

so vigorously that nothing but deep water, which finally made both fly, separated them.

We did not leave our car, and several times birds came within fifteen or twenty feet of us. Twice cars passed, and we moved our own also, but the birds were not in the least disturbed. We found that the birds were on both sides of the lake, which was over a hundred feet wide and three hundred feet long. Several times, all the birds flew, and after the flock circled about over the water for a moment, alighted again, some near to us and others on the opposite side of the water. They all immediately began to run about, usually quite independently of each other and started to feed again.

There were at least a hundred plover in the flock. We also noted several Lesser Yellow-legs, and one Greater Yellow-legs, which mingled freely with the plovers, even joining them in their circling flight over the water.

After we had been watching the birds for about an hour, they finally all flew some distance to the extreme far side of the field.—DELOS E. JOHNSON, 42 Public Square, Shelbyville, Indiana.

An oddly colored Wilson's Snipe.—A peculiarly colored specimen of Wilson's Snipe (*Capella delicata*), was collected November 25, 1937, about one mile north of the Savannah River, in Beaufort County, South Carolina. This bird, a female, did not differ greatly from the ordinary in size, or in the color of the soft parts, but the plumage seemed to lack one of the color elements of the normal bird. This gave it the appearance of a buffy bird, rather than a blackish one. The buffy tone was carried out completely over the plumage wherever blackish is found in normal specimens. It appears that the normal blackish tones must be composed of more than one element, and that in this case some of the color elements were missing.

The present case might be called a 'color phase' for it represents somewhat the same sort of departure that is found between the two phases of the Screech Owl. The term, however, is not entirely satisfactory for several reasons, but in the absence of a better one, it may serve for the present.—IVAN R. TOMKINS, U. S. Dredge DeWitt Clinton, Savannah, Georgia.

Eskimo Curlew food note corrected.—The correcting of the identification of specimen number 7660 collected by Will E. Snyder at Fox Lake, Wisconsin, on September 10, 1912, from Eskimo to Hudsonian Curlew (Scott, Auk, 57 (4): 566-567, 1940), so alters the picture of the food of the Eskimo Curlew that we are offering the following amended summary of the stomach contents to be substituted in an account contained in an earlier paper (Cottam and Knappen, 'Food of Some Uncommon Birds', Auk, 56 (2): 154, 1939).

One of the three Eskimo Curlews, *Phaeopus borealis*, upon which this note is based was collected in 1887, in New York (Long Island City), and the two others were taken in 1888 in Massachusetts (Monomoy Island). All three were taken during September. They contained 100% animal foods as follows: spiders, 2.67%; grasshoppers (Acrididae), 40%; field crickets (including *Gryllus* and *Nemobius*), 52%; beetles, including ground beetles and scarab beetles (Carabidae, Scarabaeidae), 3.33%; moths (Lepidoptera), 1.67%; ants (Formicidae), 0.33%. The plant food consisted of but a trace of vegetable debris including one seed of a crab-grass (*Digitaria* sp.). These stomachs were respectively one-half, two-thirds, and completely full.—CLARENCE COTTAM and PHOEBE KNAPPEN, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.