

given by Chapman. It can best be imitated by half whistling, half whispering the syllables. The notes heard in the hole under the wall were of an entirely different character. They consisted of a rapid purring trill followed by a higher, accented note and then a lower note. A very unsatisfactory rendering of this rather pleasing performance might be *br-r-r-r-r-aw' chum* (the *u* as in full). This phrase was repeated over and over again in quick succession.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

**White Pelicans in Florida.**—On December 21, 1934, accompanied by Miss C. M. Williams of Cambridge and Miss A. W. Pearse of Roxbury, Mass., I made a boat trip through part of the Ten Thousand Islands region south of Everglade, Florida, under the pilotage of Capt. 'Phonse Lopez of Everglade, in search of Roseate Spoonbills and other birds. At an unnamed pond among the mangroves, we were surprised to find a flock of White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) which we estimated as about six or seven hundred birds. As we approached the flock flew, circling around over the pond in a most impressive manner. As I watched them, I became aware of a long line of birds in the distance, approaching from the south, which turned out to be another flock of about two hundred birds. A third line of perhaps a hundred followed these and the three flocks united, circling around over the pond and the surrounding mangroves for some time, when part of the flock left towards the north and the remainder, as we withdrew, alighted again on the pond.

I had seen the White Pelican at Yellowstone, at Klamath Lake, and near Salt Lake City, but never in such large numbers or under such impressive circumstances. I find no mention of any such concentration of White Pelicans in Florida in recent years (John Muir, in his 'Thousand Mile Walk to the Gulf' in December, 1867, speaks of "the pelicans that frequently whiten the shore like a ring of foam"), and Howell in his 'Florida Bird-Life' reports only one flock containing a hundred birds, though he mentions numerous small flocks. The total number we saw on December 21 must have been close to one thousand birds.

The same day we saw about fifteen Roseate Spoonbills, two Frigate-Birds, a few Great White Herons, as well as many other Herons, Ibises, etc. The preceding day, at Sarasota, we had seen eleven Eastern Glossy Ibises.—JOHN B. MAY, *Cohasset, Massachusetts.*

**A Sight Record of the Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) in Northern Idaho.**—On October 13, 1934, while walking along the banks of the St. Joe River near the town of St. Maries, I saw a lone Phalarope swimming in the muddy ditch on the landward side of the dike. At this time of the year the back-wash from the river forms an extensive mud flat beyond the narrow drainage ditch, and as the bird was loath to leave the water, I could easily view it with seven-power binoculars at a distance of less than fifteen feet.

Having observed the Wilson's Phalarope in this locality on several occasions, I was immediately aware that this was a totally different bird, and not being so familiar with the Northern, at once assumed it to be that species. However, past experience in similar cases led me to take notes on the spot and it was well that I did so.

After observing the bird at leisure upon the water, I attempted to force it to flight by tossing small clods in the water near it, but instead, it merely swam to the opposite bank of the ditch and walked stiffly out on the mud flat. Here it stood for several minutes in a rather dejected attitude and only after one of my missiles barely missed it, did it deign to fly a few feet, showing the prominent white wing-pattern. It was of course in the fall plumage and appeared to be fully adult, though rather bedraggled. When it left the water, the large amount of white and its general form

led me to think at once of the Sanderling, while in flight it uttered a single weak, but rather shrill peep. My notes as they were taken during observation of the bird include the following diagnostic characteristics: Head and underparts white, except for a dark (almost black) hind neck and spot behind the eye; legs and feet appear dusky or bluish gray—decidedly *not* black; back gull-blue, apparently unmarked; size, scarcely smaller than a Wilson's Phalarope, but shorter legged, thicker necked and with a shorter and stouter bill. When I returned past the spot an hour later, the bird was again swimming in the ditch, but on the following day when I came back determined to collect the specimen, it remained in a pool far out in the treacherous mud flats and the third day it was gone.—R. L. HAND, *St. Maries, Idaho*.

**The Louisiana Heron in Oklahoma.**—While collecting birds in Dewey County, Oklahoma, along the North Canadian River, I took two specimens since identified as the Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis*). These specimens, both females, were taken July 21 and July 23, 1934, respectively, and are now in the collection of the University of Kansas Museum of Birds and Mammals. Apparently this Heron has not been previously reported from Oklahoma.

At the time I was camped along the river, the stream was very low, the water standing only in pools about one-fourth mile apart. These pools teemed with small fish, which attracted large numbers of water-birds. At dawn or at dusk I frequently observed Louisiana Herons in groups of as many as six or eight, feeding in company with the Green Heron, and Yellow-crowned Night Heron.

My thanks are due Mr. C. D. Bunker, of the University of Kansas Museum of Birds and Mammals, for permission to submit this note, and to Mr. W. S. Long of the same institution, for the identification of the specimens.—A. B. LEONARD, *Dept. of Zool. Univ. of Kans.*

**Red-Legged Black Duck in West Virginia.**—In view of the fact that the 1931 'Check-List' recognizes the Red-legged Black Duck (*Anas rubripes rubripes*) as a separate race, I wish to record that there is in the museum of West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va., a female Black Duck with very bright red legs, clearly referable to this subspecies. The specimen was taken by Mr. P. C. Bibbee near Hanna, Wood County, W. Va., on March 9, 1924.

I am aware that many ornithologists hold grave doubts as to the validity of this race, but until its status is cleared up, the bird should be included on the West Virginia list. This is, so far as I know, the first published West Virginia record for the subspecies.—MAURICE BROOKS, *Dept. of Biology, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

**Ring-necked Duck (*Nyroca collaris*) at Lonsdale, Rhode Island.**—The writer saw a drake of this species on the Blackstone River between Lonsdale and Berkely on February 22, 23, 24 and 25, 1933. The bird was carefully examined with 7x binoculars at a distance of only forty yards, and was continually in the company of three female American Golden-eyes (*Glauconetta clangula americana*). This constitutes the first twentieth century record for Rhode Island. There are two old records, one taken at Easton's Pond, Newport, on Nov. 11, 1871, and another taken, also at Newport, no date given, by Col. J. H. Powel and said to have been sent to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, but while several of Col. Powel's birds are in the Academy's collection, Dr. Witmer Stone informs me that there is no record of this specimen ever having been received.—ALFRED E. EYNON, *Lonsdale, R. I.*

**Apparent Skin-transplant in a Wild Scaup.**—On December 23, 1934, Mr. Donald McKellar of Garden City brought me a male plumaged Greater Scaup