

well known, but of interest was the manner in which the worms, which I had buried in the earth were grasped in the tips of the mandibles and rapidly conveyed to the oral cavity, apparently by suction, created by the bird. This "sucking" of the food to the mouth occurred whenever the bird discovered a worm.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *Nat. Zoo Park, Washington, D. C.*

Upland Plovers (*Bartramia longicauda*) Increasing in Adams County, Illinois.—Upon my return to Adams County from the University of Illinois in 1910, I recorded no specimens of the Upland Plover in Adams or neighboring counties. It was not until 1918 that an occasional bird was reported from the nearby counties in Missouri. Since that time the increase has been very encouraging, both in Missouri and in Illinois. This spring (1935) at Newark, Missouri, I found four pairs of nesting birds in a single field and there were additional birds flying about the fallow portions of other farms in that vicinity.

Earlier this spring I saw birds at Galesburg, Illinois, and Mr. Harold Holland of that town reports four birds living in the deserted clover field in the old fair grounds. I similarly recorded two birds at Hamilton, Illinois, several pairs at Paloma, Illinois, two pairs at Camp Point, Illinois, a pair at Coatsburg, Illinois, and one at Fowler, Illinois. A friend reports three pairs nesting on his farm at Augusta, Illinois, while I discovered two pair located between Quincy and Liberty, ten miles east. Recently a nest of eggs was brought in by a farmer who lives within five miles of Quincy.

About the 10th of June another farmer called from six miles south of town telling me that he had flushed an Upland Plover from a field of old grass which he was plowing. Twice as he circled the field, the bird left its nest showing marked distress. The third time around, he watched closely. Finally he stopped his horses and found the team standing directly over a complete nest of four eggs.

He left a small patch of grass standing about the nest for protection. The Plover became so accustomed to his presence that it would remain on the nest when he plowed within eight or ten feet of it.

A week later I wished to take pictures of the bird and nest, but my plans were thwarted by a coon. Its tracks clearly indicated who the culprit was, and the broken shells were proof that it had enjoyed a full sized meal.

Such a report, showing the increase of this fine upland bird, will be of interest to conservationists, in general.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois.*

A Correction.—Attention is called to an error in the writer's Western Willet record printed in 'The Auk,' for January, 1934. The locality cited was South Haven, Berrien Co., Mich.; it should have been South Haven, *Van Buren Co., Mich.*—C. T. BLACK, *Chicago, Ill.*

The Black-backed Gull on the South Carolina Coast.—Though a vigilant look-out has been maintained for years by observers in this section for the occurrence of *Larus marinus*, it has been reported but once and that in St. Helena Sound on November 24, 1932, by H. L. Harlee (*Auk*, 1933, 217). On May 12, 1935, Mr. Lester L. Walsh, who was with the writer on the Cape Romain Federal Bird Refuge, identified an immature specimen of this species on Bull's Island. Mr. Walsh is thoroughly familiar with the species in all stages of plumage and his identification of this bird leads the writer to believe that it has probably been overlooked in the past due to the superficial resemblance to the immature Herring Gull (*L. argentatus smithsonianus*). He is convinced that a bird seen on April 18, 1935, on the Cape Romain Refuge by Mr. Guy Emerson, E. B. Chamberlain and himself, was of this species. The head was much whiter than that of the Herring Gull, the bird sat off