

GENERAL NOTES

A Loon (*Gavia immer*) Caught on a Fishing Line.—November 17, 1918, Mr. Fred Lynn, of Branchport, caught a female Loon while trolling for bass in Lake Keuka. He had just felt his line ease up when the Loon broke water about a hundred feet behind and began to shake its head. At the same time he thought that he had a bite and began to pull in his line when he saw at once that he had "hooked" the Loon. It had swallowed the bait, a minnow, which was on a small Kinzie hook and in its struggles got tangled in the line and was landed with difficulty. As soon as it was landed in the boat it struggled and set up a great cry. It was impossible to dislodge the hook so Mr. Lynn cut the line as far down the Loon's neck as possible and gave the Loon to Mr. Albert Boyd who lived nearby. Mr. Boyd kept it just one day, then returned it to the lake. It dived at once and after coming up way out in the lake was last seen swimming rapidly away. Both Mr. Lynn and Mr. Boyd are well known to me and I vouch for the truth of the above.—VERDI BURTON, *Branchport, N. Y.*

Intestinal Cæca in the Anhinga.—Intestinal cæca in *Anhinga anhinga* seem subject in different individuals to variation in development, so that there has been some discrepancy and uncertainty in descriptions of them. In the following note is given a brief account of a few specimens that I have examined with some discussion of observations made by others.

In an immature male Anhinga, hatched in the National Zoological Gardens, that died when about six months old from the effects of an ill-advised meal of sand, I found two cæca, each about four mm. long. They were developed as small nodules partly embedded in the wall of the intestine, 125 mm. from the anus. While both cæca were well-formed, firm, and rounded, the one on the right side was slightly larger than the one on the left. From the inside these blind-guts appeared as shallow pockets in the intestinal wall with their inner, anterior margins somewhat thickened, more opaque in color than the surrounding tissue and perceptible as slight projections to the sense of touch. The right pocket was about one millimeter deep while the left one was slightly less.

The intestine (preserved in formalin) of another bird collected by Francis Harper in the Okefinokee Swamp had two cæca, one of which was represented merely by a slight, thickened ridge in the intestinal wall. A third specimen—an adult male that I killed in the mangrove swamps behind Cape Sable, Florida—when examined in the flesh had two cæca barely indicated as slight thickenings in the intestine that were almost imperceptible from the outside. The lower part of the intestine of this bird was placed in alcohol at the time but now shows no indication of the cæca even when examined minutely with the aid of a low power mag-