

GENERAL NOTES.

Notes on the Food of Grebes.—North American grebes are commonly known to feed extensively upon various kinds of fishes. A study of the feeding habits of these birds is reported upon by Wetmore (U. S. Dept. Agr. Bulletin No. 1196, Jan., 1924), in which fishes comprised the following percentages of the stomach contents of specimens of five species studied: Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), 100%; Holboell's Grebe (*Colymbus grisegena holboelli*), 55.5%; Horned Grebe (*Colymbus auritus*), 34.6%; Eared Grebe (*Colymbus nigricollis californicus*), 9.8%; Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps podiceps*), 24.2%. Although at least half of the one hundred or more lakes within the altitudinal range of grebes in Lincoln County, Montana, contain fishes of some kind, my observations indicate that, except possibly in the case of the Holboell's and Eared Grebes, fishes constitute a much smaller proportion of the total food of these birds here than is shown by the above figures.

The only Western Grebes that I have found breeding in Lincoln County chose as their nesting site a small, rush-grown lake which contains various kinds of aquatic insects and crustaceans, but no fishes of any kind. Both in 1922 and 1923 a pair of these birds nested and raised five young on this lake. Western Grebes occur in this locality rarely during migrations and, although they seem to prefer the larger lakes, nearly all of which contain trout, they occur also on lakes containing no fishes of any kind.

The Holboell's Grebe occurs here rarely as a migrant and summer resident but I have obtained no evidence of its nesting. My scattered records of its occurrence are divided about evenly between lakes containing fishes and those in which this food is not available.

Both the Horned Grebe and the Eared Grebe, occur throughout the summer and nest regularly, only at rush-grown lakes which contain no fishes whatever. To be sure, I have visited frequently during the breeding season only about twenty lakes; but of these, all except five contain fishes; and among these five are the three at which the grebes regularly nest. During migrations, and irregularly during summer, these birds occur also at lakes containing fishes.

A few pairs of Pied-billed Grebes nest regularly at two of the three "fishless" lakes inhabited by the Horned and Eared Grebes. Although birds of this species undoubtedly occur, at least during migrations, at lakes where fishes may be obtained, it happens that I have as yet noted Pied-billed Grebes only at the two lakes where they nest.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Montana*.

The Diablotin in Dominica.—Mr. Stephen Haweis in a recent letter from Dominica informs me of the capture in Roseau, Dominica, of a specimen of the rare Diablotin (*Pterodroma hasitata*). According to a clipping