

### GENERAL NOTES.

**The European Cormorant in New Jersey.**—The status of *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* as a bird of New Jersey has been somewhat in doubt. Indeed until the publication of the shooting of a specimen on the Georgia coast (Auk, 1931, p. 279) I do not recall a definite record from anywhere south of Long Island. It is therefore a satisfaction to be able to record a bird in immature plumage secured by Mr. Joseph Harrison, on October 21, 1929, near Salem, N. J., at the head of Delaware Bay.

This specimen he has generously presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences where it is now preserved. He states that it was in company with another apparently of the same kind.

It shows a considerable amount of pure white on the middle of the abdomen and breast which together with its large size and the presence of fourteen rectrices establishes its identity beyond doubt. The central pair of rectrices are, by the way, only partly grown and would therefore appear to be molted at a different time from the remainder, unless this individual is for some reason abnormal.

The old name of "Common Cormorant" has been changed to "European Cormorant" in the new edition of the "A. O. U. Check-List," as it was distinctly misleading, so far as America is concerned, where the bird is anything but common, our "common" Cormorant being the Double-crested species. Such vernacular names may be the cause of many an erroneous record which has doubtless been the case with the species in the past.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

**Notes on Herons at Scammons Lagoon.**—On a recent trip down the Mexican coast in the yacht "Valero III," G. Allan Hancock of Los Angeles, owner, the Zoological Society party stopped at Scammons Lagoon to collect specimens for our aviary. On August 8, we found nesting there a good many Snowy Herons, Louisiana Herons, Black-crowned Night Herons, and a few Reddish Egrets. We also saw a few dozen Yellow-crowned Night Herons, but could identify no nests. Our time at this bird colony was very limited due to the weather conditions and I am sorry not to be able to make a more detailed report as to numbers. Most of the Snowy Egrets (*Egretta thula brewsteri*) were still on eggs, although anywhere from twenty to twenty-five nests contained young birds. We brought back seven specimens of the latter, two Reddish Egrets for the Mexican government and fifteen Louisiana Herons.—BELLE J. BENCHLEY, *Zoological Garden, San Diego, Calif.*

**Experiences in Breeding Egrets in Captivity.**—Apropos of the Scammons Lagoon trip, the fact that we have this year raised in our great flying cage in the Zoological Garden one young Reddish Egret may be of interest. The parents of this bird were brought to the Zoo from Scammons Lagoon in 1928, being very young fledglings at that time. This year they