

observation it remained constantly within this hedge, except for a single instance when it flew just above the hedge to capture a small flying insect.

Billy Cross, in company with the writer at the time of this observation, revealed that this was the same bird he had seen repeatedly since November and had previously mistaken for a female Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*). Our observations on January 1, however, made with 6x and 8x binoculars, firmly established its identity as *pusilla* rather than *citrina*. Both Cross and the writer, who has had several years' experience with this species, observed the following points of identification at a range of less than ten feet: small size (scarcely larger than a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher observed near-by); absence of white on under side of tail; entirely yellow under parts and dusky olive cap; failure to spread the rectrices (after the fashion of the Hooded Warbler); general behavior (more suggestive of the gnatcatchers than of the Hooded Warbler, *e. g.*, the 'switching' of the relatively long tail).

There has been no attempt to collect this bird, as both observers are confident of its specific identity. Its subspecific identity, however, must remain open to doubt unless the specimen is collected later.—HENRY M. STEVENSON, *Department of Zoology, Florida State College for Women, Tallahassee, Florida.*

**Blue Goose in Centre County, Pennsylvania.**—A Blue Goose, *Chen caerulescens*, was observed on the College Pond, a small artificial empoundment on College land in the borough of State College, Pennsylvania, November 7, 1946, when the class in Game Birds and Mammals identified it along with other waterfowl. This goose is not a regular migrant through this area. The only other records for western Pennsylvania are those given by Todd (*Birds of Western Pennsylvania*: 77, 1940) recorded as follows: "*Chen caerulescens* Warren, *Birds Pa.*, ed. 2: 49, 1890 (Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co., *fide* Hazzard)—Christy, *Cardinal*, 2: 42, 1927 (Erie Bay, Erie Co., October–November, *fide* Perry)—Oudette, *Cardinal*, 4: 121, 1935; and 5: 68, 1940 (Linesville, Crawford Co., October). 'Blue Goose' Christy, *Cardinal*, 3: 86, 1932 (Presque Isle, Erie Co., winter)—Savage, *Bird-Lore*, 34: 44, 1932 (Presque Isle, Erie Co., December)."

On November 15, 1946, I obtained permission from the borough police to shoot in the borough and collected this bird for the museum collection in the Department of Zoology and Entomology. The bird was emaciated and had many bird lice, several species of intestinal worms and a blood parasite. It weighed three pounds and fifteen ounces.—P. F. ENGLISH, *Dept. of Zoology and Entomology, The Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.*

**The Flamingo in Kansas.**—Mr. C. W. Lyon, a medical doctor of Ellinwood, Kansas, while writing to Mr. J. C. Mohler, Secretary of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, made reference to a Flamingo shot near Ellinwood "a few years ago." The letter was referred to me by Mr. Mohler for further inquiry.

Correspondence with Doctor Lyon elicited a sketch of the specimen as it is now mounted in the Artesia Hunting Club quarters, together with information about its procurement, and the address of the Secretary of the club at the time the bird was taken. Doctor Lyon states that he is certain that no newspaper publicity was given the incident at the time.

A letter from Mr. Floyd Peacock, Stafford, Kansas, one-time Secretary of the hunting club, states that the bird was one of two individuals which had been seen frequenting Little Salt Marsh Lake, about 25 miles south of Ellinwood, Kansas, for several days prior to the opening of the 1928 duck season. One of the birds disappeared a day or two before the opening of the season, and was seen no more. The

other individual was shot the opening morning of the season, and was identified as a Flamingo by a Federal game warden present at the time. The specimen was sent to a Denver taxidermist, and is now on display at the lodge near the lake.

The sketch and description of coloration supplied by Doctor Lyon leave no doubt as to the bird's identity. The coloration indicates that it is an immature specimen. Doctor Lyon further describes the appearance of the bird in flight, as he saw it before its death, stating that it flew with both neck and legs extended. One is left to wonder what organisms these Flamingos subsisted while in migration and in residence here, apparently so briefly, and what force drove them so far from their normal habitat.—ARTHUR L. GOODRICH, *Department of Zoology, Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas.*

**Audubon's Caracara in New York.**—A caracara (*Polyborus cheriway*) was discovered by John Flavin on September 28, 1946, in Alley Pond Park, a large park on Long Island on the outskirts of the City of New York. During the following week until October 5, 1946, the bird was intermittently noted by other observers, including William O. Astle and John J. Elliott, usually in a large open field. When seen by the writer, on September 29, 1946, the caracara was on the ground, apparently feeding on insects, and on being approached flew to a bare locust tree where it was examined at leisure through 8 × 30 binoculars. On the basis of the description given by Bent (*U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 170: 131, 1938*), this bird was in juvenal plumage, for though it had the characteristic pattern of an adult caracara, the back was brown rather than blackish, the throat pale brown rather than white or buffy, and the chest conspicuously streaked rather than spotted or barred. Whenever the writer attempted to come nearer than about fifty feet the bird would fly off a hundred yards or so and settle on another tree. On one occasion it left its perch to drive off a crow which was sitting on a tree some distance away, and pursued the crow for several minutes until that bird turned around and chased its attacker.

The caracara has never previously been reported from the State of New York and there appear to be very few records away from its breeding range. From the eastern part of the continent Bent (*U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 170: 135, 1938*) lists a bird seen in North Carolina on February 19, 1933, and another found dead on the north shore of Lake Superior in Ontario on July 18, 1892 (which is mentioned also in the A. O. U. Check-List). A caracara was observed in South Carolina in 1943 (*Auk, 61: 145, 1944*).

Because of the sedentary character of the species, our caracara was carefully examined for any indication of escape from captivity, but none was detected. It appeared vigorous and healthy; it carried no band or jesses; its soft parts were normally colored; its tail feathers were so unfrayed that even the pale tips plainly showed; its wing feathers were intact, except possibly for a secondary on one wing which in flight seemed missing or out of place. While one or two observers report an approach within twenty feet of the caracara before it flew, the writer's own experience with the species in its breeding range suggests that such unsuspectingness would be perfectly normal behavior. Inquiry established that none of the zoological gardens and menageries in the city had lost a caracara, but the possibility in these cases always exists that the bird may have been brought north by human agency.—EUGENE EISENMANN, *Linnaean Society of New York, New York, N. Y.*

**Black Ducks in eastern Montana.**—Inasmuch as there appear to be no published records of Black Ducks occurring in Eastern Montana, the following observations on the Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge, Phillips County, Montana, may be of general interest to ornithologists.