

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."

The nest observed by Monk and the writer was first noted on May 20, 1933, the bird brooding two eggs in a hollow oak stub. On June 25 the stub contained a chick possibly a day old, and a pipped egg. It was not possible for the observers to visit the nest again until July 2, when it contained two lively young Vultures. There is little chance that the eggs were retarded in hatching by chilling, since the temperature of the region was high throughout the period of incubation. In the thick, close woods where the stub was located, the temperature frequently must have reached 100° F.

In a nest observed in 1932, two full days elapsed between the laying of the first and second eggs, and the bird brooded closely from the laying of the first.—COMP-
TON CROOK, *Dept. of Biology, Boone Training School, Boone, North Carolina.*

Bald Eagle Incubates Horned Owl's Egg.—On January 5, 1930, I flushed a Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*) from its nest, twenty feet up in a small pine. Climbing up to the nest I was surprised to find that it contained one fresh egg of the Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus virginianus*) and no eggs of the Eagle.

Revisiting the nest on January 19, with W. H. Nicholson, we again flushed the Eagle, and again there was only the Owl egg, by this time two weeks advanced in incubation.

The nest was on Merritts Island, Brevard County, Florida.—J. C. HOWELL, *Rollins College Museum, Winter Park, Florida.*

Note on the Breeding Range of the Black Pigeon Hawk.—Ornithologists apparently agree that the Black Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius suckleyi*) breeds somewhere in British Columbia. The A. O. U. 'Check-List' (1931, p. 76) tells us that it nests "apparently in western British Columbia and perhaps on Vancouver Island." Taverner (*Birds of Western Canada*, 1926, 209) calls it a "dark form of the west coast." Brooks and Swarth (*A Distributional List of the Birds of British Columbia, Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 17, 1925, 58*) say: "Presumably the summer habitat comprises the coastal region west of the Cascades and coast ranges on the mainland, the adjacent small islands, and Vancouver Island." To the best of the writer's knowledge, however, the nesting of the bird has not actually been demonstrated in the above-mentioned region.

During the spring of 1934 Mr. John B. Semple, of Sewickley, Pennsylvania, trustee of the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburgh, invited me to join his ornithological expedition to British Columbia. We were in the province for two months, centering our activities in the Comox (Vancouver Island), Barriere, Blue River, and Red Pass regions. One of our interesting captures was an exceedingly handsome, breeding male Black Pigeon Hawk, in rich, high plumage, taken on the evening of June 16, at the foot of a well forested mountain about three miles north of the town of Blue River. The gonads were considerably enlarged. Approaching darkness prohibited our making any extended search for the nest. The female was not seen. In the stomach were the remains of a Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*).¹

The town of Blue River is situated at the junction of the Blue and the North Thompson Rivers, far to the eastward of the Cascades and coastal ranges. Our capture of this breeding bird so far inland forces us to the belief that *suckleyi* is not restricted to the coastal region in summer, as has heretofore been supposed; and strengthens our conviction that the adult male taken by Taverner at Oliver, in the

¹ It is incredible that the exceedingly speedy Vaux's Swift is captured regularly by any bird of prey; this record must be considered exceptional until further data are obtained.