

ORNITHOLOGICAL REPORT FOR NORFOLK FOR 1930.

BY

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In compiling this report on the birds of Norfolk for the year 1930, I have again to thank a number of observers who have kindly allowed me to make use of their notes.

As regards weather, the chief features of the year were the absence of severe frosts at either end, the violent gales which occurred in January, the spell of fine, dry weather throughout June and the first half of July, the exceptionally wet autumn, and the prevalence of fogs during December.

SPRING MIGRATION.

There is little of special interest to record with regard to the Spring Migration, but as little is known of the migratory movements of birds off the coast of Norfolk at this season of the year, and that little is extremely puzzling, it may be of interest to record the following notes made by Messrs. W. S. and S. G. Sharman, who, during the spring of 1930, were both stationed at the E. Dudgeon Light-vessel, which lies 21 miles N.N.E. of Blakeney:—

February 24th and 26th, 28th.—Sky-Larks and Starlings flying W. to E. and W.N.W. to E.S.E.

March 5th.—Rooks travelling W.N.W. to E.S.E.

March 6th, 7th, 8th and 22nd.—Sky-Larks and Starlings travelling W. to E.

March 29th, 30th and 31st.—Chaffinches travelling N.N.E. to S.S.W. Rooks N.E. to S.W. one day.

April 3rd.—Rooks, Chaffinches and Meadow-Pipits flying N.E. to S.W. Several Chaffinches and Pipits settled.

April 4th.—Two Wheatears settled and flew off to W.N.W.

April 8th.—Two flocks of Chaffinches flying N.N.E. to S.S.W. Willow-Wren settled and flew away to W.

April 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th.—Chaffinches every day travelling from N.N.E., N.E. and E. to S.S.W., S.W. and W. Several Meadow-Pipits and Starlings settled and all flew away to S.W.

May 22nd.—Several "Flycatchers" and Wheatears on board. Flew off to W.

June 3rd.—Two Turtle-Doves settled.

June 4th.—Four Turtle-Doves settled.

A spring passage of the North Sea from E. to W. is understandable in the case of certain species of birds, but a passage

from N.N.E. to S.S.W., and N.E. to S.W., as recorded under several dates in the above notes, is exceedingly difficult to explain.

That this movement regularly takes place is shown by the number of records of its occurrence—it has been observed annually for four years at the E. Dudgeon—and it is to be hoped that further knowledge may in time reveal its significance.

As regards the passage in the opposite direction, *i.e.*, from W. and W.N.W. to E. and E.S.E., it is to be noted that birds passing the E. Dudgeon travelling in this direction may be presumed to have taken their departure from the Lincolnshire coast.

AUTUMN MIGRATION.

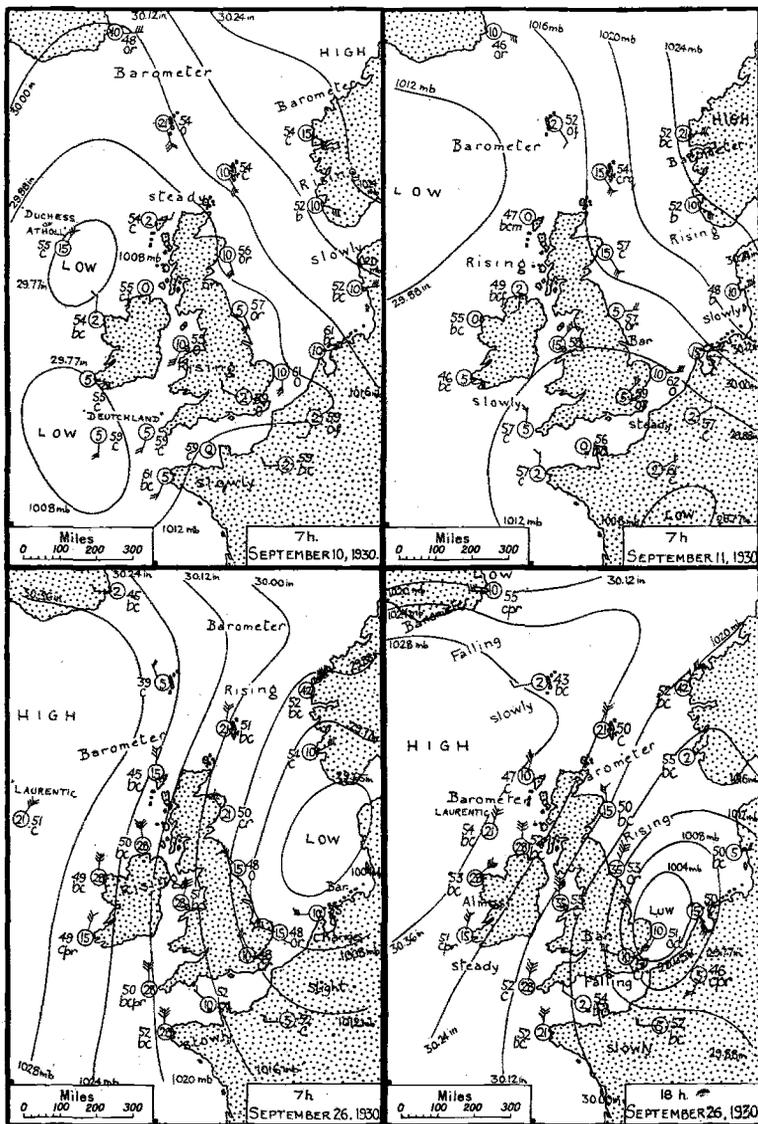
Thanks to the number of good observers who were present on our coast during the autumn some interesting notes of the autumn migration were made, and the two big "rushes" which occurred between September 10th and 13th and on September 27th and 28th were recorded in some detail. If only an equal number of observers could be persuaded to frequent the coast-line in the early spring, some of the problems of the spring migration referred to above might be brought a step further towards solution!

The "Waders," as usual, formed the vanguard of the autumn immigrants. A passage of Lapwings from E. to W. along the northern coast-line, continuing throughout the day, was noted on July 1st and 2nd by Mr. D. L. Lack, who also reported a considerable arrival of Waders, particularly Dunlin, at Salthouse and Cley on July 5th.

On August 18th a single Cuckoo was seen to fly in from the sea at Blakeney Point, and on the 20th a great E. to W. passage of Swifts was noted also at Blakeney, the birds passing on a broad front, both overland and far out to sea, during most of the day (D. L. Lack).

The earliest Passerine immigration reported was on August 25th, when Mr. Lack noted a considerable arrival of Wheat-ears and Willow-Warblers, together with a few Whitethroats, Garden-Warblers, Whinchats and Redstarts, on Cley beach.

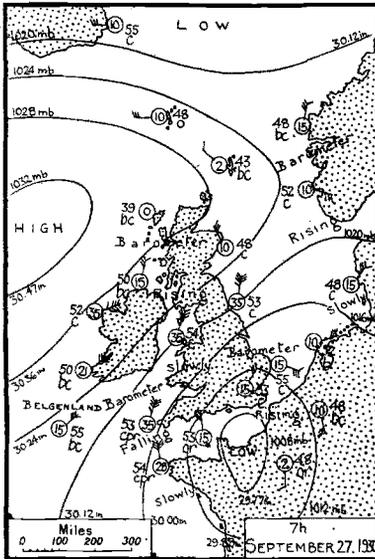
The first big Passerine rush occurred on September 11th—with probably fresh arrivals on the 12th and 13th. The majority of these migrants appear to have crossed the North Sea on the night of September 10th, and they remained on the coast-line until the 13th, when the wind changing from N.E. to S.W., most of them moved on.



Upper :
Weather Chart, Sept. 10th.
Lower :
Weather Chart, morning of
Sept. 26th.

Upper :
Weather Chart, Sept. 11th.
Lower :
Weather Chart, evening of
Sept. 26th.

Working the *Sueda* bushes along Cley beach on September 11th, 12th and 13th, Col. W. A. Payn identified the following species: Willow-Warbler (very large numbers), Redstart (hundreds), Wheatear, Blackcap, Garden-Warbler, Common Whitethroat, Lesser Whitethroat, Bluethroat (about a dozen identified), Pied Flycatcher, Goldcrest, Ortolan Bunting (one), Reed-Bunting, Tree-Pipit, Meadow-Pipit, Hedge-Sparrow, and Wryneck (several).



Weather Chart, morning of Sept. 27th.

other small birds being noted between September 10th and 13th, while on the 13th a Bluethroat settled on the ship and after a short rest flew off to W.S.W. (W. S. Sharman).

The weather chart on September 10th, on which this migration started, shows an anticyclone over Scandinavia and a depression situated over the centre of Britain and extending to the Netherlands. On the following day, September 11th, the high pressure area had spread south, with a rising barometer, over the North Sea and the British Isles. On the Norfolk coast the wind was from N.E. and E. on the 11th and 12th, but changed to S. and S.W. on the evening of the 13th.

The second "rush" took place during the night of September 26th, and appears to have continued, though in lessening numbers, over the 27th and 28th.

Mrs. Brindley, who was watching birds at W. Runton, noted the appearance of large numbers of Willow-Warblers, Redstarts and Wheatears on September 11th, the majority of the Wheatears having arrived, it would appear, between eight and nine in the morning. Most of these birds had moved on by September 14th.

At Scolt Head a similar arrival was observed by Dr. S. H. Long.

At the E. Dudgeon Light-ship, 21 miles off the coast, this immigration was equally in evidence, a "rush" of Willow-Warblers, Redstarts, Wheatears and

At Bacton, where I was shooting on the morning of the 27th, the coastal hedges and rootfields were alive with Wheatears and Redstarts, while a number of Robins and Goldcrests, one Ring-Ouzel and a flock of Snow-Buntings were met with during the day. On the 28th I motored along the coast from Mundesley to Horsey, and during the whole journey Wheatears and Redstarts were to be seen beside the road. On Cley beach on the 27th Col. W. A. Payn identified Redstarts (great numbers), Wheatears (great numbers), Robins (great numbers), Chiffchaffs, Goldcrests, Bluethroats (in larger numbers than during the previous immigration), Garden-Warblers, Lesser Whitethroats, Blackcaps, Pied Flycatchers, Meadow-Pipits, Reed-Buntings, Snow-Buntings, Siskin (one), Brambling (one), Redwings, Song-Thrushes, Blackbirds, Short-eared Owl (one), and Woodcocks (two).

On the same day, among other migrants, Mr. H. F. Witherby watched a flock of 25 to 30 Siskins at Hickling.

At W. Runton, on the same day, Mrs. Brindley noted a great influx of Redstarts and a considerable number of Robins, two of which latter were seen to come in from the sea at mid-day and settle on the cliff edge.

Wheatears were seen by the same observer coming in from the sea from a northerly direction during the morning, until by mid-day 150 were estimated to be on one small ploughed field of about three acres.

On the morning of the 28th Mrs. Brindley again watched Wheatears coming in at W. Runton, while several were also seen to take their departure, after rising high in the air, inland to the S. and S.W. The majority of these small migrants had disappeared by the 29th. With this host of small birds arrived some exceptionally early Hooded Crows. I saw two at Mundesley on September 28th, and five or six were seen at Hickling the same day (J. Vincent). Redwings and Woodcocks were also in advance of their usual date of arrival. Both species were met with by Col. Payn on Cley beach on the 27th, and Redwings were seen by Mr. Vincent at Hickling and by myself at Mundesley on the 28th.

A study of the meteorological conditions under which this great immigration took place is, I think, of considerable interest in view of the generally accepted view that migratory movements are commenced under anticyclonic conditions at the point of departure. On September 26th, on the night of which the main body of migrants crossed the North Sea, the weather chart at 7 a.m. shows a low pressure area over the North Sea extending to the coasts of Norway, Denmark and the Netherlands, with the barometer falling over the

Netherlands and Northern France, but rising slowly over the British Isles.

At 7 p.m. the depression had moved further south and was situated between, and included, the coasts of Norfolk and the Netherlands, while the barometer was rising slowly over the North Sea. It will be seen, therefore, that although these migrants started with a rising glass, anticyclonic conditions had by no means become established at the point of departure, and the weather certainly appeared to be still unfavourable. On the Norfolk coast it was a pitch black night with no moon. A strong wind was blowing from the N.E. with occasional gusts of almost gale force, while torrents of rain fell during the night, and it is a matter for wonder how such small birds as Chiffchaffs, Goldcrests and Redstarts were able to accomplish the sea passage under such conditions.

A remarkable apparent immigration of Hedge-Sparrows was observed by Mrs. Brindley at W. Runton on September 16th, 19th and 22nd, on each of which days, in the early morning, the hedges on the cliffs were found to be full of these birds. On the 16th Mrs. Brindley counted 15 together in one place, 12 in another and 8 in a third. Upon each occasion small flocks were seen during the morning to rise in the air and fly away inland to the S. and S.W.

A great E. to W. passage of Lapwings was noted by Col. Payn at Cley on September 22nd, and almost continuously throughout the day on the 23rd and 24th (T.A.C., *Field*, December 20th, 1930, p. 879), while they were also seen passing a boat near Dogger Bank on the 23rd (*id.*, *ib.*).

A large arrival of Rock-Pipits took place on October 19th. Mr. D. L. Lack, who was on Scolt Head, tells me that the island was "alive" with them. Some 60 were flushed and identified, while several were seen to come in from the sea, some of which passed on inland to the S.W.

My latest notes of the autumn migration are from Mr. S. G. Sharman at the E. Dudgeon Light-ship, and are as follows:—
November 16th.—Starlings and Blackbirds at night. Left to W. in the morning.

November 17th.—Woodcock killed at lantern during the night.

November 18th.—Large arrival of Starlings and Blackbirds from E.N.E.

November 19th.—Five flocks, of about 100 each, of Lapwings travelling E.N.E. to W.S.W.

November 20th.—Blackbirds and Starlings in smaller numbers flying E.N.E. to W.S.W.

November 24th.—Three Redwings killed at lantern during the night.

November 27th.—Large flock of Starlings passing W.N.W.

CLASSIFIED NOTES.

NUTCRACKER (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*).—Mr. Guy Davey tells me that on October 6th he had a clear and unmistakable view of a Nutcracker at Letheringsett, but in spite of several people being on the look-out for it, it was not seen again.

STARLING (*Sturnus v. vulgaris*).—One ringed at Hemsby on February 26th, 1929, was reported from near Tilsit, east Prussia, in October, 1930.

LINNET (*Carduelis c. cannabina*).—An unusually late clutch of slightly incubated Linnet's eggs was found by Mr. G. S. B. Long at Ringwood on August 17th.

CROSSBILL (*Loxia c. curvirostra*).—On April 25th a female and two males, one of which was singing, were seen in a belt of fir trees between Harleston and Bungay (P. Hogg). This record suggests the possibility of a pair or two having nested in the locality, which is far outside the normal breeding area.

On July 17th a Crossbill was picked up dead at Rollesby, near the coast (E. C. Saunders), while Mr. A. H. Patterson reports that during the same month four were caught on a fishing boat "150 miles off Heligoland" (*Eastern Daily Press*, July 31st, 1930).

ORTOLAN BUNTING (*Emberiza hortulana*).—One was identified by Col. W. A. Payn on Cley beach during the great migratory "rush" of September 11th.

MEADOW-PIPIT (*Anthus pratensis*).—One ringed as a young bird at Cley on May 21st, 1930, was reported from Basses Pyrénées on October 6th of the same year.

BLUE TITMOUSE (*Parus cæruleus* ? subspecies).—In view of the scarcity of records of the Continental Blue Titmouse in Britain, it is perhaps worth recording that on September 10th a Blue Tit settled on the E. Dudgeon Light-ship, and after a short rest flew off in a westerly direction (W. S. Sharman).

GREAT GREY SHRIKE (*Lanius e. excubitor*).—One was seen at Waxham by Miss E. L. Turner on October 2nd.

CHIFFCHAFF (*Phylloscopus collybita*).—Mr. R. M. Garnett states that he saw a very late bird near Weybourne on November 6th (*Field*, November 29th, 1930, p. 782). One was also identified by Mr. Garnett in the same locality on November 26th, 1929.

WOOD-WARBLER (*Phylloscopus s. sibilatrix*).—Mr. N. Tracy tells me that he located two pairs breeding at S. Wootton, and two pairs at Snettisham in 1930.

FIELDFARE (*Turdus pilaris*).—A rather unusually late spring passage of Fieldfares was noted, flocks being seen at

Kelling on May 7th (R. M. Garnett) and at Hickling on May 8th (S. H. Long).

BLACKBIRD (*Turdus m. merula*).—A Blackbird ringed at Helligoland (No. 81764) on October 25th, 1930, was recovered at Rollesby on January 26th, 1931 (H. F. Witherby *in litt*).

REDSTART (*Phœnicurus ph. phœnicurus*).—Mr. N. Tracy tells me that six pairs of Redstarts, two of which reared second broods, bred in his wood at S. Wootton in 1930. I heard of no nests on the eastern side of the county.

NORWEGIAN BLUETHROAT (*Luscinia s. gætkæi*).—An unusually large number of Bluethroats, presumably of this form, arrived during the two great "rushes" of small Passerine migrants which occurred between September 11th and 13th and on September 27th and 28th. About a dozen were seen by Col. W. A. Payn on Cley beach on September 11th, 12th and 13th, and still larger numbers on the 27th. On September 13th one settled on the E. Dudgeon Light-ship (W. S. Sharman).

WHITE-SPOTTED BLUETHROAT (*Luscinia s. cyanecula*).—As already reported (*Brit. Birds*, Vol. XXIII., p. 339) a male White-Spotted Bluethroat was seen and identified by Mr. R. M. Garnett at Salthouse on April 7th and 8th. This species has never previously been recorded in the county, but as the bird was under observation for a prolonged period at close quarters there can be little doubt as to the correctness of Mr. Garnett's identification, and he is to be congratulated on this interesting record.

SWALLOW and MARTIN (*Hirundo r. rustica* and *Delichon u. urbica*).—A competition was organized this year by the *Eastern Daily Press*, with an offer of two prizes, one for the greatest number of occupied House-Martins' nests upon any single building in the county, and one for the largest number of occupied Swallows' nests on any farmstead or homestead. Dr. S. H. Long, who was deputed to make the awards, received the returns in the last week of June. These were 135 in number, and gave a total of 3,019 nests, of which, after inspecting a considerable number, Dr. Long estimated that no more than 200 were Swallows'. The largest number of House-Martins' nests were found under the eaves of Newfound Farm, Cringleford, and numbered 105, while the highest total of those of the Swallow was 34, these being situated in some old farm buildings at South Raynham (S. H. Long).

Two late House-Martins were seen at Bacton by Mr. R. C. Bell on November 10th, and one at Hemsby on November 23rd by Miss J. Ferrier.

ALPINE SWIFT (*Apus m. melba*).—As already reported, one was seen near Hunstanton on September 25th (P. H. Ball, *Field*, November 8th, 1930).

KINGFISHER (*Alcedo a. ispida*).—One was caught at the Lynn Well Light-ship, at the mouth of the Wash, on April 4th (W. S. Sharman).

NORTHERN GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER (*Dryobates m. major*).—A considerable immigration of Great Spotted Woodpeckers seems to have occurred during the late autumn of 1929, and they were unusually abundant in the neighbourhood of Yarmouth during the winter (A. H. Patterson). A female sent to me by Mr. E. C. Saunders, which was killed at Horsey on January 6th, 1930, proved to be a typical example of the northern form.

SHORT-EARED OWL (*Asio f. flammeus*).—Two pairs nested in the Broads district and both reared broods (J. Vincent).

MARSH-HARRIER (*Circus æ. æruginosus*).—One pair nested in the usual locality. The male arrived on April 5th and the female on April 10th. The first egg was laid on May 10th and on the 24th there were six eggs. From these, five young ones hatched, of which one died and four reached maturity. The incubation-period in this case appears to have been thirty-three days (*cf.* J. Vincent, *antea*, p. 80).

MONTAGU'S HARRIER (*Circus pygærgus*).—Some five or six pairs were present in their favourite haunt during the summer, the first birds arriving on April 23rd. As already reported, one of the nests contained eventually a clutch of ten eggs, all of which Mr. J. Vincent is convinced were laid by the same bird. This nest was unfortunately robbed (*cf.* J. Vincent, *antea*, p. 81).

A young one, ringed at Hickling on June 24th, 1930, was reported from Lagarde (Cantal), France, on September 21st.

HEN-HARRIER (*Circus c. cyaneus*).—A male was seen on March 5th, and two females or possibly immature males on November 9th, at Cley (R. M. Garnett, *Field*, November 29th, 1930, p. 782).

HONEY-BUZZARD (*Pernis a. apivorus*).—An immature bird was trapped at Rollesby on September 16th (E. C. Saunders).

OSPREY (*Pandion h. haliaëtus*).—On May 24th an Osprey was shot near Stradsett (Sir W. Bagge), while during the autumn, as already reported in *British Birds* and *The Field*, an unusually large immigration of these birds took place.

On September 13th one, now in the Norwich Museum, was shot near Harleston. On September 17th one was caught on board a fishing boat and brought into Yarmouth. During the latter half of September and first week of October one

frequented Hickling Broad (J. Vincent). On September 20th one was seen over Rockland Broad (E. A. R. Ennison). From October 12th to 22nd one was watched almost daily by Miss M. Barclay at Gunton Lake, while the last one reported to me was seen near Holt by Mr. M. Meiklejohn on October 27th.

WHITE STORK (*Ciconia c. ciconia*).—A bird, identified as a White Stork, was seen to arrive from the sea at Eccles by Mr. Le G. Clark on May 10th (J. Vincent).

SPOONBILL (*Platalea l. leucorodia*).—At Cley and Salthouse Marshes the first Spoonbill reported to me was one seen by Mr. E. Bird on April 8th. Single birds were also seen on these marshes on April 10th, May 12th, May 22nd and June 20th (R. M. Garnett, *Field*, November 29th, 1930, p. 782).

BITTERN (*Botaurus s. stellaris*).—Mr. Vincent reports an improvement in the number of Bitterns nesting in the Hickling and Horsey area after the decrease noted last year as a result of the severe February frost.

[**FLAMINGO** (*Phaenicopterus r. antiquorum*).—On August 6th and again on August 10th, a Flamingo was seen on Breydon. From about this date until November 19th or 20th one was frequently seen on the Wells marshes (G.T.C., *Eastern Daily Press*, November 26th, 1930). On November 23rd one was seen on the coast between Winterton and Hemsby in the morning, and on Bacton beach in the afternoon, and on November 25th one, probably the same bird, was found injured on Overstrand beach and destroyed (*t.c.*, November 25th and 26th, 1930). A Flamingo which had been found in an exhausted condition near Yarmouth three years before, and had since been kept unpinioned in his garden by Mr. Powell of Lowestoft, escaped early in August of this year (J.K., *t.c.*, August 11th, 1930) and it is possible that this was the bird seen on Breydon. The specimen killed at Overstrand appears, however, not to have been Mr. Powell's bird as might have been assumed, for Mr. F. C. Ratcliff, who examined it after death, tells me that this bird had both wings clipped, whereas Mr. Powell's was full-winged. From whence the Overstrand bird escaped has not been ascertained.]

WHOOPEE SWAN (*Cygnus cygnus*).—Whoopers appear to have put in an appearance unusually early this year, and Capt. H. J. Cator tells me that he saw a herd of twelve at Ranworth on October 28th.

MALLARD (*Anas p. platyrhyncha*).—Attention must be drawn here to a number of interesting records of Mallards ringed at Hickling in March, 1930, and reported from Denmark, Sweden and Germany in the late summer and autumn of the same year (*cf. antea*, p. 187). A further recovery, Mr.

Witherby informs me, has been reported from Kurland, Latvia, where one of these birds was found on July 20th, 1930.

GARGANEY (*Anas querquedula*).—Garganeys were again numerous in 1930, and this beautiful little duck bids fair to become as abundant again in Norfolk as it appears to have been during the last century. For many years, prior to 1928, it was exceedingly scarce, only two or three pairs breeding each year in one small area of Broadland. In 1928, possibly owing to the formation by Capt. H. J. Cator of an extensive area of flooded marshes at Ranworth, a large increase in the number of breeding pairs took place, and this increase has been maintained each year since. Hickling and Ranworth are its principal strongholds, but a pair or two have for the past three years nested annually at Cley.

I learn from Capt. Cator that a female was shot when fighting at Ranworth on December 12th. The only other winter record I know of is one which was killed at Martham on December 9th, 1915 (Gurney, *Zoologist*, 1916, p. 265).

LONG-TAILED DUCK (*Clangula hyemalis*).—It is perhaps worth recording that on January 27th—during very mild weather—two adult drakes were shot at Burnham (F. E. Gunn).

RED-NECKED, SLAVONIAN, AND BLACK-NECKED GREBES.—On May 16th a Red-necked Grebe (*P. griseigena*), which appeared to be in full summer plumage, was seen close inshore off Blakeney (M. Barclay). On September 28th a Slavonian Grebe (*P. auritus*) was seen in Heigham Sound (J. Vincent). On May 2nd a Black-necked Grebe (*P. nigricollis*) was seen at Hickling (J. Vincent) and on November 23rd one on some flood water near Dereham (M. Barclay).

NORTHERN GOLDEN PLOVER (*Charadrius a. altifrons*).—As reported, *antea*, p. 72, a Northern Golden Plover which had been ringed for Mr. P. Skovgaard in Iceland on July 4th, 1928, was recovered near King's Lynn on February 3rd, 1930.

RUFF (*Philomachus pugnax*).—A single Ruff was seen by Mr. D. L. Lack on Cley Marsh on July 5th, an unusually early date.

LITTLE STINT (*Calidris minuta*).—Spring records of this species are sufficiently scarce to warrant recording one seen by Mr. C. W. Benson at Scolt Head on June 8th. During the autumn a fair number were present on the coast, and at Kelling on September 21st I watched a small party of five feeding within a few yards of me.

SPOTTED REDSHANK (*Tringa erythropus*).—One was seen on August 19th, and two on August 20th at Cley (R. M. Garnett).

On August 20th five were seen at Hickling (J. Vincent), and on August 27th and September 29th several at Wolferton (C. T. M. Plowright).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus lobatus*).—One was seen on Salthouse Broad on September 2nd (R. M. Garnett). Another—in juvenile plumage—frequented a small pond at Kelling from September 18th to 24th (R.M.G.). This bird, as is usual with this species, was absurdly tame, and on September 21st I was able to watch it busily feeding within a distance of a few yards.

AVOCET (*Recurvirostra avosetta*).—One was seen on the Bure Marshes on May 7th (A. H. Patterson). On December 9th an adult male was sent in to Yarmouth from a locality on the coast (E. C. Saunders). This bird was very emaciated and showed no signs of having been shot, and I understand that it was picked up dead. I know of only one other record for December, namely, one shot on Breydon on December 5th, 1926.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa l. lapponica*).—An adult male Bar-tailed Godwit, now in the Norwich Museum, which was shot on the coast in the third week of January, proved to be in rather an unusual and interesting condition of plumage, a large amount of the red plumage of summer having been retained on the neck, breast and under-parts. These red feathers were very much worn, and the bird had evidently failed to complete its autumn moult.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa l. limosa*).—Single birds were seen at Salthouse on July 16th (R. M. Garnett), August 18th (D. L. Lack), and August 23rd (R.M.G. and D.L.L.).

SANDWICH TERN (*Sterna s. sandvicensis*).—After an almost complete absence of three years the Sandwich Terns returned in force to Scolt Head this season, much to the satisfaction of Charles Chestney, our Scolt Head watcher. Dr. S. H. Long estimated the number of pairs breeding there at some 500, while not a single nest was found at Blakeney Point.

A considerable colony again nested on Salthouse Marsh, 313 young ones being ringed there on June 20th and 21st (R. M. Garnett).

Birds ringed at Salthouse, Scolt Head and Blakeney have been reported during the year from Norddorferstrand, Germany, Calvados and St. Valery-sur-Somme, France, south Portugal, Ivory Coast, west Africa and Port Elizabeth, South Africa (*cf. antea*, pp. 215-16).

ROSEATE TERN (*Sterna d. dougallii*).—Two pairs nested at Scolt Head this year, and both hatched off successfully

(C. Chestney). It is a curious fact that in Norfolk this species appears to follow the Sandwich Terns, and always to select for breeding purposes a colony in which the latter are nesting.

LITTLE GULL (*Larus minutus*).—From January 18th an immature bird frequented a small sheet of water at Weybourne for a week (R. M. Garnett, *Field*, November 29th, 1930, p. 782). It was unfortunately shot on the 25th, and is now in the Norwich Museum. Between May 19th and 27th another young bird was seen at Hickling (J. Vincent). On September 21st I watched an adult at Salthouse, and a few days later this bird was picked up dead.

COMMON GULL (*Larus canus*).—One ringed (Goteborg, 9667D.) at Hallands Väderö (Scania), south Sweden, as a young bird on June 30th, 1930, was reported from Holme on December 19th (J. F. Thomas).

SCANDINAVIAN LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (*Larus f. fuscus*).—Mr. D. L. Lack informs me that on August 18th he identified a specimen of this dark-backed race at Blakeney. Its mantle appeared to Mr. Lack to be even blacker than those of some Greater Black-backed Gulls with which it was in company, and this, together with its yellow legs, left no doubt as to its identity.

GLAUCOUS GULL (*Larus hyperboreus*).—On May 24th an immature Glaucous Gull was identified by two good observers, Messrs. C. Bird and E. Ramm, at Salthouse. On June 3rd one, probably the same bird, was seen in the same place by Col. E. Todd, who was able to compare its size with that of some Greater Black-backs with which it was in company. This is the first well-authenticated summer record of this species in Norfolk that I am aware of.

ICELAND GULL (*Larus leucopterus*).—One was identified by Mr. J. Vincent at Horsey on November 26th.

GREAT SKUA (*Stercorarius s. skua*).—One was seen on September 3rd and two on November 4th by Miss J. Ferrier at Scolt Head.

LITTLE AUK (*Alle alle*).—A few put in an appearance in November. Two were seen flying west at Cley on November 5th and one on November 13th (R. M. Garnett). On November 7th one was caught by a cat at Harleston some twenty miles inland (F. W. Maidment).

[CRANE (? species). On May 14th a Crane was seen by Major A. R. Buxton flying N. over Fritton Lake. On May 26th one was seen by Sir Hugh Beevor flying E. over Langmere, and about the middle of June one was seen by Mr. C. Gurney flying E. over Northrepps. To what species this bird or birds belonged could not be ascertained.]