

While I have confidence in the points I have enumerated, I can only offer the observation for what it is: a sight record under unusually favorable conditions.—JAMES P. CHAPIN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York.*

Greater Snow Goose on Long Island, N. Y.—The Snow Goose (*Chen hyperboreus*) is such a rare bird along the Atlantic coast north of Delaware Bay, especially in Spring, that a summary of its recorded occurrences on Long Island, New York, and in the New York City region during the northward migration may be of interest.

Giraud, in his 'Birds of Long Island' (1844), says of "*Anser hyperboreus*:" "With us, the occurrence of this bird is not frequent. Occasionally the young are seen exposed for sale in the New York markets, though rarely the adult. In some seasons, small parties are seen on the South Bay, and now and then stragglers are seen flying in company with the Canada Geese." He does not state in which "seasons" they are seen. Braislin, in his 'List of the Birds of Long Island, New York,' (Abst. Proc. Linn. Soc. N. Y. Nos. 17-19, 1907), speaks of the Greater Snow Goose (*Chen hyperboreus nivalis*) as a "rare autumnal migrant" and mentions four autumn and winter records. Eaton, in 'Birds of New York' (1910) gives eleven records for the subspecies *nivalis* on Long Island, only one of these being in spring (Shelter Island, April 3, 1889. One male, Dutcher). He also speaks of Fisher's observation of several hundred birds, presumably of the same subspecies, on the Hudson River at Ossining, N. Y., April 8, 1882 (Bull. N. O. C., VII, p. 251).

On April 15, 1917, the writer had the unexpected pleasure of seeing a flock of at least twenty-five Snow Geese (subsp. ?) migrating northeastward over Long Beach, Nassau County, Long Island. The sight of these large white birds with black wing-tips against a background of alternating blue sky and dark strato-cumulus clouds rolling out of the northwest, combined with the high-pitched "honking" of the flock, left an impression which is still vivid in his memory after a lapse of twelve years. This record, and one by Mr. Roy Latham for Orient, April 17, 1919, are to be found in Griscom's 'Birds of the New York City Region' (1923) and constitute, apparently, the second and third (and, to date, the last) published spring records for the species on Long Island.

Recent observations of Snow Geese in the New York City region are as follows:—Messrs. T. Donald Carter and F. E. Watson saw a flock of thirty-seven flying north over the Jersey City Reservoir at Boonton, Morris County, N. J., April 6, 1924 (Auk, Vol. XLI, p. 472).

On April 11, 1926, Messrs. R. R. Coles and De L. F. Johnson found one individual on Long Island Sound off Sound Beach, Conn. (Auk, Vol. XLIII, p. 363). Mr. John R. Kuerzi has reported seeing one bird on Staten Island, N. Y., April 17, 1926, and Mr. Allan D. Cruickshank saw two flying up the Hudson River near Yonkers, N. Y., March 9, 1929. (These last two observations will be published in a forthcoming Abst. Proc. Linn. Soc. N. Y.).

Although the subspecies *nivalis* is supposed to be the one occurring on the Atlantic coast, two specimens of *C. h. hyperboreus* have been taken on Long Island and also one near Elizabeth, N. J. (Auk, Vol. XXXVIII, p. 120. Charles A. Urner),—all three in the month of October. Mr. G. A. Langelier, in 'The Auk' for January, 1929, p. 103, reports a bird he shot on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, in Quebec, on May 14, 1928, identified by Mr. Frederic H. Kennard as *C. h. hyperboreus*. This bird, presumably, migrated north along or near the Atlantic coast.—E. R. P. JANVRIN, M.D., 38 East 85th Street, New York City.

Migrating Ducks in the Valley of Virginia.—The 1929 spring migration of Ducks in Virginia, west of the Blue Ridge mountains, was of unusual interest. This mountainous region is not very attractive to Ducks. We have few large streams and no lakes of any size. Mallards and Black Ducks are regular fall and spring visitors in small numbers, and Blue-winged Teals and Lesser Scaups are nearly always seen in the migration periods. With these exceptions, there are only casual records of Ducks. This year a number of species occurred which have rarely been noted in this section. All of these herein reported, except the Baldpates, I saw on Cameron's Pond, a very small body of water two miles from Lexington, Va. Most of them were seen while in company with Mr. M. G. Lewis of Lexington.

The following species were observed:

Lophodytes cucullatus. HOODED MERGANSER.—Single females were seen on various dates from April 3 to 17.

Mareca americana. BALDPATE.—I saw a flock of seven on North River, near Lexington, March 11.

Spatula clypeata. SHOVELLER.—A male and two females on March 23; two males and five females on March 31; a single male on April 1 and 3. All very wild.

Nyroca americana. REDHEAD.—One male stayed on the pond from March 20 to April 6.

Nyroca collaris. RING-NECKED DUCK.—One male from March 18, joined by another male on March 31, and both stayed until April 6. The Redhead and the Ringnecks were always together. They were very tame and rarely took flight even on being closely approached. One rainy day I drove my car out in the open to the edge of the pond and watched them. I saw the same trio once on North River where automobiles were passing on a much-travelled road within less than a hundred yards of them without frightening them away.

Glaucionetta clangula americana. AMERICAN GOLDENEYE.—One found dead on March 18. Wing broken by shot. Had not been dead long, but was partially eaten by turtles. I saved the head, a wing, and the feet.

Charitonetta albeola. BUFFLEHEAD.—One female April 15 to 17, with an Old Squaw.

Clangula hyemalis. OLD-SQUAW.—One male from April 14 to 17. The