

against it. In 1957 this male returned and displayed to the pane from 21 March to 24 May, the date on which he was last seen. He pecked the pane from 29 March to 18 May.

In 1957 three other color-banded males displayed to the pane occasionally or frequently. In 1958 four, and in 1959 two, occasionally did so. In 1960 none of five was ever seen to do so. These included one that had sometimes displayed in 1958 and 1959; in those years he was paired; in 1960 he apparently was not.

The female's shadow boxing, on 8 June 1957, consisted of a very slight bow with a lifting of the plumage of the upper back, and then a dash against the pane. The bird was unbanded.—HERVEY BRACKBILL, 2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore 7, Maryland.

The Caracara Nesting in Arizona.—On 20 March 1960 my brother John and I located a pair of Caracaras (*Caracara cheriway*) constructing a nest, about three miles north of Ali Chuk, Papago Indian Reservation, Pima County. The nest was situated 15 feet up a sahuaro cactus (*Cereus giganteus*) in a crotch formed where several "arms" joined the main stem or trunk.

On the same day a Caracara was seen flying low over Pacinimo (Pisinimo) about 20 miles northeast of Ali Chuk. This individual very likely represented another breeding pair.

Returning to the Ali Chuk nest on 24 May, we found that it contained three nestlings about a month old. The nestlings were photographed at this time.

On 9 June 1960 I located another active Caracara nest in a site similar to the above described nest, about six miles north of Quijotoa (Covered Wells). This pair was some 30 miles northeast of the Ali Chuk nest. The two young were out of the nest and barely able to fly, but were still in the immediate vicinity of the nest.

These appear to be the only reported breeding records of this species in Arizona since Herbert Brown's observations in 1889 as noted by Bendire (1892, *Life Hist. North Amer. Birds*, U.S. Natl. Mus., Spec Bull No. 1, 317).—SEYMOUR H. LEVY, Route 9, Box 960, Tucson, Arizona.

Albinism in the Small White-Checked Geese.—On 28 October 1959 a rare example of incomplete albinism, as defined by Nero (1954) and Pettingill (1956), in *Branta canadensis* ssp. was captured at the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge, Alfalfa County, Jet, Oklahoma. An immature female and tentatively identified as *B. c. hutchinsii* (the term small white-cheeked geese includes the races *leucopareia*, *parvipes*, *hutchinsii*, and possibly others that are as yet unrecognized), it displayed the pink irides, yellowish to flesh-colored bill, tarsi, and feet of a typical albino. However, all areas of the plumage that would normally have been black—the head and neck, rectrices and primaries—were suffused with a creamy to light tan color. The remainder of the plumage was white. The white cheek patch of the head was discernible against the tannish background. During succeeding months it was observed that the new feathers of the first adult plumage were gray rather than creamy-tan or white. The feathers of the head and neck molted a rather dark gray; those of the body, a very pale gray.

Other examples of albinism in small Canada geese were observed in the 1958–1959 waterfowl season. At the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge, Johnston County, Tishomingo, Oklahoma, during a period of approximately two weeks from 12 to 28 December 1958 an example of partial albinism in a medium-sized goose, perhaps *B. c. parvipes*, was regularly observed. Close examination showed that the gray appearance of the head and neck was the result of a rather uniform speckling of

black and white feathers. On 9 March 1959 at the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, Grayson County, Denison, Texas, an example of imperfect albinism or dilution in a medium-sized goose, perhaps *B. c. parvipes*, was observed. The head, neck, primaries, and rectrices of this goose appeared to be normal black, but the body plumage was a very light gray.

In discussion of his own observations in Illinois, in addition to a summarization of observations of albinistic geese by several other authors, Hanson (1949) lists no example of incomplete albinism in the Canada geese. However, the description offered by Murray (1933) would appear to be a case of incomplete albinism in *B. c. canadensis* rather than partial albinism (Hanson prefers "white spotting" as it is listed).

Other observed plumage variations involving white feathering, but which may not necessarily be an expression of albinism in any degree, include the white collar at the base of the black stocking of the neck, white forehead patch, and white feathers in the underwing coverts, all discussed by Elder (1946) and Hanson (1949). The relative occurrence of the last three phenomena in small Canada geese handled in Oklahoma, Texas, and Colorado differs considerably from the findings reported by Elder (1946) and is offered in Table 1 for comparison.

TABLE 1
RELATIVE OCCURRENCE OF WHITE FEATHER-PATTERNS IN SMALL
WHITE-CHEEKED GESE OF THE SOUTH-CENTRAL FLYWAY

	Adult		Immature	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Number	85	64	72	46
Per cent with white collar	54	39	25	26
White feathers in forehead	17	9	17	20
White feathers in underwing coverts	About 5 per cent of adult sample			

Pertinent information concerning the incomplete albino at the time of capture at Salt Plains, 28 October 1959, follows: Immature female—Band No. 597-66491; tarsus—61.6; middle toe—54.3; culmen—33.5; maxilla length (tomium)—35.8; maxilla height (at base)—19.3; weight—3 lb. 5 oz.; condition—fair; wing chord—primaries of both wings damaged and frayed, no measurement taken.

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