

In summary, we believe that the night herons fed primarily upon fishes when they were available but were quick to take advantage of concentrations of other potential prey, especially young birds in midsummer and perhaps mammals and amphibians in spring. We wish to thank C. G. Paterson and W. G. Evans for identification of fish and beetles. Financial support from the National Research Council of Canada is gratefully acknowledged.

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A specimen of the Little Gull from northern Mississippi.—On 15 March 1970 I saw a single Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) in adult winter plumage at the dam area of Sardis Lake in Panola County, Mississippi. It was in the company of about 25-30 Bonaparte's Gulls (*L. philadelphia*), either resting in a group on a sandy beach or flying over the outlet channel of the reservoir and over the basin below the dam known as Lower Lake. On 16 March the Little Gull was seen also by Mrs. Sandra Davis and by Dr. Y. J. McGaha, with whose help I was able to collect it. The specimen proved to be a male weighing 124.7 g, with slight fat, showing no enlargement of the gonads, and measuring 272 mm in total length and 216 mm in wing (chord) length. It is now in the Vaiden Collection of the University of Mississippi Department of Biology.

The Little Gull apparently has not been reported previously from either Mississippi or from any other site in the Mississippi River drainage system. The nearest occurrence I know of was at Pensacola, Florida where Burt L. Monroe, Jr. took a specimen on 26 December 1958 (Audubon Field Notes, 13: 302, 1959). This species has seldom been found on the continent outside of the Great Lakes and northern Atlantic coast regions. The Mississippi specimen appears to be only the third confirmed U. S. record from other than the immediate vicinity of the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, or Great Lakes. The first was a specimen from Dallas County, Texas in April 1965 (Pulich, Auk, 83: 482, 1966), and the second was a well-photographed bird found in

November 1968 slightly north of the Salton Sea in southern California (McCaskie, Audubon Field Notes, 23: 108, 1969).

Pulich hypothesized for the Texas bird a route of travel down the Atlantic Coast and westward along the Gulf during the winter, after which it might have joined northward-migrating Franklin's Gulls (*L. pipixcan*). For the Mississippi bird one could speculate similarly about the route of travel prior to its joining northward-bound Bonaparte's Gulls. A supposition of equal or greater merit might be that the bird accompanied Bonaparte's Gulls down the Illinois Waterway and Mississippi River route from the south end of Lake Michigan (where the Little Gull has been reported many times since the 1940s) in the fall or winter. It then may have been moving northward again by mid-March. I had examined carefully several larger groups of Bonaparte's Gulls at this spot in January and February without detecting any unusual species—for which I was particularly alert because a year previously I collected a Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) under like circumstances at this same site (Davis, Auk, 87: 804, 1970).

I am indebted to M. G. Vaiden for preparation of the specimen, for data cited above, and for confirmation of the identification.—W. MARVIN DAVIS, *Department of Pharmacology, University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi 38677*. Accepted 19 Aug. 70.

A documented instance of reverse migration in the Pintail.—The recovery of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service band number 636-13408 documents a spectacular instance of reverse migration in the Pintail (*Anas acuta*). U.S.F.&W.S. banders placed this band on an immature male Pintail they caught and released at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge near Willows, Glenn County, California on 29 August 1969. In February 1970 the Bird Banding Laboratory received a letter (BBL File Reference 6251) from Mike Hay, Box 431, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, stating that while hunting on the Stikine River Flats, approximately 10 miles north of Wrangell, Alaska on 11 October 1969, he killed a Pintail wearing this band. He did not enclose the band in his letter but, when queried by the Bird Banding Laboratory, he sent a photocopy verifying the band number. We feel it safe to assume that this record is valid and that this young male Pintail traveled at least 1,600 miles in a northerly direction in the 43 days between its 29 August banding date and 11 October, when it was shot.—EARL B. BAYSINGER, *Bird Banding Laboratory, Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel, Maryland 20810*, and RICHARD D. BAUER, *Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, Willows, California 95988*. Accepted 16 Sep. 70.

Herring and Ring-billed Gulls paired or courting in Maryland in January and February.—At Woodlawn, Maryland, a piedmont location just west of Baltimore, a dammed stream forms a pond that from early October to early April is commonly frequented in the daytime by small numbers of Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) and by Ring-billed Gulls (*L. delawarensis*) in numbers that at times exceed 100. In late afternoon the birds fly off toward Baltimore harbor or Chesapeake Bay, to return the next morning. At this pond, from 28 February through 21 March 1969, and from 8 to 23 March 1970 I regularly found two Herring Gulls that plainly were paired, and on 27 January 1970 two Ring-billed Gulls that seemed to be either paired or courting.

Herring Gull.—In both 1969 and 1970 the male Herring Gull had the ringed bill of a third-year bird (Poor, Auk, 63: 149, 1946) and the female had a fully adult bill. The birds were sexable by the male's greater size and, in 1969 especially, by the