

on Sand Island in mid-December, 1956, but it is not clear to me whether they did or did not adjust for the 5 to 15 per cent egg loss normally expected in the first month of nesting.

Their data on nests would indicate 88,000 breeding birds on Eastern, the same as my assistants and I found six years later. Sand Island's population has been reduced from a minimum of 120,000 breeders in 1956-57 to 92,000 in 1962-63, a decrease of nearly one-fourth. If Rice and Kenyon did reduce their calculated number of nests by 25 per cent because of "unemployed" birds (I am not clear as to which islands they did this for) and if they failed to correct for nest mortality between 20 November and "mid-December" or "early December," and if it is true, as I think, that there are not this many "unemployed" birds in November and the first week of December, then the decrease over these years may have been nearer 50 than 25 per cent. It is surprising, however, that the decrease was not greater, in view of the government sponsored "control" programs, the human molestation of nesting birds, and the unauthorized disturbance of the habitat. The numbers present in 1962 may indicate a great resiliency of this population—the ability of these long-lived birds to "come back" after major catastrophes which have been suffered repeatedly on their restricted breeding grounds.

However, it is inadvisable to place too much weight on comparison of the censuses of two isolated years. For the past four years I have been keeping detailed records on a surveyed study plot on Eastern Island, and it is apparent that major fluctuations in breeding populations (20 to 50 per cent) may occur between successive years. In fact, it seems that breeding may be cyclic, although too few years are as yet included in the study for my co-workers and me to be certain.—HARVEY I. FISHER, *Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois*.

First specimen of the Long-tailed Jaeger from the northern Gulf coast.—L. E. Williams, Jr. (*Auk*, 82: 19-25, 1965), reports only two specimens and four sightings of the Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) from the Gulf of Mexico. One of the specimens was taken at Marco, Florida, in the winter of 1884, the other at Matanzas Bay, Cuba, on 29 November 1937. Of the sight records, two are for Florida, one for Texas, and one for Louisiana. The Louisiana sight record must be questioned since the original reference (*Aud. Field Notes*, 12: 361, 1958) contains no definite statement regarding the specific identification of the bird, which is referred to simply as a "jaeger with very white underparts and very long central tail feathers." H. B. Moore (*Bull. Marine Sci. Gulf and Caribbean*, 1: 1-14, 1951) mentions two additional sightings from the north-central Gulf of Mexico on 9 March and 6 April (year not given).

On 24 April 1965, we collected a Long-tailed Jaeger near the west jetty of Calcasieu Pass, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. This specimen represents the first definite record of the Long-tailed Jaeger in Louisiana, and is, moreover, the first specimen of this species to be taken in the Gulf of Mexico west of the peninsula of Florida. The jaeger was first observed sleeping on a sandbar approximately 500 yards from the shoreline. As we approached the bird, it became alert, and we collected it as it sprang into flight. The specimen is a light-phased female (ovary, 22 × 5 mm, largest ovum, 1 mm) and had brilliant blue-gray tarsi. The single central tail feather is only 13.5 mm longer than the other rectrices. The specimen has been deposited in the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology (no. 35513).—ANGELO W. PALMISANO, JR., *School of Forestry and Wildlife Management*, and SIDNEY A. GAUTHREUX, JR., *Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana*.