

and fibers, with scattered hair, a few lichens, feathers, and thread. The nest has the appearance of having been well used, indicating that a brood of young was successfully reared.—W. R. DEGARMO AND WILLIAM F. STRUNK, *Conservation Commission of West Virginia, Charleston, W. Va.*

An unusual bird fatality (*Plate 3, left fig.*).—About November 15, 1944, the cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus* subsp.?), shown in the accompanying photograph, met an unusual death. The bird was first pointed out to me by Mr. C. Hoyt Mills of McClellanville, South Carolina, while we were on boat patrol of the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, Charleston County, S. C. Although dead when examined, the cormorant apparently had attempted to alight on the top of a slender, split pole, had slipped downward, and had been garroted when its neck lodged in the narrowing crack. The pole, formerly supporting a flag marker, was nailed to an engineering survey sign possessing the usual row of close-set nails placed to prevent bird roosting and its results. If the sign had not been so armed the bird might not have attempted to land on such a slender pole as that above the sign. The split at the top of the pole was 2½ inches wide, narrowing down gradually for about three feet. It was first thought that someone in a jesting mood had placed the bird in position but examination discounted this theory. The spot was a good distance away from the Intracoastal Canal, the sign had been established many months or even years previously, the isolated post was difficult to approach over the very boggy salt marsh, and the bird was ten feet above the level of the marsh muck. During five years' residence at the refuge, this has been the only example of this type of bird death the writer has witnessed.—WILLIAM P. BALDWIN, *Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, McClellanville, South Carolina.*

Brewster's Booby in Arizona (*Plate 3, upper right fig.*).—An immature *Sula leucogaster brewsteri* was observed in the Bill Williams arm of Havasu Lake, Havasu Lake National Wildlife Refuge, in Mohave and Yuma counties, Arizona, on August 13 and 14, 1943. As usual with boobies, it was an unwary bird and permitted sufficiently close approach to allow me to study all details and even secure a satisfactory photograph of the bird resting on the water. The record is noteworthy not alone because it is the first record of any booby for the State of Arizona, but very probably the first record for the United States of the subspecies *Sula leucogaster brewsteri* (Peters, Check-list of Birds of the World).

Characters apparent in the photograph, as well as from my field description of the bird, are diagnostic enough to permit positive identification as to species. Its straight, sharp, wedge-shaped beak was of the same color—a light bluish-gray, mostly on the gray side—as the naked area about the eye, of which it seemed to be a continuation. The bird's general color was a darkish brown, a little rusty, with some vermiculations, especially on the breast. When resting on the water, its wing tips projected beyond the tail. When it flew, long and narrow wings were immediately noticeable, as well as its pale yellowish feet, the whitish strip on the under side of the wing, and the rather short and rounded tail.

My thanks are due to Dr. Alden H. Miller of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, who examined the photograph and supplied me with various taxonomic information.—GALE MONSON, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Needles, Calif.*

Laughing Gull robs Brown Pelican (*Plate 3, lower right fig.*).—A recent conversation with Mr. Jack DuPre of McClellanville, South Carolina, in which he told