

chicks were capable of moving from nesting territory and most of them spent the greater part of the day under the shade of bushes as much as fifty feet from their nests. They came out in the evenings when the heat of the sun was diminishing and stayed until it became hot again in the mornings. So, they were exposed in the open when the Man-o'-war-birds hunted them. Adult Eastern Sooty Terns became excited upon the approach of a Man-o'-war-bird and sometimes flew after it when a chick had been picked up; but at no time were they seen actually to attack the intruder. One Noddy was seen striking a Man-o'-war-bird on the back as it flew low near the Noddy's nest. The mate, however, remained on the nest protecting its young. Adult Sooty Terns resumed normal behavior less than a minute after a chick was taken. Even the parents of a captured bird alighted in their nesting territory after a few minutes and acted in a normal manner.

The writer has never seen a Man-o'-war-bird attack an adult Sooty or Noddy and force it to disgorge while on the wing.—DANIEL B. BEARD, *National Park Service, Washington, D. C.*

Reddish Egret nesting near Tavernier, Florida.—On April 17, 1938, I discovered the nest of a Reddish Egret (*Dichromanassa rufescens*) near Tavernier, Florida, in the Florida Keys district. The nest was located about six feet above the water, in a clump of red mangroves on a small key or island approximately eight miles west of Tavernier. No nests of other birds were observed on the little key which was only about two hundred feet across. The flat nest, about fourteen inches in diameter, composed principally of sticks, contained two young and one egg. One adult remained nearby during the period of observation, sufficiently close for positive identification as a Reddish Egret. The nest was photographed several days later independently by Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr., of Charleston, Director of the Southern Sanctuaries Section of the National Association of Audubon Societies. Apparently definite nesting records of Reddish Egrets in Florida have been rare in recent years.—THOMAS C. DESMOND, *94 Broadway, Newburgh, New York.*

Snow Goose at Reading, Pennsylvania.—On November 13, 1938, Conrad Roland and I saw a Snow Goose (probably *Chen hyperborea atlantica*) on Lake Ontelaunee, near Reading, Berks Co., Pennsylvania. The only other anserine birds present were Black Ducks, Mallards, and Green-winged Teal. It mingled with these, taking flight with them when we alarmed the flock. The birds finally retreated to a small estuary, where the goose followed several Black Ducks to a mud flat. When we last saw it, the bird was walking along the shore line, apparently feeding. Recent Pennsylvania records of the Snow Goose are rare. One was seen on November 8, 1934, on the Susquehanna River in Lancaster County (Auk, 52: 436), while four were seen on the Susquehanna at Harrisburg on November 18, 1935 (Auk, 53: 94 and 208). These are the only records I have been able to find for the present decade.—C. BROOKE WORTH, *Dept. of Zoölogy, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.*

Barrow's Golden-eye in New Jersey.—On February 5, 1939, while observing waterfowl on Sandy Hook Bay from the beach-front of Leonardo, Messrs. C. D. Brown, J. L. Edwards and F. P. Wolfarth identified a fine drake Barrow's Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta islandica*). The duck was under observation for nearly twenty minutes and with the aid of a 35-power telescope, all field marks were carefully noted. The differently shaped head, glossed with purplish iridescence, the crescent-shaped face patch, the black sides marked with two plain oblong white patches and a row of white spots on the scapulars and the black curved line down the center of the side

were plainly seen by all observers.—FLOYD P. WOLFARTH, *East Rutherford, New Jersey.*

Short-tailed Hawk in Florida.—During the years of 1935–36–37 and part of 1938, the writer has had occasion to spend considerable time in field work in southern Florida. Trips have been made in almost every month with the exception of the summer season, and particular attention has been paid to the Everglades. The whole of this great area, from Lake Okeechobee to Cape Sable and from the east coast to the west, has been explored by all possible means of investigation. Several flights have been made by dirigible and amphibian plane; extensive surface work accomplished by means of automobile, on foot, by boats of various descriptions. The many rivers of the southwest coast (Ten Thousand Islands) have been explored; the Big Cypress worked; Cape Sable covered as well as the several lakes in that vicinity, and Whitewater Bay visited on several occasions. The Tamiami Trail has been crossed many times, and the area known as Pinecrest, lying on the so-called Loop of this Trail, has been investigated from the air and on the surface; many of the dense hammocks have been visited on foot. Royal Palm Park (Paradise Key), Long Pine Key and others of the larger wooded areas of the lower Everglades, have all been investigated.

Particular attention has been paid to those species which may be described as rare or unusual. Prominent among these are the Roseate Spoonbill, Flamingo and Cape Sable Sparrow, together with the Short-tailed hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*), the last always an item of attraction to any ornithologist visiting that region. This small *Buteo* occurs in the United States in Florida only, and is very locally distributed there. In recent years, it seems to have become even more uncommon than it once was, and at best, it could never have been described as more than 'occasional'. For excellent accounts of its range and habits, the reader is referred to 'Florida Bird Life' by Arthur H. Howell, page 179, and 'Life Histories of North American Birds of Prey' by Arthur C. Bent, page 254. It is the purpose of the writer simply to state his experience with the species as has been noted in field work described above.

This hawk has been observed on four occasions as follows:

(1) One bird (light phase) seen at Royal Palm Hammock, Tamiami Trail, Collier County, on February 25, 1935, observed at a height of about forty feet in bright sunlight.

(2) One bird (light phase) seen at Flamingo, Cape Sable, Monroe County, on March 12, 1937, perched on dead stub and allowed close approach.

(3) One bird (light phase) seen at Pinecrest, The Loop, Dade County, on January 18, 1938. Exact locality was at the site of the old hotel, about three miles west of the Y on the Tamiami Trail. Bird soared directly overhead in excellent light, and was watched for some minutes.

(4) One bird (dark phase) seen at Deep Lake Hammock, Big Cypress, Collier County, on January 20, 1938. This bird flushed from a nest as we walked under the tree, and was seen at close range. The noise occasioned by its leaving the nest which was placed in a cabbage palm, attracted attention, the wings of the bird clashing audibly amid the palmetto fans. It soared overhead in small circles and disappeared into the hammock to the northeast. It will be noted that the last two observations were made only two days apart, while the first two are separated by more than two years! In the later observations, the two localities are widely separated by some thirty-five or forty miles.

Two nests of this rare hawk have come under the writer's observation. The first