

Since 1930 the usual season has been from mid-July until late September. The earliest arrival date was established in 1938, with three observed on July 4; the latest departure date was in 1937, when for the first time the birds were recorded in October (through October 10, one day after duck-hunting season was opened). The counts have shown: 1930, ten, July 19 to September 20; 1931, five, early September only; 1932, one, September 1; 1933, twelve, July 9 to September 17; 1934, none; 1935, two, August 5 to 24; 1936, fourteen, July 20 to September 29; 1937, twenty-seven, July 9 to October 10; 1938, arrived July 4.

One immature Little Blue Heron (*Florida c. caerulea*) was observed by the writer at Crescent Lake on August 16, 1931; three, likewise immature, by Edgar Bedell on September 12, 1937.

Eaton ('Birds of New York,' 1908) lists no records for either species in Schenectady, Saratoga, Albany, or Rensselaer Counties.

Crescent Lake is that section of the Barge Canal (Mohawk River) extending from the Crescent dams to Lock 7, eleven miles to the west and a few miles east of Schenectady. The Crescent dams, which hold the Crescent Lake level at 184 feet, in less than two miles drop the canal to the Hudson River level of 48 feet at Cohoes. The Lock 7 dam, in turn, holds the water in the Niskayuna Lake section of the canalized river at a 211-foot level back through the Schenectady section to Lock 8, another distance of about eleven miles. In that section of Crescent Lake where the egrets are most commonly seen, the river has a maximum width of three-quarters of a mile, mostly of less than ten feet in depth, and with several small islands and large expanses of shallow, heavily grown marshes. For many years the lake has been known because of its water chestnut (*Trapa natans*), and in recent years large sections of the area have been choked, except in the canal channel and deep water, with this imported weed (intentionally introduced in Collins Lake, of the Niskayuna Lake section, in 1884). From early June until late October large areas of the river can be penetrated only with difficulty by boat, and each year has seen the weed extend its boundaries. The dense water-chestnut growth does, however, seem to attract fish, insects, and certain birds. Crescent Lake has a very irregular shore, with many bays and coves, mostly as marshes. It borders the abandoned, water-filled Erie Canal on the Saratoga County side, and has numerous small ponds adjoining it. For many years there has been a large colony of Black-crowned Night Herons on the Saratoga side, and it is in this heronry that most of the egrets seem to collect at night. Great Blue Herons are not known to breed in the immediate vicinity, but they are common summer visitors along the section. Green Herons, and American and Least Bitterns are local breeders, with the first mentioned relatively common.—GUY BARTLETT, *R. D. 1, Schenectady, New York.*

African Cattle Heron taken in British Guiana.—An Old World genus, not previously recorded in the western hemisphere, was added to the American fauna as an accidental visitant with the collecting of an African Cattle Heron, *Bubulcus i. ibis*, near Buxton, East Coast, British Guiana, by the writer on May 27, 1937. This specimen (F. M. no. 108,002) is an apparently adult female in modified nuptial plumage. The dorsal plumes are entirely lacking but the crest feathers and sparse pectoral plumes are typically sienna, although only vaguely tinged with vinous. The legs are yellowish, becoming dusky brownish on the feet. Measurements: wing, 244 mm.; tail, 93; culmen, 56. The bird was found feeding in company with scores of Snowy Egrets, Tricolored and Little Blue Herons in a partially submerged ricefield near the railway, about a mile east of Buxton, a native village on the coastal plain approximately eleven miles east of Georgetown. So far as could be observed,

the Cattle Heron was in no way directly associated with the native herons or antagonistic to them. An effort has been made to trace the origin of this individual, but without success. Officials and others questioned in British Guiana assure me that it could not have entered the Colony as a cagebird. One can only speculate upon the combination of natural factors which could have made possible the transatlantic passage of this African species.—EMMET R. BLAKE, *Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois.*

White-fronted Goose at Madison, Wisconsin.—On March 27, 1938, twenty of these geese (*Anser albifrons albifrons*) were found by Arthur Hawkins and the writer two miles south of Madison, standing on the edge of a small pond. About a third of them had the white frontlet well developed, while on the others it was inconspicuous, indicative of young birds. They did not fly until all had waded out and started to swim. When they took off they started first northeasterly, but after going some distance they turned and circled back over our heads, then headed toward the northwest, in which direction they held to a straight course until they disappeared from view. It seemed to us that they had returned in order to get their bearings. This is the first record for Dane County.—JOHN S. MAIN, *Madison, Wisconsin.*

European Widgeon at Louisville, Kentucky.—Due to sharp rises in the Ohio River, a rather large area of cornfields became flooded near Harrod's Creek, Jefferson County, Kentucky, about six miles east of the city of Louisville. This area was very attractive to migrating waterfowl and large numbers of them gathered here throughout the month of February. On February 22, 1939, three European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) were noted in company with American Pintail, Baldpate and Ring-necked Ducks. They were watched at a distance of about 100 yards with a 24-power binocular and a 30-power telescope in good light for about an hour. There were two males and what was apparently a female. The latter bird could not be positively identified. However, the two males, with their reddish heads and reddish-buff stripes, were unmistakable. These markings, together with the fact that they were with Baldpate which furnished a perfect comparison, made their identification unquestionable. One male bird was seen again on the successive days of February 25, 26, 27, and 28. With the assistance of Jacob P. Doughty, of Louisville, I was able to collect it on February 28. This marks the first record for the State of Kentucky as far as I can ascertain.—BURT L. MONROE, *Kentucky Ornithological Society, Louisville, Kentucky.*

Pintail nesting in New Brunswick.—On May 20, 1938, I observed six mated pairs of Pintails (*Dafila acuta tzitzihoa*) feeding in a small marsh area near Midgic, Westmorland County, New Brunswick. When I revisited the same locality on May 28, a careful search disclosed seven males and only two females, leading me to believe the others might be nesting nearby. I enlisted the aid of John Tingley, game warden, who found a pair on June 2, and finally on June 6, 1938, he flushed a pair of Pintails, the female from a nest of ten eggs, in the same locality. So far as I know, this is the first Pintail nest found in the Province of New Brunswick. Probably other pairs of Pintails nested in the same area, a part of the vast Tantramar marshes covering about 200 square miles on the border of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.—HAROLD S. PETERS, *U. S. Biological Survey, Charleston, South Carolina.*

Bahama Pintail in Virginia.—On December 17, 1937, Mr. Starling W. Childs shot a Bahama Pintail (*Dafila bahamensis*) on the property of the Horn Point Gun Club, Peter's Cove, Pungo, Virginia. The bird, which accompanied a flock of forty