

as far as the eye could see. Great Blues, Little Blues in white plumage, and one mature bird in blue plumage. I counted 33 of this species feeding in the swale, and perched in the trees, also noted a Kingbird chasing one, which did not hurry its flight. These birds continued to come from around a bend in the stream and light among the tall cat-tails. There were also two stately American Egrets (*Casmerodius egretta*).

I saw these in smaller numbers from time to time. Last date for American Egrets, August 21. Last date Little Blue Heron, September 21. This last specimen showed considerable blue in wings when in flight.—(Mrs.) Mary D. DISE, *Box 51, Glen Rock, Pa.*

Baird's Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*) at Washington, D. C.—This species was first seen by the writer September 3, 1928, in East Potomac Park, D. C. It was next seen September 28, 1930, Columbia Island, D. C. The following observations were made at Alexander Island, near Gravelly Point, Virginia: October 9—two seen; October 11—two seen, one collected; October 16—one seen; October 18—two seen, one collected; October 19—one seen; October 23—two seen, one collected—these dates are all for 1930. The three specimens are in the collection of the U. S. National Museum. There are but two known previous records for this species in this region, two specimens taken at Four Mile Run, Virginia, September 3 and 25, 1894.—W. HOWARD BALL, *1861 Ingleside Terrace, N. W., Washington, D. C.*

A Specimen of Baird's Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*) from South Carolina.—By a curious chain of circumstances I am able now to record the first specimen of *Pisobia bairdi* to be taken in South Carolina, though a sight record for the species has already been published.

On June 1, 1928, I was collecting shore-birds on Morris Island, at the mouth of Charleston Harbor and as dusk was falling a small Sandpiper was seen on the beach which I took for a White-rump (*Pisobia fuscicollis*). Several of the latter had been seen on the Island about two weeks before and I had taken a few. I collected the bird and put it in the basket with some haste as the state of the tide made it necessary to regain the launch as soon as possible. While skinning my birds that night I saw that the one taken at dusk was different in character from *fuscicollis* but being quite pressed for time did not compare it at once and lack of room caused it to remain stored until a short while ago, when I discovered that the specimen was *Pisobia bairdi*. It is in fair plumage and the diagnostic characters of black feet and legs; white throat, sides and belly together with the fuscous middle upper tail coverts which are lightly but quite distinctly margined with buffy, are all present.

On May 5, 1929, Mr. Philip A. DuMont saw a specimen of this species at the Ordnance Depot near North Charleston but did not take it. I also had seen what I took to be *bairdi* on a beach near Edisto Island, S. C., during early December 1928, but I was not sufficiently acquainted with

the species to be sure of myself. However, the bird taken on June 1, 1928, and the one seen the next spring would seem to indicate that my winter bird was *bairdi* also.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.

Additional Notes on Winter Shore-birds on the South Carolina Coast.—The writer has for some years been much interested in pursuing a study of the winter shore-birds of the South Carolina coastal area. This study has resulted in several surprising conclusions, some of which have been mentioned in 'The Auk,' notably the establishing of the Knot (*Calidris canutus rufus*) and the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) as regular winter visitors. These species had been regarded in the past as transients only.

The winter of 1930-31 has corroborated these findings and opened up others. The Piping Plover was found in some numbers about the Savannah River entrance in January of this year (1931). Specimens were taken on the 24th, and Mr. Ivan Tomkins of the U. S. Dredge "Morgan," in whose company the writer was, says that he sees them regularly each winter. He presented the writer with a specimen taken on January 10, 1930. A new discovery was the finding of two Hudsonian Curlews (*Numenius hudsonicus*) on the mud flats about the mouth of the Savannah River. The birds were in excellent condition, feeding freely on the flats and trading back and forth across the Georgia-South Carolina line. This is the first time that they have been recorded in winter in the writer's experience, which covers many years. Mr. Tomkins has not seen them before this winter though he has worked in the Savannah River entrance for about nine years. Mr. A. T. Wayne took a specimen on December 11, 1917.

Another interesting incident was the observance of a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) at the same locality on January 23, 1931. Mr. Tomkins has taken several of these birds in fall and winter but it constituted another winter month for the writer for South Carolina, observations on this species now having occurred in November, January and February.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.

Nesting of the Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) in Alberta.—The Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) has generally been considered a rare migrant in central Alberta, but ornithologists have for years believed it would ultimately be found breeding in the near north, most probably in the partially wooded lake region lying between the Saskatchewan and the Athabaska rivers, north of Edmonton. Much of this area is in the Canadian Life Zone and consists of extensive muskegs, lakes of varying sizes, surrounded by marshes, and great stretches of jack-pine sand-ridges which have been more or less denuded of timber by recent fires. There are, however, scattered sections of good arable land, mostly along the river bottoms, where cultivation is carried on to a considerable extent, and in such places many species of birds, peculiar to the Transition