

Early in the afternoon of December 30, 1932 at the east end of Hempstead Reservoir, we found, as usually of late, a fairly large assemblage of ducks and gulls. Farthest from us were many Blacks, a few Pintails and Widgeon and in the foreground about twenty teal, the latter up on the ice and perhaps not over 500 feet from us. Running our glasses over them we seemed to encounter simultaneously a bird which stood broadside to us and showed a broad light streak along the upper side—a conspicuous field-mark even at that distance and despite the relatively low visibility. A drake Green-winged Teal near it plainly showed his crescent in front of the wing; our bird though nearer showed no such character. As we watched it with rapidly mounting interest, it turned slowly around obligingly exposing its other side to our view and again we saw the conspicuous scapular stripe. Suspicions born at first glimpse were well founded—the bird was unquestionably a drake European Teal.

We continued to watch it for perhaps twenty minutes at almost every angle. The Green-wings near it gradually took wing and eventually the European bird left in company with a female teal of doubtful identity which had been associating with it on the ice. There seemed to be no sure method of distinguishing the European bird on the wing though curiously we shared a common impression that the bird's wing did in some degree differ from that of the Green-wing—seemingly in the amount of whitish coloration.

By January 15, 1933, the Green-wings had increased to upwards of forty and on that date Messrs. Farley, Herbert, Kassoy and Matuszewski found two drake European Teal. These two were present for weeks on the reservoir and were seen by everyone who went to the trouble to look for them. One bird remained until late in March.—JOHN AND RICHARD KUERZI, *New York City*.

Courtship of the Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*).—On the afternoon of March 17, 1933—a warm, springlike day which had brought up the March migrants in goodly numbers—as we neared the west bank of the Ox-bow at Northampton, we glimpsed a flash of white close behind the bushes that grew on its verge. Wriggling forward on all fours, we perceived at very close range two male “Fan-crests” wooing one female. They did not see us, but as if suspicious of danger moved gradually away from the bank: the average distance at which we observed them was perhaps forty yards, and we both had eight-power binoculars. The two suitors were rushing about the female but not endeavoring to show their legs as the American Merganser displays them. The action seemed due to energy not ostentation. Three markings seemed especially to be shown off: the narrow white lines on the inner rear wing-feathers, shown by turning first one side of the tail and then the other toward the female, not by opening the wings; the bars at the side of the forebreast, to show which the bird half rose up, again turning his right and left aspects alternately towards her; and of course pre-eminently the gleaming, black-tipped

crest. This, though continuously spread, was apparently opened yet wider by a forward and downward jerk of the head, like the flirt of a fan. It was then displayed by a side-to-side motion of the head, during which it was tipped backwards; and as the bill was thus elevated, it opened. At first we guessed this was to show color in the mouth, but we could see none and presently realized it was done to emit sound, for as the crest bent back and touched the shoulders the upward-opened bill uttered a double note, *car-currr*, the *currr* thrice as long as the *car* and much lower in pitch, with a softer R-sound. This vibratory, reverberant love-song greatly resembled that which might be expected from some distant, unrecognizable frog.

No combativeness accompanied this rivalry, nor did the female react in any way. Her relation in space to one of the males seemed to determine which of the three display-actions he performed: there was no regular sequence, save within the crest-show and this show, culminating in the song, was the most frequent. The males paid no attention to each other; yet the presence of two was probably essential, as we frequently in the next three weeks saw pairs of Hooded Mergansers by themselves, but never a sign of courtship.—AARON C. BAGG, *Holyoke, Mass.*, and SAMUEL A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Mass.*

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) at Chicago.—On the evening of June 21, 1933, I saw a pair of Turkey Buzzards circling over Chicago, coming from the southwest and flying towards the north, circling over Lincoln Park, until out of sight. This was the first time I have seen these birds over Chicago.—EUGENE R. PIKE, *6 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago.*

Partial albinism in *Cathartes aura septentrionalis*.—On July 16 more than seventy Turkey Vultures came to feast on a dead sheep near here. Among this number I saw one with the feathers of the outer third of both wings white. I managed to approach the bird fairly closely two or three times, so that I can be perfectly sure of its coloration.—GORDON W. JONES, *Wilderness, Virginia.*

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos canadensis*) in Louisiana.—In 'The Auk,' for July, 1933, p. 355, Mr. Ernest G. Holt wonders at "the strange omission of the Golden Eagle from 'Birds of Louisiana' (Bull. 20, La. Dept. of Conservation, 1931)."

In my editing this book for the Department of Conservation, at their request, no actual record of Golden Eagles having been taken in the state of Louisiana could be substantiated.

The late Prof. Geo. E. Beyer in discussing this bird with me told me that he had never found a record of the Golden Eagle having been taken in the state. A bird he thought was the Golden Eagle proved on further investigation to be an immature Bald Eagle, and this is the case with every report of the Golden Eagle taken within Louisiana that has come to my attention.

Mr. Holt goes on to mention "Two mounted specimens in the Louisiana