

It may be well to mention here that it is usual for birds' natal down to be pushed out by the first generation of feathers on the tips of which it may be borne for some time and that, as an abnormality, individual feathers have been reported borne on the tips of those of the next generation in the Magpie Pigeon (Jackson, Brit. Birds, 6: 339, 1913), the Knot, *Calidris canutus* (Bonhote, Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1906: 901), a Chinese Magpie (Kleinschmidt, Journ. für Orn., 1903: 142) and a chick (Kleinschmidt, Journ. für Orn., 1899: 115).—A. L. RAND, *Chicago Natural History Museum, Chicago, Illinois.*

**Sun-grebe, *Heliornis fulica*, in Veracruz, Mexico.**—Ridgway and Friedmann (Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., 50 (9): 230, 1941) reported the occurrence of the Sun-grebe, *Heliornis fulica* (Boddaert), in Mexico only from the Río Coatzacoalcos in the extreme southern part of Veracruz. That this species ranges at least 125 miles north of the Río Coatzacoalcos is evidenced by a specimen in the Texas Cooperative Wildlife Collection, taken by David Donaldson at Boca del Río, a short distance south of the city of Vera Cruz. This bird, an adult male weighing 141.6 grams, was encountered July 23, 1941, in the tidal waters of the Río Moreno. The testes were small (non-breeding) in size. Seemingly, this specimen constitutes the second record for Mexico.—WILLIAM B. DAVIS, *Department of Wildlife Management, Texas A. and M. College, College Station, Texas.*

**Albatross Feather from Jones Beach, Long Island, New York.**—On November 7, 1948, walking along the high water line at Jones Beach, a rather large (14.75 inches) primary feather was noticed. Picked up and passed close to the nostrils it appeared to have the characteristic odor of the Tubinares. It showed no sign of having been in the water. Normally, a "gull" feather with slightly odd odor would be noted with but passing interest. In this instance, however, the odor was so strong and so firmly reminiscent of *Diomedea* that it was forwarded to the American Museum of Natural History for identification.

Dr. R. C. Murphy wrote on November 26, 1948, as follows: "The wing quill from the Long Island shore is beyond any shadow of doubt that of an albatross. While it is very worn, it appears to have been not long moulted. It is definitely not *Phoebastria*, in which the outer vein of the primary feathers is always much narrower. This leaves only the genus *Diomedea* and the section sometimes called *Thalassogeron*. I doubt whether the quill is positively identifiable as to species. It is, however, relatively small, both in breadth of the whole quill and in the length and diameter of the shaft. In these respects it most closely resembles *Diomedea chlororhynchus* which is the smallest species of this group of albatrosses ever to be recorded from the Atlantic Ocean. Incidentally, this species has yielded more North American records than any of the other possibilities."

A short time later it was learned that a shipment of albatross feathers had recently found their way into the millinery markets of New York. Samples of these feathers were placed at the disposal of the American Museum by the National Association of Audubon Societies and comparison was made with the specimen from Jones Beach. Dr. Murphy wrote as follows on December 2, 1948. "Your beach quill, although very worn, is longer than the longest of the North Pacific primaries. It also lacks the striations on the shaft which all the others show. It agrees in its relative narrowness and emarginate tip with the southern hemisphere 'Thalassogeron' mollymauks. It certainly is not the species of these millinery quills and was, in all probability, a naturally moulted feather."

It is of course possible that this feather found its way to Jones Beach via some vessel from the South Atlantic. The evidence seems to suggest, however, that it