

bird in North Carolina comes from the same locality. In Tom Branch of Orton Pond, June 7, 1898, Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson found the first nest to be discovered in the State. This nest contained four "much incubated eggs." Again in 1904 he observed the Water-Turkey on Orton Pond, but found no nests ('Birds of North Carolina,' Pearson, Brimley, Brimley; p. 46).—ROBERT P. ALLEN, *National Association of Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York, N. Y.*

Double-crested Cormorant in the Chicago Area.—On April 11, about 4:30 P. M., three Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus auritus*) were observed flying over a lagoon in Jackson Park, Chicago. The Cormorants flew over the lagoon in wide circles alighting temporarily in some trees along the lagoons, but were disturbed apparently by the heavy traffic on the automobile drives which encircle the lagoons. They finally gave up their attempts and flew away at dusk.—JAMES G. SUTHARD, *117 W. Austin Ave., Chicago.*

Rare Birds in Lancaster Co., Pa.—On April 19, 1931, I saw one Old Squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*) on the Conestoga River at Slackwater, Lancaster County.

On May 21, 1931, at Oregon Pond, Lancaster County, in company with C. L. Fasnacht and D. E. Adams, I got a very fine view of a mature female Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) in full summer plumage. This is the second record of this bird in the county, the first being that of May 3, 1893, by Dr. M. W. Raub.

On May 23, 1931, at Oregon Pond I saw a flock of 25 or 30 Semipalmated Plover (*Aegialitis semipalmata*). Among them was one Red-backed Sandpiper (*Pelidna alpina sakhalina*). The Red-backed Sandpiper has not been seen in this county since 1869, when it was reported by Judge J. J. Libhart. This rare flock in the county was probably driven in by a storm the night before. The Semipalmated Sandpiper is more common in September than in the Spring, in Lancaster County.—W. STUART CRAMER, *44 E. Orange St., Lancaster, Pa.*

American Egret in Connecticut.—An American Egret was observed by the writer on the shore of the Stamford Reservoir, near High Ridge, Connecticut, on August 1, 1931.—WILLIAM VOGT, *Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y.*

Yellow-crowned Night Heron in Ohio.—On the afternoon of April 25, 1931, Robert M. Bruce and I were watching migratory Ducks on the extensive marshes in the southwestern section of Wayne County, some seven miles southwest of Wooster, in the valley of the Killbuck. As we were penetrating a long strip of boggy woods our attention was attracted by a Heron which left the treetops overhead and flew to a large elm tree where it alighted on a horizontal limb, some distance from the ground but hardly more than twenty-five yards from where we stood. The

bird was immediately recognized as a Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) in adult plumage. Although the sun was obscured by clouds the hour was early and the light good, and as the trees at that date were still devoid of foliage an excellent view was obtained. The uniform heavy gray underparts and wings, the black and white head striping were noted, and with the aid of binoculars the pendant head plumes and yellow crown were plainly visible.

There is only one other published record of this species for the state, that of a breeding pair at Licking Reservoir in 1928.—JAMES BRUCE, *Wooster, Ohio*.

Abnormal Sets of Heron Eggs in Coastal South Carolina.—During banding operations carried on by Mr. E. Milby Burton and the writer amid the Heron rookeries of the low country of South Carolina, our interest has been aroused by the not infrequent finding of large sets of eggs in one particular colony. Some of these have already been recorded in 'The Auk,' (Vol. XLVI, 555 and Vol. XLVII, 576) both instances coming from a marshland rookery located near James Island, Charleston County, S. C. While banding in this same rookery during the current season, seven more abnormally large sets were found, six of six eggs and one of eight eggs; the owners of these nests were not actually seen on the eggs but Herons of three species were on the island, viz. Snowy, Louisiana and Little Blue.

It seems strange that this small island, about three or four acres in extent, should be the only rookery in the low country examined by us to exhibit these abnormally large sets. In the cypress swamp colonies this has never as yet been noted. If it is a result of two females using the same nest why is not this done in other localities? Only this salt marsh hammock has revealed such a habit, if habit it is.

One other nesting abnormality transpired during July 1931, in the finding on a bank in Stono Inlet, of a nest containing five eggs of the Black Skimmer (*Rynchops nigra*) and three eggs of the Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*).—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.*

Nesting of the Sandhill Crane in Calhoun County, Michigan.—On May 3, 1931 I visited the marsh in Convis Township, Calhoun County where the Sandhill Cranes (*Grus mexicana*) were found during the month of August, 1930. Here after many hours of wading among cat-tails and reeds I flushed two Cranes. They flew low, allowing an especially good view of their coloration, then alighting down in the swamp where their loud rolling call could be heard for some time. Soon one returned to a spot only about four rods from me where she walked along drooping her wings with a quivering motion as if to draw me away from a nest. A short search did not reveal the nest so I returned early on the morning of the 5th. Almost as soon as I appeared in sight, near where the birds had been two days before, a single bird rose in front of me and as before flew down the marsh uttering the peculiar call. It required only a short time