

correspond with any of the plumage sequences set forth by Gross (Auk, 40, April, 1923). Dorsally it would seem to be in the "first nuptial plumage," since it has a streaked crown and also retains the juvenile wing feathers combined with a solidly colored, immaculate mantle. However, the underparts are unstreaked, although slightly clouded in an irregular manner. In color the mantle (including the wing coverts) is close to glossy "Hays Russet," and the underparts are distinctly tinged laterally and on the pectoral region with reddish instead of the usual grayish tones. The flight feathers and tail are normal in color.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.*

Southern Winter Range of *Ixobrychus exilis hesperus*.—Two adult males and one immature male were taken by the author near Huacho, Peru, in February, 1932. They agree in all particulars with the colors and measurements given by the describer of this bird, the tarsi and toes reaching the maximum given for the race. Apparently this is the first South American record for the subspecies. Peters (Checklist of the Birds of the World) gives a record from Panama with a question.

They were taken in a small marsh near the seacoast, caused by drainage from an irrigation system in the vicinity. Several others, mostly immature birds, were seen at the same place. It would thus seem that it is a regular winter visitor along the west coast of South America, as far south as central Peru.—M. A. CARRIKER, JR., *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Invasion of Glossy Ibises in Puerto Rico.—During the winter of 1935 and 1936 there was an unusual invasion of Glossy Ibises (*Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus*) in Puerto Rico. Previously the species was not definitely known to occur on the island. On September 14, 1935, I observed an individual in immature plumage in some mangrove swamps east of Parguera, but it proved impossible to collect it. During December, 1935, and January, 1936, I received from various sources information regarding flocks of as many as thirty individuals seen at Guánica and Anegado Lagoons. On February 13, 1936, a hunter brought me two adult females in winter plumage which he had just shot at a small lagoon near Añasco; these are now preserved in my collection. It is impossible to state yet whether individuals will remain to breed in Puerto Rico, or if this was a sporadic post-breeding season migration such as is well known to take place in certain Herons.—STUART T. DANFORTH, *University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.*

Ring-necked Duck in Berkshire County, Mass.—On April 24 of this year Mr. G. Bartlett Hendricks and myself identified a raft of three male and about eighty female Ring-necked Ducks (*Marila collaris*) on Stockbridge Bowl, Stockbridge. The following day Mr. Hendricks identified two males on Onota Lake, Pittsfield. In both cases the observers were able to see the markings on the bills as well as other distinguishing characteristics. This is the first known record of the Ring-necked Duck in Berkshire County.—S. MORRIS PELL, *Lenox, Mass.*

Bay Ducks Frozen to the Beach.—When a severe cold wave strikes Long Island it is not unusual to have even the large tidal bays freeze over, but seldom is the temperature sustainably low to have any effect on the very saline ocean waters. During the past winter, however, we experienced one of the most persistent cold spells Long Island has had in over a score of years and not alone did streams, ponds, bays and tidal creeks freeze over, but the ocean surf itself finally succumbed and turned into a pulpy, soupy mass . . . heavy dead waves would come wearily up to the shore and drop with a thud sending a slushy mass of ice rolling up on the beach.

The American Goldeneye (*Glaucionetta clangula americana*) and the Greater Scaup (*Nyroca marila*) are generally classed as Bay or Sound Ducks in our region, but when sudden frigid spells stiffen such bodies of water these species are forced to take to the ocean. At such times it is not unusual to see some of these birds resting on the beaches and they do so with no ill effects. But the unusually cold weather this year evidently presented many of these bay species with a rather new problem for if they chanced to be resting on the slushy beaches as the tide ebbed, the slush free of the tempering effect of the water would freeze almost instantaneously sealing the unfortunate Ducks to the ground.

During the first week of February on the south shore of Long Island I found fourteen Golden-eyes and Scaup frozen fast to the beach, some dead, some struggling desperately to get loose. It was absolutely impossible to chip the encased live birds out of their trap. In fact, the only humane thing to do was quickly to terminate their suffering for in their strenuous efforts to get loose they invariably ripped their very skin and were found bleeding and messy.

The regular Sea Ducks seemingly knew how to avoid this icy slush for only one of them, a White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta deglandi*), was found in this predicament. I wonder if this situation is unusual or whether annually many Ducks meet their death in this fashion on more northern shores?—ALLAN D. CRUICKSHANK, *Freeport, Long Island, New York.*

Effect of Extreme Cold on Ducks in Milwaukee Bay.—During the month of February of this year the extreme cold caused the death of hundreds and probably thousands of winter Ducks on Lake Michigan in the Milwaukee area.

Steamship Captains reported that Lake Michigan was practically frozen across. Only small open areas existed at intervals many miles off shore. Otherwise the only open water near Milwaukee was that irregularly kept open in the shipping lanes, and at the warm water outlet of the Milwaukee Sewage Disposal Plant. At the disposal plant the open area was about 200 feet long and 60 feet wide.

On February 21 Mr. Walter Dethloff of the Wisconsin Humane Society, asked the aid of the Museum Staff in the removal of many frozen in but still living Ducks.

We found the open water to be crammed with birds, mostly Old Squaws (*Clangula hyemalis*). The greater number were females. The next numerous were Greater Scaup (*Nyroca marila*) and only a few of the Lesser Scaup (*N. affinis*) were present. The Ducks were picking up bits of waste material flowing from the plant and the thin ice at the edges was rimmed with the dead and dying birds. At one point where the piling composing the inner breakwater offered shelter, dead Ducks were piled several deep. The dying birds were feebly struggling, and with few exceptions those on the ice were held prisoner by the freezing down of primaries or breast feathers and in many cases both. Dangerous ice made the recovery of many of them impossible, but nevertheless about fifty of the living birds were chopped out and delivered to the Milwaukee Zoo where most of them died. While we were there a car-ferry plowed through the partially open lane and literally hundreds of the imprisoned Ducks were helplessly churned under and ground among the large blocks of ice. Out on the hard ice dead Ducks which had been frozen down were to be seen as far as the horizon, but most of them were concentrated at the edges of the open places. Golden-eyes suffered the most, and next in abundance the Greater Scaup. We found a few dead American Mergansers (*Mergus americanus*) and a few Old Squaws. One immature female King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) was also found frozen down. The Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*) were there in numbers and they waxed fat upon the carcasses.