

pipers and five Western Sandpipers, the latter observed at close range while associating with Semi-palmated Sandpipers.—V. A. DEBES, 1209 Folsom Ave., Moore, Pa.

Egrets, and Little Blue Herons in Wisconsin.—To my knowledge there have been no authentic Wisconsin records of the Little Blue Heron since 1848. At that time Dr. P. R. Hoy collected one in Racine County and Thure Kumlein preserved the decomposed wing of another. The Egret (*Casmerodius egretta*) is reported as having been more or less common in the southern half of the state many years ago, but the last one observed was recorded by Professor Warner Taylor at Madison about 1925.

With the above facts in mind it was indeed interesting to learn on July 29 that four white birds of the Heron kind were observed at the Hustisford millpond. Investigation revealed them to be Little Blue Herons in the white plumage. I immediately published this fact in a state-wide newspaper, hoping that local sentiment thus created would react in the birds' favor. The result was that I had reports of the birds from many different localities, but so far none farther west of Milwaukee than Burlington, nor north of Pensaukee. Wherever possible I personally ran down all reports other than those from authentic sources.

At Burlington our informer took us to a roadside "pot hole," where we found two Egrets and four Little Blue Herons quietly feeding in company with Great Blue Herons, Green Herons, and American Bitterns. Suddenly all took wing but one Little Blue Heron whose attempt at a "take-off" ended in an awkward sprawl on the water. We released it from the vice-like grip of a small snapping turtle which had caught it by the foot. The bird was none the worse for its ordeal and was banded and liberated.

On the Fox river just south of Waukesha, Paul Jones took us to six Little Blue Herons and four Egrets. One Little Blue Heron was observed on Moose Lake, two on Lake Poygan, two at Pensaukee, three at Lake Winnebago, one at Big Muskego, and one was observed near the shore of Lake Michigan by Mr. Clarence Jung. Two of the Little Blue Herons that I collected proved to be males and two Egrets were females. It seems logical that this sudden influx or wandering northward, can either be attributed to a natural overflow from breeding grounds or to the devastating drought in southern states which has dried up many of the feeding areas. I find that most of the birds appeared about the middle of July. All of the Little Blue Herons observed were in the white plumage and none was in the intermediate stage. An unusual number of Wood Ducks have made their appearance in the Milwaukee area. In localities where they were formerly rare or at least quite uncommon they can now be numbered by dozens and in some cases hundreds. Mr. Jung and I first noticed this increase about the middle of May.—O. J. GROMME, *Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.*

The Sarus Crane of Falmouth, Mass.—The Sarus Crane on the Whittamore estate at Quissett, Falmouth, Mass., which was the remaining