

GENERAL NOTES.

White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) in British Columbia.

—For many years these graceful birds have passed through central British Columbia on their annual migrations to and from their breeding grounds in the Chilcotin.

On May 7, 1926, a flock of two hundred rested overnight on the sandbar at the junction of the North and South Thompson Rivers opposite the city of Kamloops, continuing their northward flight early the following morning.

During the summer of 1931, when camped at Chezacut Lake, altitude 3250 ft., our party daily enjoyed the delightful sight of White Pelicans swimming about and feeding in the lake in front of the camp. Here they had an excellent choice of diet as Chezacut Lake abounds in rainbow-trout, squaw fish, suckers, and Rocky Mountain greyling. Often we watched the birds gliding through the lily pads and now and then making a quick thrust with their long beaks at some unsuspecting fish.

Enquiries elicited the information that a large breeding colony existed at "Pelican" Lake about sixty miles southeast of Chezacut Lake and later on the Indians told us that they had found Pelicans on lakes farther north while a rancher stated that he had seen pelicans nesting on Anahim Lake, but these reports require corroboration.

Generally four or five pelicans would arrive together and alight in different parts of the lake keeping a considerable distance apart as they seldom fished near one another. Feeding would be continued for several hours, sometimes for half a day or longer before they returned homeward.

We found the birds wary and they seldom allowed us to approach closer than one hundred to one hundred and fifty yards. An Indian found a dead pelican and brought it into camp. It proved to be a male weighing fourteen pounds, but was in very emaciated condition and badly infected with intestinal parasites.—KENNETH RACEY, *Vancouver, B. C.*

A Gannet in Delaware Co., Pa.—The recent occurrence of a Gannet (*Moris bassana*) at Glenolden, Pa., killed by a gunner on or about November 11, 1932, seems worthy of record inasmuch as the writers know of only one previous record for the state (*The Auk*, Vol. XLIII, pp. 363). When interviewed, the gunner stated that the bird flushed close by from the ground and flew directly at him! The next moment he was flat on his back, having been struck by the bird's bill. Regaining his feet and seeing the bird coming toward him again he took his shotgun apart, and using the barrel as a club, struck the bird on the head and killed it.

When asked why he did not shoot the bird, he replied, "I thought it was some kind of goose and didn't want to blow it to pieces!" The fact that the specimen, an immature, now in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, shows no evidence of being shot, but bears several

bruises, would appear to lend credence to the gunner's story.—MABEL B. AND JOHN A. GILLESPIE, *Glenolden, Pa.*

Great Blue Heron in Cuba: A Correction.—In my note on this subject (Auk, vol. 49, p. 457, October, 1932) I made an unaccountable mistake in giving the date of banding of No. 320371 as February 9, 1931. The correct date is July 18, 1931. Needless to say, the banding of a fledgling Great Blue Heron at Green Bay, Wisconsin, on February 9, would be a most remarkable ornithological feat!—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

American Egret in Western Virginia.—By the courtesy of Prof. Ralph Hostetter, of the Eastern Mennonite School of Harrisonburg, Va., I am able to report another occurrence of the American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) in the Valley of Virginia. This bird, a male, now in the museum of the school mentioned above, was shot near Dayton, Va., July 11, 1930. The man who killed it was prosecuted and fined, and the bird was confiscated.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia.*

American Egret Nesting in Delaware.—In a colony of Little Blue Herons located in middle Delaware several years ago I found this year (May 1932), a single nest of the American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*). The nest was in a cedar tree about twenty feet up and was larger than those of the Little Blues. There was a Black-crowned Night Heron's nest higher up in the same tree and egg shells from both nests were on the ground; those of the egret could easily be told by their larger size. When the nest was found the young were about a day old.

This is, I believe, the first record of the nesting of this bird in the state in recent years.—HERBERT BUCKALEW, *Milford, Delaware.*

Snowy Egret in Arkansas.—While collecting in Prairie Co., Arkansas, in July 1926, near De Vall Bluff, T. E. White, collected an adult egret, the skeleton of which has recently been identified by Dr. Alexander Wetmore as that of *Egretta thula thula*. This specimen is now No. 19177 of the museum collection.

W. J. Baerg (Birds of Arkansas, Jan. 1931) has listed the Snowy Egret as extinct within the limits of Arkansas. On the other hand, H. E. Wheeler (Birds of Arkansas, Dec. 1924) listed it as a summer resident, although quite rare. He supplies no dates as to when it was last collected or observed.—J. D. BLACK, *Museum of Birds and Mammals, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.*

The type of *Egretta brevipes*.—In 1862 Verreaux and Des Murs (Rev. Mag. Zool., p. 130) described this species from New Caledonia, but it has never again been found. It was listed as a doubtful and unidentifiable species by Marie (Actes Soc. Linn. Bordeaux, 1870, XXVII, p. 328), by Layard (1882, Ibis, p. 532) and by Sarasin (1913, Nova Caledonia,