

rufescent phase of the Little Green Heron in Cuba. It may also be mentioned that the Great White Heron of the West Indies differs from the northern form in being smaller, just as does the West Indian Great Blue Heron from *A. h. wardi*.—JAMES BOND, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia*.

American Egret and Mississippi Kite in Douglas County, Kansas.—On August 8, 1934, the writer saw an American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) on the Kansas river three miles north of Lawrence. Although the bird was across the river, its large size, almost as large as the Great Blue Heron, was diagnostic. As long as I was moving the bird paid little attention to me, but when I sat down in some bushes to watch it, it immediately took wing and flew with slow wing strokes for about half a mile. When I followed, it flew again, and disappeared up the river. As far as I know, there is only one other record for the American Egret at Lawrence—one taken on August 15, 1872, and now in the museum collection.

An immature female Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) was shot by Fred Hastie at his home seven miles southwest of Lawrence, on August 22, 1934. It was sitting quietly in the dead branches of a tall cottonwood tree. This is the fourth record for Douglas County. There are several previous records: three taken on September 15 and 16, 1907 (Wetmore, *Condor*, Vol. 11, 1909. p. 157), one, on July 26, 1909 (Bunker and Rocklund) and a pair in the collection of Baker University, with a nest and eggs, taken near Baldwin, June 11, 1906. This is believed to be the northernmost breeding record for the species.—W. S. LONG, *Museum of Birds and Mammals, Lawrence, Kansas*.

First Occurrence of the Reddish Egret (*Dichromanassa r. rufesens*) in South Carolina.—On January 15, 1934, on his plantation "Mulberry," Cooper River, S. C., Mr. Clarence E. Chapman, of New York, saw two specimens of this species and watched them for forty minutes. Seated in a duck blind in one of his rice fields, Mr. Chapman studied every detail of the strangers, sometimes at a range of from fifteen to twenty feet. He knew what they were at once, and his vivid description of them leaves nothing to be desired. One was in the dark, and the other the light phase of plumage.

They were fishing, preening and resting, and finally disappeared into the saw-grass. Though realizing their rarity and with a gun in his hands at the time, Mr. Chapman did not attempt to take either. He was perfectly convinced of their identity and so is the writer. This is an addition to the avifauna of South Carolina.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R. F. D. No. 1, Charleston, S. C.*

Wood Ibis (*Tantalus loculator*) in Oklahoma.—On August 22, 1934, I saw a single Wood Ibis near Spiro, Oklahoma, headed for the Arkansas River. Next day James Priest and I found seven of the birds sitting on driftwood left on a sand bar. We observed them at rest and in flight through a small telescope. All appeared to be in immature plumage. Their white plumage, grayish fuscous head, large decurved bill, flight with extended neck, black primaries and secondaries and tail were all clearly seen.

The birds remained in the vicinity for at least five days and one was secured and photographs submitted to the editor of 'The Auk.'—DAN A. REDURNE, *Norman, Oklahoma*.

Notes on the Roseate Spoonbill on the Gulf Coast.—During his field work of last spring for the National Association of Audubon Societies the writer made a particular point of keeping an accurate count of Roseate Spoonbills observed. On

April 10-15, 1934, on the Gulf Coast of southwestern Florida, flocks of this species were seen at two locations: Alligator Bay and the Shark River Rookery. A total of 90 Spoonbills was counted, 64 on Alligator Bay, and two flocks totalling 26 birds flying over the rookery. No nests were observed in the Shark River Rookery, although it was reported in 1933 that four pairs nested there and 12 pairs in the Lane River Rookery nearby. It has been suggested that no large rookery of this species exists in Florida, but that the Spoonbills confine their nesting activities to small groups scattered among the heronries in the mangrove swamps.

From Galveston Bay to lower Laguna Madre, on the Texas Coast, Spoonbills were observed at seven locations and a total of 879 individuals was counted. The counts were made as follows: Vingt'un Island, Galveston Bay, 200; San Antonio Bay, 4; Second Chain-of-Islands, San Antonio Bay, 300; Aransas Bay, 200; Big Bird Island, Laguna Madre, 19; Flats north of the mouth of Arroyo Colorado, Laguna Madre, 100; Green Island, Laguna Madre, 56.

Vingt'un Island and the Second Chain-of-Islands are both nesting colonies, under guard of Audubon wardens. Other colonies may exist along the coast, but their location has not been fully determined.

A search was made for the Spoonbill colony formerly under guard in Cameron Parish, Louisiana, but it was not found this season.—ROBERT P. ALLEN, *National Association of Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York, N. Y.*

European Widgeon at Newport, R. I.—On November 4, 1934, I positively identified a pair of European Widgeons (*Mareca penelope*) at Gardiner's Pond, Middletown, R. I., associated with numerous Baldpates (*M. americana*). The drake was at once distinguished by his buffy crown and, as he came closer, I could see the dark buff of the lower head and neck. The patch of green about the eye was darker and not so regular in outline as in the Baldpate. The back and sides were gray, distinguishing the bird from the more chestnut Baldpate.

The female was of the same size as the female Baldpates but decidedly grayish in color, whereas the latter tend to brownish.

I also observed a Ringneck (*Nyroca collaris*) apparently a male and completely out of the eclipse plumage.—JOHN J. LYNCH, *13 Harrison Ave., Newport, R. I.*

A Blue Goose From Georgia.—An immature Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) collected November 1, 1934, about one mile east of Savannah, seems to be the first specimen from the state. The sight of this bird settles to my satisfaction the identity of a Goose seen in flight, in about the same locality, on November 4, 1931. The bluish-gray secondaries, which are quite prominent in flight, seem to distinguish this species from the immature White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), the only other Goose at all similar in color.

These two, with the sight record of three birds near the river mouth previously recorded (Auk, 1930, p. 577), apparently provide the only accounts of the species in the state.—IVAN R. TOMKINS, *U. S. Dredge Morgan, Savannah, Ga.*

The Incubation Period of the Black Vulture.—Burns (Wils. Bull., Vol. 33, June, 1921) lists the incubation period of the Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus atratus*) as thirty days. In 1933 Harry C. Monk and the writer kept a brooding bird of this species under observation near Nashville, Tennessee, for thirty-five days before hatching was completed. In a letter to the writer, H. O. Todd, Jr., of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, states that he also observed a thirty-five day incubation period. The nest watched by Todd contained two eggs on April 10, 1933, which hatched "in exactly five weeks."