

ent in the intestines in large numbers, but there is no evidence that this worm has any pathogenic effect on the host.

In midwinter the Belted Kingfisher is not ordinarily present in Minnesota, except in very mild winters, and even then it is found only rarely. Certainly a bird with the filariid infection of the one here reported would not be able to migrate any great distance, and it seems entirely possible that others of the birds which do remain over winter may have been prevented from migrating by such parasitic infections, or other factors, tending to weaken them. It is true, however, that only a very small percentage of worm parasites have such serious effects on their hosts.—GUSTAV SWANSON, *Minneapolis, Minn.*

**The Snowy Owl in Iowa.**—The recent papers by Gross (*Auk*, XLIV and XLVIII) and Hicks (*antea*, XLIV) very ably supplement the investigations investigated by Ruthven Deane relative to the periodic invasions of the Snowy Owl (*Nyctea nyctea*) into the United States and southern Canada. These invasions were found to have been most pronounced during the winters of 1876-77, 1882-83, 1889-90, 1892-93, 1896-97, 1901-02, 1905-06, 1917-18, 1926-27, and 1930-31.

In the summaries treating of these occurrences there appears to be a lack of Iowa records, from which one might conclude that the birds had not been present. Such has not been the case. Anderson (*Birds of Iowa*, 1907) cites records of one in Kossuth County in 1900; nine in Mitchell County during the winter of 1883-84; and many in Woodbury County during February, 1883. Widmann (*Birds of Missouri*, 1907) lists records of this owl at Keokuk, Lee County, on November 20, 1895, and December 6, 1886. Bailey (*Bull.* 6, *Iowa Geol. Survey*, 1918) indicates the occurrence (without dates) of this species in the following Iowa counties: Lee, Des Moines, Van Buren, Lucas, Decatur, Madison, Mills, Boone, Johnson, Cedar, Linn, Benton, Winneshiek, Floyd, Winnebago, Palo Alto, Clay, Buena Vista, and Woodbury. Stephens (*Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.*, XXV, 1918) gave a useful summary of the Snowy Owl in the Missouri Valley, near Sioux City, from 1900. He states that, "In going over Mr. Anderson's records I find that he has mounted forty-six specimens of Snowy Owls between 1900 and 1917. While he has never had so many in one season as in this year, yet in the winter of 1905-06 he received thirteen specimens." A list of forty specimens taken or seen during the winter of 1917-18, is contained in this paper, of which twenty-three were from Iowa. Recently Youngworth (*antea*, pp. 32-33) recorded four occurrences of the Snowy Owl during December, 1929, January and February, 1931, in southwestern Minnesota and southeastern South Dakota.

Probably the most important records that we have of the Snowy Owl in Iowa, South Dakota, and Nebraska are contained in the material secured by D. H. Talbot and his collectors between the years 1884 and 1887. The forty-nine specimens in this collection, now in the Museum of Natural History, University of Iowa, are from the following localities: Twenty-three are from northwest Iowa; eight are from (South) Dakota; one from Nebraska; and seventeen without locality. Most of these specimens were sent to Talbot by hunters, but some few were secured on his farm in Woodbury County. The fact that Talbot could accumulate such a number of these birds, during seasons which were not generally recognized as invasion years, leads to the conclusion that the Snowy Owl formerly, at least, was a more or less regular winter visitor into the northwestern corner of the state.

In addition to the twenty-three Talbot specimens listed below, the Museum contains three other Iowa specimens; two from Johnson County (one without date, the other March 17, 1890); and one from Forest City, Winnebago County, March, 1901.

Museum No.	Sex	Locality	County	Date
8752	Male	Sioux City	Woodbury	March 17, 1884
8768	Female	Bradgate	Humboldt	Dec. 17, 1884
8722	Male	Aurelia	Cherokee	Jan. 13, 1885
8714	Male	Sioux City	Woodbury	Dec. 12, 1885
8711	.....	Sioux City	Woodbury	Dec. 23, 1885
8743	.....	Alta	Buena Vista	—, —, 1885
8777	Male	Jolley	Calhoun	—, —, 1885
8731	.....	Hawarden	Sioux	Jan. 3, 1886
8717	Male	Sibley	Osceola	Jan. 19, 1886
8770	.....	Sioux City	Woodbury	March 7, 1886
8746	Female	Sloan	Woodbury	Dec. 17, 1886
8747	Male	Merrill	Plymouth	Jan. 23, 1887
8772	Male	Plover	Osceola	Jan. 24, 1887
8744	Male	Sheldon	O'Brien	Jan. 25, 1887
8736	Male	Sioux City	Woodbury	March 14, 1887
8737	Male	Sioux City	Woodbury	March 15, 1887
8751	Male	Sioux City	Woodbury	March 17, 1887
8767	Male	Hospers	Sioux	March —, 1887
8727	Female	Sioux City*	Woodbury	April 16, 1887
8741	Female	Sioux City	Woodbury	—, —, —
8778	Male	Little Sioux	Harrison	—, —, —
10379	Male	Sioux City	Woodbury	—, —, —
10382	.....	Rock Rapids	Lyon	—, —, —

\*Died in captivity.

—PHILIP A. DUMONT, *Museum of Natural History, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.*

**The Blue Goose in Kentucky.**—On March 13, 1933, when the great tornado came in this vicinity, three Blue Geese (*Chen caerulescens*) "blew in" at my temporary lake near here, the first I have ever seen outside a zoological garden. I have visited the three geese twice, and have found them fairly tame. They probably were attracted by some Canada Geese which have been on this farm for many years. Several times I made them fly to be sure that I was seeing all their colors; they would circle around over the fields and come back to the same pasture where they had been feeding. Two are adults, the other immature. On the same temporary lake, which has again been large this winter, I have seen Mallards, Pintails, Blue-winged Teal, Coots, Yellow-legs, Wilson's Snipes, Pectoral Sandpipers, and hosts of ducks that were too far away for me to be sure of, even with my glasses. Yesterday there were some 500 ducks alone on the pond. The water is now over about 100 acres, but it has been more than twice that high this winter.—GORDON WILSON, *Bowling Green, Ky.*

**Early Snowy Owl Records from Nebraska, Iowa, South Dakota, and Minnesota.**—Following Mr. DuMont's note seems to be a proper place to record some relatively early captures of the Snowy Owl in the Missouri Valley country. So far as I know, none of these records has been published previously. All of the specimens here noted were mounted by Mr. A. J. Anderson for hunters who wished to have them for trophies or for ornamental purposes. Mr. Anderson was the leading taxidermist in Sioux City for many years. In later years, after