

at Kent Island and indeed I know of only one other definite record, a bird reported by W. L. Lyon (*Bird-Banding*, 9: 102, 1938) from Upper Green Bay, Michigan, and the only albino seen by him in many years of active banding in the Great Lakes region.

It is, however, not out of the question that other albino Herring Gulls have been seen but misidentified. Such misidentifications may have accounted for such reports as that (T. M. Brewer, *J. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.*, 6: 304, 1852) of Iceland Gulls nesting in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, far to the south of the high arctic breeding range chiefly or solely occupied by that species. Similar southerly breeding records (Bay of Fundy region) of the latter species vaguely reported in Baird, Brewer, and Ridgway's *The water birds of North America* (Boston, Little, Brown and Co., 1884; see vol. 2, p. 218) could have been based upon albinos of Herring Gulls or of other species. A like case of near misidentification, involving an albino Bonaparte's Gull (*L. philadelphia*) at first taken for an Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*), was reported by A. D. Cruickshank (*Proc. Linn. Soc. New York*, 50 and 51: 31-32, 1940).

The coloration of the eggs of the Herring Gull is extremely variable. About two per cent of the thousands I have examined was nearly white with only faint markings. However, on 28 May 1942 I found a set of two pure white (or "albinistic") eggs. On 28 May 1944 there was a second set of pure white eggs (two) and again on 3 June 1945 a third set (three). All three clutches were in a nest at the same location and apparently all were laid by the same gull. Both members of the pair were of normal coloration and, since albino chicks, as noted above, hatch from normal eggs and normal chicks from "albino" eggs, it would seem that, as is to be expected, there is no similarity between the genetic basis for albinism and the genetic basis (if any) for laying pure white eggs.—ALFRED O. GROSS, 11 Boody Street, Brunswick, Maine.

**An additional record of the Yellow-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon lepturus catesbyi*) from Pennsylvania.**—Records of southern water birds and vagrants found in the northeast as a result of the hurricanes which occurred in the fall of 1954 were summarized in the February, 1955, issue of *Audubon Field Notes*.

To the single record of the Yellow-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon lepturus catesbyi*) listed from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, there may be added an additional record from that state. A female of this tropical form was recovered at Nanticoke, Luzerne County, on 16 October 1954, by Mr. David M. Christian. The specimen is now no. 457964 in the collection of the U. S. National Museum.—GORMAN M. BOND, *U. S. National Museum, Washington 25, D. C.*

**Nesting of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher on Long Island, New York.**—The Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) is one of several southern species whose breeding ranges in the eastern states have been expanded northward in the last two to three decades. In 1942, southern New Jersey was listed as the northernmost breeding limit, except for one record from Sussex County in northwestern New Jersey (A. D. Cruickshank, *Birds around New York City*, The American Museum of Natural History Handbook Series, no. 13, 1942; see p. 352). The first discovered breeding in northeastern New Jersey was in 1947 (Fry, *Linnaean News-letter*, 1: 3, 1947). In more recent years nestings in northern New Jersey, southern New York, and Connecticut have been reported in *Audubon Field Notes* as follows: 11: 393, 1957 (Green Village, Morris

County, New Jersey); 12: 400, 1958 (Millburn, Essex County, New Jersey); 13: 357, 1959 (Summit, Union County, New Jersey, and Bloomfield, Hartford County, Connecticut); 13: 421, 1959 (Westport, Fairfield County, Connecticut); 14: 372, 1960 (Tompkins Cove, Rockland County, New York); 14: 438, 1960 (West Park, Ulster County, New York); 15: 454, 1961 (Cruger's Island, Dutchess County, New York); and 17: 17, 1963 (Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut).

Despite this occupation of range to the west and north of Long Island, and contrary to the inclusion of Long Island in the breeding range of the species by the A.O.U. *Check-list of North American birds* (Fifth edit., 1957), no evidence of nesting on Long Island has previously been reported. This parallels the case of the Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*) which extended its range into southern and central New York and southern New England before gaining a foothold on Long Island. The titmouse is a relatively sedentary species which apparently found it difficult to cross either the waters bounding Long Island on the north and south or the New York City metropolitan area on the west. The gnatcatcher, however, is a migratory species which has occurred as a regular, although uncommon, spring migrant for years and no reason for its failure to nest sooner is obvious.

On 21 May 1963 two gnatcatchers were observed in my yard at Manorville, Suffolk County, New York. The following day they were carrying nesting material to a tall white oak (*Quercus alba*) about 30 feet (9 meters) in from the edge of a mature oak woods. On 23 and 24 May they were building and shaping a nest about 45 feet up in a triple upright crotch. On 26 May the birds were again at the nest but were not seen thereafter and apparently deserted.

On 24 May 1963 a second nest was found, by Dennis Puleston, Walter Terry, Alvin Smith, and me, at Noyack, also in Suffolk County and about 25 miles east of the first location. This nest was about 20 feet above ground on a small horizontal limb of a black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) in an overgrown clearing surrounded by large oak woods. The birds were apparently incubating, since one replaced the other on the nest. On 10 June, Puleston found the nest empty but, since it appeared to have been used by young, a successful breeding probably was accomplished.—GILBERT S. RAYNOR, *Manorville, Long Island, New York*.

**New records of Cattle Egrets in Perú.**—The Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) was first reported in Perú by Ken Stott, Jr. (*Condor*, 59: 143, 1957), who observed four individuals among feeding cattle on 22 October 1956 on the river Itaya near Iquitos in the Amazon basin. Jean Dorst (*Bull. Mus. Nat. d'Hist. Naturelle*, 2<sup>a</sup> Serie, Tome 33, N<sup>o</sup> 6, 1961) writes that he saw two Cattle Egrets on 27 November 1960 near Sandía, on the eastern slopes of the Andes near the Bolivian border at an altitude of about 6,800 feet (2,100 meters) above sea level. Subsequent records and observations for Perú are summarized below.

*Eastern side of the Andes.*—During a recent visit to the government Fishery Service's museum in Iquitos, Dr. Maria Koepcke, of the Museo Javier Prado, Lima, found two unlabelled specimens of Cattle Egrets and was told that they had been taken in "the Peruvian jungle" prior to May, 1960. Two records for the subtropical eastern Andean slopes were furnished by Ken Wright: three Cattle Egrets seen in the Utcubamba river valley in northern Perú at an altitude of about 5,200 feet (1,580 m) on 5 February 1964 and a flock of 52 feeding in a rice field near Bagua Grande on the same river, at 1,830 feet (555 m) of altitude on 7 February 1964.

*Andean highlands.*—On 26 October 1963 Drs. Hans-Wilhelm and Maria Koepcke observed a Cattle Egret at the Laguna de Huaypo, about 20 miles (32 km) north-