

400615-95

use all of the 1,000 metal bands but had 4 pairs of color locality band left over which means that there are 4 or 5 birds that have been registered with a metal band but not the colored ones. In comparing activity of gulls of this trip with trip of 6-10-40, a week ago, find that the young birds had matured considerable and a great majority of them were able to take care of themselves both in their ability to awkwardness by wading the adult birds and by defending themselves by 'pecking back'. Of course there were still many of an age inducive to effective attack by adult bird, many other nearing the size of the adult birds but still unable to use wing for flight. Very few eggs except a few unfertile one that still remained with young in nest and a few at the point of hatching. Did not see any indication of second sets. Surface of ground showing signs of trampling feet, obliteration of nests, general surfacing of excreta. One would never dream, as far as actual nesting material is concerned and except where bird is still incubating, that the island supported several thousand nest. Around some rocks will be found, a regular trail made on the ground indicating that young birds have continually tried to gain surface of rock to be with their parents. Territories being held ^{by the bird with} in all their vigor. Fewer dead birds (young). In handling several hundred young birds found several with broken wings, deformed legs and quite a few with head injuries from adult pecking. Also found that these young regurgitated more frequently in the morning hours than toward the middle of the day which would indicate that the birds are fed in the morning to a greater extent than in middle of day. The regurgitated material showed a predominance of earth worms with grasshoppers, Anabus simplex, Cherrus and small carabid beetles making up the rest of the diet. Many other articles of food were include in menu but the above seemed to be most prevalent. The more intimate contact with the birds and their regurgitation act seemed to impress one of the great amount of earthworm etc being fed. but probably in reality the amounts were about normal. It appears to be