

Grackles, English Sparrows, and a few Purple Martins swarming into the box-elders, cottonwoods, willows, and maples. Whenever we clapped our hands the birds would rise in flocks of twenty to one hundred. To be conservative, we estimated that there were 1,000 Starlings, but there were probably a great many more. Mr. Harmke said that the birds had been using the trees for their roosts for three years, and were such a nuisance with their filth that he believed he would destroy the trees.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Chicago, Ill.*

**A Large Fall Migration of the White Pelican.**—While riding around the south side of Crystal Lake, Dakota County, Nebraska, about 3:00 P. M. on October 4, 1931, my attention was called to a large flock of birds. At first we were undecided as to what they were. They were circling slowly, and as they came closer we decided that they were pelicans, and the size of the flock seemed to indicate the largest one of migrating pelicans that we had ever noticed.

There were four in the party and we tried counting them to form an estimate. They were widely scattered and we could count the small detached bunches. The count ranged from 700 to 1,200, and we compromised at 900. This flock was followed by several others. The one immediately following contained about half as many and four others followed in the next hour and a half, numbering from about 150 to 400. They were all flying slowly to the southeast, down the Missouri River Valley.

After watching these birds for some time we drove to the ranch house of Elmer Ebel, who has lived on this edge of the lake for thirty-three years, and is a close observer of waterfowl, being a conservationist as well as a hunter. He stated that this migration is not uncommon, in fact the pelicans are the first of the migrating birds to go south, and he has seen them in much greater numbers than on this occasion. The migration of these birds extends over a period of two weeks.

Mr. Ebel's father, the late Henry Ebel, lived on this land since 1868 and told the story that is also related by his son, of the pelicans alighting on this lake, spreading clear across it, and swimming along in one direction to some shallow place and apparently driving the fish to the shore, where they scooped them up with their great bills.

One week later, on October 11, 1931, Mr. Ebel reported a flock of eighteen pelicans resting on a sand-bar in the Missouri River, which is but a mile and a half distant from Crystal Lake.—W. R. FELTON, *Sioux City, Iowa.*

**Notes on the Nesting of the Bronzed Grackle and Say's Phoebe.**—In July, 1929, I watched several pairs of Bronzed Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*) attending to nesting duties, at Scranton, in southwestern North Dakota. The birds had built their nests on the steel beams inside of a large coal briquet plant, which was not in operation at the time. The grackles seemed much at home and resented our intrusion.

Several years ago I found the nest of a Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis sayus*), at Tuttle, South Dakota, about eighteen miles west of the Missouri River and near the North Dakota boundary line. The nest was placed over a window in an abandoned railroad station and contained four eggs at the time. Dr. W. J. Hoffman, Acting Surgeon, U. S. Army, observed a few Say's Phoebes in this region in 1873, while stationed at the Grand River Agency.—WILLIAM YOUNGWORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa.*