

## GENERAL NOTES.

**On the Status of the Gannet (*Sula bassana*) in the New York City Region.**—In the January issue of 'The Auk,' Mr. Alexander Sprunt discusses the occurrence of Gannets (*Sula bassana*) in fall and winter, on the South Carolina coast, citing October 2, 1930, as the earliest date of appearance of that species. He mentions incidentally that October 5 is the fall arrival record for the New York City region as given by Griscom in his 'Handbook of the Birds of the New York City Region.'

In going over an accumulation of two years "field-notes" preparatory to their publication by the Linnaean Society, we find that under date of September 23, 1928, Mr. W. T. Helmuth, Jr., observed Gannets off the beach at Easthampton, L. I., New York. A few others were seen there later in the month. The east end of Long Island is perhaps among the best places near New York from which to observe the Gannet. Recent observations there would seem to indicate that the species is casual in early September, occasionally present during the third and fourth week of that month but rarely plentiful before mid-October. It is chiefly a November and March and April bird in this region. During the last few years, however, the species has lingered regularly off Montauk Point, L. I., and usually in numbers, to mid-January (for instance, five flying east, January 20, 1929, Peterson, Herbert, Kuerzi, etc.). There are one or two fairly recent early February records and in 1930 the species was noted in some numbers during the third week of that month and eight were observed flying east off the beach at Chatham, Mass., February 23 (various members of the Nuttall Club and Linnaean Society). These birds may have been abnormally early migrants—it being unseasonably mild at this time—or perhaps individuals which had remained offshore in the North, during January.

My belief is that the October 2 record of the Gannet on the South Carolina coast is merely an unusually early arrival and is perhaps comparable, in some respects, with the September 23, 1928, observation of the species at Easthampton, L. I., New York, mentioned above.—JOHN F. KUERZI, *New York City*.

**European Widgeon in Georgia.**—On January 31, 1931, Mr. F. V. Hebard shot a male European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) on the north end of Floyd's Island Prairie, Okefenokee Swamp, Georgia. The plumage of this Duck indicates a young of the year. Definite records of this Widgeon in Georgia seem to be well worth publishing where specimens are preserved. Mr. Hebard presented this specimen in the flesh to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, where it is now in the study collection.—WHARTON HUBER, *Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*.

**A Late Spring Record of Lesser Scaup Duck (*Nyroca affinis*) in Georgia.**—On June 28, 1930 while in a boat with Norman Giles, Jr., on Lake Rabun in Rabun County, in the northeastern part of Georgia, I saw