been killed but he had been able to secure only these fragments.

The specimen has been returned to Mr. Rabbitts, who stated that it would be deposited in the Memorial University College, but not until after it had also been submitted to Mr. J. H. Fleming of Toronto and Mr. Outram Bangs of Cambridge for corroboration of my identification.

It looks as if these birds accompanied the extraordinary flight of Lapwings from England, that occurred about the same time and has been reported elsewhere.—P. A. TAVERNER, *National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.*