

presumably only a small part of the total brought.—ESTHER (MRS. GEORGE) BYERS, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor*.

Frigate-bird, Oystercatcher, Upland Plover, and various terns on the coast of Tamaulipas, México.—While studying and collecting vertebrates in the State of Tamaulipas, México from February 15 to June 15, 1949, we made three brief trips to the coast. From April 27 to 29 we visited the Barra Trinidad region, 8 miles north of the village of Morón. We could not stay longer because of lack of fresh water there. On April 25 and May 2 we visited the beach at Miramar, near Tampico. On May 9, Robins and Heed visited the village of Tepehuaje, some 20 miles south of Pesca and 80 miles north of Tampico (see World Aeronautical Chart No. 589, Tamiahua Lagoon Sheet, village of Tepehuaje de Arriba). Our base-camp at that time was 10 miles northeast of Zamorina, and the trip to the coast meant a 25-mile jeep ride over oil-prospecting trails.

Some of the birds we encountered on the coast are of special interest either because they have never actually been reported from Tamaulipas or because no one has found them breeding there. One of the latter category, the Willet (*Catoprophorus semipalmatus*), George M. Sutton has already discussed (1950. *Condor*, 52: 135–136). The following also merit comment:

Frigate-bird, *Fregata magnificens*. Present in large numbers in the Barra Trinidad region. Most evident in the morning and in the evening dusk, when they did considerable soaring. During the afternoon they remained on the brush- and tree-covered shore of a large bar. They may have been nesting there, but we were unable to cross the lagoon to investigate. An immature male specimen taken at Tampico on April 23, 1923 (University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, No. 58976), has been identified by Pierce Brodtkorb as *F. m. rothschildi*. Friedmann, Griscom and Moore (1950. "Distributional Check-List of the Birds of México," *Pacific Coast Avif.* 29) do not list Tamaulipas among the states from which this species has been recorded.

Oystercatcher, *Haematopus ostralegus*. Robins and Heed saw three Oystercatchers on the beach near Tepehuaje in company with Wilson's Plovers (*Charadrius wilsonia*), Black-bellied Plovers (*S. squatarola*), Willets, Turnstones (*Arenaria interpres*), and Sanderlings (*Crocethia alba*). Friedmann, Griscom and Moore (*op. cit.*, p. 89) state that this species is "to be sought in the lagoons of northeastern Tamaulipas."

Upland Plover, *Bartramia longicauda*. One was frightened by the approaching jeep from a grassy woodland road near a small village between our Zamorina camp and the coast, May 10.

Sandwich Tern, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*. Robins and Heed clearly saw two of these terns on the beach near Tepehuaje in company with one Royal Tern (*T. maximus*), several Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*), and some Least Terns (*Sterna albifrons*). Near Barra Trinidad we saw ten Royal Terns on the beach and many more flying about the lagoon.

We wish to point out that, during the dry season at least, the coast from Pesca to Tampico is more easily accessible than is generally believed. At least one fishing company runs trucks regularly from Pesca to Tampico along a coastal route which we saw and used at Tepehuaje and, farther south, from El Sabino to Aldama.—C. RICHARD ROBINS, *Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*; PAUL S. MARTIN, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor*; and WILLIAM B. HEED, *University of Texas Department of Zoology, Austin*.

Unusual water birds in Rockbridge County, Virginia.—In three previous papers in *The Wilson Bulletin* (1935, 47: 59–67; 1937, 49: 48–49; 1940, 52: 280–281) I listed 61 forms of water birds recorded in this Virginia mountain county. Two of these were supposed races of the Black Duck, but since 'Red-legged Black Ducks' are now believed to be merely highly colored individuals, only *Anas rubripes* should be listed. This brings the list to 60 forms, as of December, 1940.