

The spring records in Table II are based on 24 trips, 4 in March, 5 in April and 15 in May. They caught the principal flight of Black-bellied Plover, Turnstones, Curlew and the smaller species.

The records of the past four years can be grouped as follows:

Small size—Northern Phalarope, White-rumped Sandpiper, Baird's, Least, Semipalmated, Western and Spotted Sandpipers and Piping and Semipalmated Plover.

Medium to medium large size—Red Phalarope, Wilson's Phalarope, Woodcock, Wilson's Snipe, Dowitchers, Stilt Sandpiper, Knot, Purple Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Red-backed Sandpiper, Sanderling, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Lesser Yellow-legs, Solitary Sandpiper, Upland Plover, Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, and Killdeer.

Large size—Godwits, Curlew, Greater Yellow-legs, Willet and Black-bellied Plover.

TABLE III. OCCURRENCE OF SHORE-BIRDS BY SIZE GROUPS IN NEW JERSEY DURING FALL FLIGHT.

	Small	Medium to medium large	Large	Total
1928.....	35,134	12,194	3,074	50,402
1929.....	39,835	15,190	4,719	59,744
1930.....	29,207	13,946	3,300	46,453
1931.....	22,393	18,531	3,163	44,087

*Above by Percentages.*

1928.....	69.7	24.2	6.1	100
1929.....	66.7	25.4	7.9	100
1930.....	62.9	30	7.1	100
1931.....	50.8	42	7.2	100

This shows a material improvement in the position of the medium to medium large group in four years, but only a very slight improvement in that of the larger sized shore-birds.—CHARLES A. URNER, *Elizabeth, N. J.*

**Northern Phalarope in the Dismal Swamp, Virginia.**—While on a trip into the Virginia end of the Dismal Swamp, Dr. William B. McIlwaine, Jr., and the writer found two Northern Phalaropes (*Lobipes lobatus*) on Lake Drummond on May 24, 1932. As they took flight I shot one of them, which turned out to be a female in spring plumage. The other bird stayed within sight for some time, flying about and calling, but we did not ascertain its sex. The bird which I collected was very thin, with no fat at all on the skin. The stomach contained only the remains of a few small and completely digested beetles, although many bees and other insects were floating on the water. The ovaries were only slightly enlarged. This is apparently the third record for Virginia, and the only

spring record. Dr. William C. Rives in his, 'A Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias,' recorded the occurrence of two at Cobb's Island in the autumn of 1889, one of which was collected; and Dr. E. A. Smyth, Jr., reported ('The Auk,' XLIV, Jan., 1927, p. 45), the capture of one at Hampden-Sydney, Va., Sept. 25, 1920. There are also two Washington records, both in August.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia*.

**Phalaropes in New Jersey in Spring.**—J. L. Edwards of Montclair, N. J. and the writer were fortunate in witnessing the great visitation of Red Phalaropes (*Crymophilus fulicarius*) which occurred on the New Jersey shore during a north-east storm on May 12, 1932. The visitation is referred to by W. Stuart Cramer in 'The Auk' of July, 1932. We saw a few birds over the Tuckerton Marshes. In the poor light, fighting a strong wind, the first bird seen looked absolutely black, like a Black Tern with a white stripe in the extended wing. As we crossed Barnegat Bay over the Manahawkin Bridge to Long Beach another individual was seen. Driving south toward Beach Haven we found others in the Bay and one swimming in a puddle at the roadside. Soon we became conscious of the fact that all the shore-birds which were passing over the dunes making slow headway against a heavy wind and rain, were of this species.

When we reached Beach Haven Inlet, a rare sight greeted us. The place fairly teemed with Red Phalaropes. We stood on a small spit of sand, while in a sheltered bit of water, literally right at our feet, a large flock of these striking and agile birds fed over a mass of seaweed and garbage. We collected two and later picked up another dead on the road.

The birds were in every degree of plumage change, about forty per cent being fully colored. A few were still in almost complete winter plumage except that the forehead, white in the winter birds, was dark. The darkening of the forehead is probably one of the first noticeable changes toward the summer attire. A good many birds were fully red but showed little or no definite white area on the side of the head (not even as much as the male bird shows in summer). The white face is thus probably the last feature of the breeding plumage to be acquired. We saw fully 300 birds, and probably more.

Among the flocks riding the waves along the shore we finally picked out one Northern Phalarope (*Lobipes lobatus*) still in winter plumage. The birds were so close that we could note the thinner bill of the Northern and the absence of yellow at the base. The few Red Phalaropes still in winter dress but with the dark foreheads could easily have been mistaken for Northern Phalaropes but for the yellow on the bill, visible only at short distances. Seen alone, without contrast, the bills of the Reds did not seem particularly heavy.

A few days later, on May 18, Ludlow Griscom, J. L. Edwards, Lester L. Walsh and the writer found, on a muddy flat near Troy Meadows, N. J. a beautiful adult female Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*), an extremely rare spring transient on the Atlantic Coast.