

label bears the following interesting notation: "Purchased in the flesh Sep. 23, 1907, of H. L. Lawrence, 46 & 48 Faneuil Hall Market, Boston, Mass., who said this bird was shot on Cape Cod, Mass. & was received by them Sep. 17, 1907. The bird was exposed for sale with other No. American shorebirds, no European, all same condition, rather old." Thus the first North American record for *L. l. lapponica* is based on a market specimen with the incomplete data usual in such cases, though we do not feel any real doubt that the bird actually was wild-killed somewhere along the New England coast, though not necessarily on Cape Cod.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.*, and JOSEPH A. HAGAR, *20 Somerset St., Boston, Mass.*

Avocet taken in Ohio.—On September 21, 1936, the writer collected an Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) along the beach of Lake Erie at Ashtabula in extreme northeastern Ohio. The bird was an immature male, weighed 274.7 grams and was in fair condition though covered with a light oily scum from harbor waters. The skin has been donated to the Ohio State Museum Collection (no. 7123). This seems to be the first specimen of the Avocet taken in Ohio since 1882. The species was first recorded for the State by Dr. Kirtland in 1837, on the basis of reports to him that it had been killed by sportsmen in the vicinity of Cincinnati. This report was repeated by Landon and Jones, and by Charles Dury who added that the bird had been reported on sand bars along the Ohio River. However, the only Avocet specimen ever contained in the Cuvier Club collection at Cincinnati was one (no. 374) which actually came from either Calumet Lake, Indiana, or Calumet River, Illinois (Butler, A. W., *Proc. Indiana Acad. Sci.*, **36**: 341-344 (1926) 1927). Hence, no specimens are known to have been taken in the Cincinnati region and it seems highly probable that any sight records for the region which may have been reliable, were not actually from the State of Ohio.

Dr. Jones records a rumor of a Mr. A. Hall having observed a specimen from near Cleveland but there is no basis for accepting it. The only definite sight records known previous to 1936 are three recorded by A. C. Bent in his 'Life Histories of North American Shore Birds,' 1927. He lists Avocets November 4, 1907, and March 16 to 21, 1907, at Oberlin, Ohio; and May 24, 1914, at Sandusky, Ohio. There are only two known instances of Avocets taken in Ohio previous to 1936. These were: (1) a specimen taken by Mr. Clemens Utter at St. Mary's Reservoir on November 10, 1882, and reported by Dawson (1903) as being contained in the Ohio State University Collection and (2) a specimen taken in winter plumage at Lebanon Reservoir in the spring of 1880 by R. W. Smith and reported by Jones (1903) as being contained in Mr. Gould's collection. These specimens, if still in existence, are unknown to present-day ornithologists.

Recent eastern reports of Avocets in 'The Auk' include the following: Florida, January 1933; Iowa, spring 1934; North Carolina, December 1934; Illinois, October 1935; and Cape Cod, Massachusetts, September 1925. Drouth effects in the mid-west may have been responsible for some of these Avocets straying so far east. The species occurred in at least three localities on or near the Lake Erie shore in the summer of 1936, for in addition to the specimen recorded above at Ashtabula, Ohio, a second bird was discovered the same day (September 21, 1936) and observed for two hours at the entrance to the harbor at Erie, Pennsylvania. A third bird was not observed by the writer but was reported and well described by several persons living near Waterville along the Maumee River. This individual was present intermittently during the first three weeks of September 1936.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*