

## GENERAL NOTES

**Western Grebe in Colorado.**—The Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) has been considered a rare bird in Colorado and there are comparatively few specimens in State collections. The many irrigation reservoirs are unfavorable for nesting sites because of the great fluctuation in water levels, and as there are not many natural lakes suitable for breeding areas, this bird has not been found nesting. During the past season two grebes were observed on Barr Lake, Adams County, on May 24, and on May 31, several were seen by R. J. Niedrach and H. G. Smith.

An amazing concentration of Western Grebes was observed by the undersigned on Barr Lake on June 17 on a sheltered inlet along the southern shore. There was a slick calm without a breath of air to stir the surface of the cove, and mirrored here and there over the surface were pairs of birds, often in groups of half a dozen. Many were going through their characteristic courtship glides, and others seemed to be showing interest in stands of vegetation appropriate for nesting sites. With one sweep of the glass, we counted fifty-two birds, and some, no doubt, were below the surface of the water. We returned a few days later and found that water had been withdrawn from the lake for irrigation purposes and that no vegetation suitable for concealing nests remained in the water. Only a half dozen birds were seen, and although they remained on the lake for the next few weeks, at least, no evidence of their nesting was obtained.—ALFRED M. BAILEY AND ROBERT J. NIEDRACH, *Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado.*

**Audubon's Shearwater in Massachusetts.**—An Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri lherminieri*) was found dead on the beach at Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, August 13, 1937, by Francis Minot and Wilson Olney. Suspecting, because of its small size, that the bird might prove to be this species, Mr. Minot brought it to the New England Museum of Natural History in Boston. Messrs. James Lee Peters and Ludlow Griscom at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, made the identification. The measurements were as follows: wings, 184 mm., 187 mm.; exposed culmen, 31; depth at base, 9; least depth, 6.8; width at base, 12 plus; tail, 85. The wing is short but all other measurements are clearly typical of *lherminieri*. This constitutes the first record for the species in New England. Unfortunately a gull had started to eat the neck of the specimen, rendering it unfit to mount for exhibition purposes, but it makes a satisfactory skin in the study collection.—JULIET RICHARDSON, *New England Museum of Natural History, Boston, Mass.*

**American Egret along the upper Hudson River.**—All recent records tend to indicate that the American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) has become increasingly common in New York State during its post-breeding wanderings. This is particularly true during the present season in the territory along the Hudson River which appears to serve as a more or less well-marked fly-way for the bird. Since this egret recently has been reported to nest in southwestern New Jersey (Stone, W., Auk, 51: 368-369, 1934) and other northerly breeding records for it have appeared in the literature not long since, perhaps an increase in its numbers is to be expected in the Albany and contiguous sections of the Hudson River Valley. The following late summer records for 1937 are offered by way of illustrating the bird's status in this territory.

A correspondent, Dr. Samuel J. Pashley, of Hudson Falls, New York, writes me under date of July 23, 1937: "For the last three days five adult egrets have been