

**European Teal in North Carolina.**—The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has just received a fine adult male European Teal (*Nettion crecca*) shot on Currituck Sound, N. C., on December 7, 1926 by Mr. Charles M. B. Cadwalader.

This species seems to be decidedly rare in the United States but the small number of published records of its occurrence may be due to the fact that sportsmen do not distinguish it from the Green-winged Teal (*Nettion carolinense*.) A careful examination of the bags at the several ducking clubs might bring to light a number of specimens each year.

The European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) is much more easily distinguished from its American ally by the bright rusty head and no doubt for that reason we have many more records. Mr. Cadwalader obtained two adult males of this species on December 11 and an immature male on November 12 all at the same locality.—WHARTON HUBER, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia*.

**A Death Trap for Ducks.**—When I was on the Grand Cascapedia this summer I received information relative to a death trap for Ducks that had never come under my observation before.

Grand Cascapedia is a salmon stream which puts into the Bay of Chaleur from Bonaventure County, Quebec.

We have two kinds of Ducks there in the summertime—the Black Duck that breeds in the lagoons and sloughs and bog-holes, and I might say in passing that I saw fewer of them this year than for many years, and the Common Golden-eye which nests in trees. On the flats the large trees are elms, many of them hollow. These the Golden-eyes use. One year one was blown down in a storm, and a short time after a particularly pot-bellied *fontinalis* trout was caught by my son, and on opening it a little downy duckling was found.

But to my story. In May, 1926, Russell Campbell, a carpenter and builder of Grand Cascapedia found an elm tree that had been blown over, and on opening it found twenty-eight Ducks in it. His statement to me was "There was that many I was sure of, and there were others I could not count." One of my boatmen informed me that he went over to see this tree, and confirmed what Campbell told me. Campbell said this tree was an elm, that the trunk was about 38 inches in diameter and it was sound up for about 15 feet. Then it was hollow for about twenty feet, and the size of this hollow he said would average about 20 inches. The hole the Ducks used to enter by was nearly at the top of the hollow and was about five inches in diameter. Evidently this hollow elm tree had been a death trap for Ducks for a number of years. The depth of the hole probably prevented them finding their way out.

One of the salmon anglers told me not long ago that a Golden-eye Duck came down his chimney and as he had a screen over the fireplace it could not get out. Fortunately he discovered it in time to liberate it. I have Chimney Swifts do this same trick at my cottage down there fre-

quently. They get down so far they cannot find their way back, so I pull down the window shades and open the front door, remove the screen and out they will go where the light indicates the way.—W. B. MERSHON, *Saginaw, Mich.*

**An Unusual Flight of Snow Geese in the Lake Winnebago Area, Wisconsin.**—For the past few years both varieties of Snow Goose have been uncommon during migrations on Lake Winnebago. In the spring and fall, flocks seldom numbering more than one hundred birds, have been observed to remain for a brief period, but those vast hordes spoken of by early writers seemed to have disappeared until recently.

On November 1, 1926, while hunting Ducks on Lake Winnebago during a severe northeast snowstorm, I was attracted by a great swarm of birds coming in from the north. They at first appeared to be Ducks, but closer approach identified them as Snow Geese. Driven by the gale, they maintained no particular formation and appeared as part of the drifting snowstorm itself. The darker immature birds gave the flock a peculiar speckled appearance and great bunches of birds fairly filled the sky from the limit of vision down almost to the water's edge. There seemed to be countless numbers of them, and only one flock was observed to alight on the lake, all others maintaining a straight course to the south, and in half an hour all were gone.

It was impossible to determine whether they were the Greater or Lesser, but one specimen shot by a hunter and examined by the writer proved to be *Chen h. hyperboreus*.

Many of the old time hunters of the vicinity who were questioned as to their estimate of the number of birds, stated that they have seen nothing to equal it since the early days.—OWEN J. GROMME, *Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.*

**Peculiar Flight Action of the Great Blue Heron.**—The paragraph in the October 'Auk' "Unusual Actions of a Great Blue Heron," recalls to my mind a peculiar sight witnessed by myself and several others about two years ago in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

I noticed a Great Blue Heron rise in his clumsy way from the edge of a pond and start to fly by us in a more or less oblique direction. I love to watch these great birds get into the air and start on their flight after stretching their legs out behind and drawing their neck in until the head almost touches the body. I carefully watched this bird and although he placed his legs in the usual position for flying he did not draw in his neck in the usual manner. He flew on by with his head and neck extended and when he disappeared from our sight nearly a half a mile away, they were still in that unusual position. The place in question is much frequented by the young of the Little Blue Heron and during the past two or three years I have been very much amazed to notice several Egrets feeding with the other birds.—TALBOTT DENMEAD, *U. S. Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*