

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

or fifty American Pintail, is an adult of undetermined sex. It has been mounted and presented to the American Museum of Natural History.

The association of this duck with the American Pintail (*Dafila acuta*) is interesting because examples of the latter species are known to winter in the Bahamas and West Indies, and also because of the apparent predilection that *bahamensis* has for closely related ducks. In southern South America, for example, the Bahama Pintail commonly associates with the Brown Pintail (*Dafila spinicauda*) and the American Museum possesses a hybrid between these two species.

The fourth edition of the A. O. U. 'Check-List' (1931) records only two earlier occurrences of the Bahama Pintail in continental North America, namely, one on the east coast of Florida and one in Wisconsin.—ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Blue-winged Teal in unusual numbers at Fort Erie, Ontario.—For the past year or more it has not been unusual, during the late spring and again in the latter part of summer, to see small parties of Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*), up to six or eight in number, feeding among the shallow reedy waters of certain parts of the Niagara River near Fort Erie. Such seasonal occurrences of small numbers are not particularly surprising for the species is known to breed sparingly in relatively nearby territory in New York State, but the occurrence of a flock of from 75 to 80 in the river at Fort Erie on August 22, 1938, and the finding of what must have been that same flock swollen to an aggregate of not less than 125, in the above-mentioned reedy shallows, a few days later, on August 27, would appear to be worthy of record.—R. W. SHEPPARD, *1805 Mouland Avenue, Niagara Falls, Ontario.*

American Scoter at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.—During a flight of several thousand ducks on the Susquehanna River, April 19, 1939, three White-winged Scoters (*Melanitta deglandi*) were seen. The ducks were mainly Scaup and Oldsquaws, with numerous Buffleheads and some Golden-eyes; Black Ducks and Mallards had preceded them by a week or two. The White-winged Scoters have occasionally been found here, as three times during May 1935. The following day, April 20, 1939, I found a female American Scoter (*Oidemia americana*) on Wildwood Lake within the city limits and a mile from the river. This American Scoter was easily identified at a distance of 150 feet with a binocular, and constitutes a first record for this locality, as far as I have learned. There is nothing to account for its presence here, except the excessive flight of ducks.—HAROLD B. WOOD, *Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.*

Feeding habits of Black Vulture.—On October 31, 1936, when banding Black Vultures (*Coragyps atratus atratus*) in a large, open hayfield on the east side of Avery Island, Louisiana, I noticed a three-quarters-grown skunk (*Mephitis mesomelas*) going leisurely across the field. The grass was short, having recently been cut. The trap contained that morning something over one hundred vultures, some of which had been in it twenty-four hours. One of the yearling vultures, after having been banded and liberated, alighted near the skunk which was then about two hundred feet from where I stood at my banding work. The skunk immediately stopped and raised its tail. Other vultures that were sitting around on the ground soon joined the one that was near the skunk, and when six or eight of them had gathered about the animal, one suddenly attacked it from the side. The skunk immediately discharged its musk, but this seemed to have no effect on the vultures, which, on its discharge, attacked in a mass. As soon as the attack was made, other vultures that were circling above the meadow or sitting in the trees nearby, joined the group, until