

## GENERAL NOTES

**Egg Weights of some Arctic Nesting Birds.**—During the early summer of 1940 the writer accompanied Mr. Lawrence I. Grinnell of Ithaca, New York, on a trip to Churchill, Manitoba, for the purpose of collecting data on certain birds and mammals of that region. Mr. John Cruttenden of Quincy, Illinois, was also at Churchill during part of our stay there, collecting a limited number of eggs of various species of birds. With his kind permission I recorded in grams the weights of certain of the sets which he secured, as follows.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia arctica pacifica*), two sets: 101.3, 100.4 and 93.4, 98.6 (average, 98.4), both taken on June 17 and partly incubated.

Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*), three sets: 9.4, 9.4, 9.9, June 17; 8.7, 8.9, 9, 9.3, June 18; and 9.9, 10, 10.3, June 21 (average, 9.5). A fourth egg of the third set was blown by mistake before being weighed. Stage of incubation of these sets not recorded.

Hudsonian Curlew (*Phaeopus hudsonicus*), one set: 42.4, 45.7, 46.6, 48 (average, 45.7), taken June 18, slightly incubated.

Least Sandpiper (*Pisobia minutilla*), three sets: 4.2, 5.4, 5.7, 5.7 and 5.6, 5.7, 6.2, taken June 17; and 4.7, 4.9, 5.1, 5.1, taken June 18. The lightest egg of the first mentioned clutch was cracked and therefore, omitting this one, the remaining ten average 5.4 grams. None were very far advanced in incubation.

Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus hendersoni*), one set of three about three days after completion of the clutch: 16.7, 17.3, 17.6 (average, 17.2), taken June 18. I personally collected and sexed the incubating bird, which proved to be a female.

Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*), one set: 10.4, 10.9, 10.9, 11 (average, 10.8), taken June 21 when slightly incubated.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Ereunetes pusillus*), two sets: 7.2, 7.2, 7.5, 7.6, taken June 17; and 6.7, 6.9, 7, 7.1, taken June 18 (average, 7.2). The former were incubated about one week, while the latter were fresh.

Northern Phalarope (*Lobipes lobatus*), two sets: 5.8, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.2, 6.2, 6.4, 6.5 (average, 6.3), both taken June 17 and stage of incubation not noted.

Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*), two sets: 16.9, 17.4 and 16.5, 17, 17.2 (average, 17), taken June 17. Both sets were slightly incubated.—RALPH S. PALMER, Ithaca, New York.

**Black Vulture and Red Fox Found in Unusual Association.**—On June 17, 1939, Mr. J. W. Webb, an employee of the Alabama Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, found an occupied den of the red fox (*Vulpes fulva*) in a large rocky outcrop about ten miles west of Auburn, Lee County, Alabama. While searching for other entrances to the fox den, he discovered a nest of the Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus atratus*) containing a nestling approximately a week old. The rocks, known locally as "Buzzard Rocks," have provided nesting sites for Black Vultures for years.

The nest was situated on a rock shelf overhung by a huge boulder, a location typical of Black Vulture nesting sites in this region. On being approached, the young bird paid little attention to the observer, neither attempting to hide in the deeper recesses of the pocket nor showing other evidences of fear. Judging from the size of the nestling and the fact that it exhibited no fear, it was estimated to be from four to eight days old. Young Black Vultures over a week old almost invariably display fear and defiance when their nest is visited for the first time.

Under the rocky slab was a large crevice extending directly beneath the nest and continuing an undetermined distance into the outcrop, gradually narrowing to a passage about 12 inches in diameter. Just back of the nest the slab ended,



Palmer, Ralph S. 1940. "Egg Weights of Some Arctic Nesting Birds." *The Wilson bulletin* 52(4), 278–278.

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