

Possible Extension of Regular Winter Range of the Great Black-backed Gull.—The A. O. U. 'Check-List' of 1931 states that the Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) "Winters from southern Greenland south to the Great Lakes and Delaware Bay (casually to Florida), . . ." During the past winter (1933-34) the writer has observed this bird in Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina in numbers that would indicate that the species occurs more than "casually" south of Delaware Bay. A single individual was observed at Rehoboth Bay, Delaware, December 14, 1933, and another January 12, 1934, feeding on the carcass of a recently killed Greater Scaup at Holland Straits, Dorchester County, Maryland, on Chesapeake Bay. F. C. Kirkwood in his 'Birds of Maryland' (1895) states that he "saw one of the birds circling over the mouth of the Gunpowder River," January 27, 1895. This seems to represent the only published record of this species for Maryland. He regarded the bird as being exceedingly uncommon south of New Jersey.

On December 21, 1933, a single adult Great Black-backed Gull was noted by the writer on Isle of Wight Bay near Ocean City, Maryland. On December 20, another was encountered at Chincoteague, Virginia. During the afternoon of February 23, 1934, seventeen adults were seen in Pamlico Sound, North Carolina, between Rodanthe and Pea Island Gun Club. Seven of these were seen in one large mixed flock in company with Herring and Ring-billed Gulls. Another was observed on the back of a recently killed Loon. On February 24, six were noted in the Sound between Rodanthe and Avon, a distance of perhaps 18 miles. On the 27th seven others were seen in a single flock with other Gulls opposite Hatteras Village, and later on the same day three more were observed about three miles south of Hatteras. In the evening of this same day six additional individuals were seen near Ocracoke. On March 2, 1934, one lone individual was observed near the junction of Currituck Sound and Roanoke Sound, North Carolina.

One Great Black-backed Gull was seen at Cape Hatteras January 14, 1933, and several others were noted farther north in Pamlico Sound a few days earlier. Miss Phoebe Knappen of the U. S. Biological Survey reports that she observed one Great Black-backed Gull at Bethany Beach, Delaware, October 1, 1932, and three at Ocean City, Maryland, October 21, 1933.

Such a large number of individuals noted as far south as Pamlico Sound and Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, would seem to indicate either an extension of range of this species or that the extremely cold weather farther north, this year, has driven the birds southward to open water. Without doubt, the frozen bays in the north have caused the Gulls to move southward. A probable increase in the Gull population may also be responsible for an extension in the winter range.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Brünnich's Murre in Brooklyn, N. Y.—On January 28, 1934, I saw