



FIG. 1

**Observation of Brant in southern Illinois.**—There have been numerous reports from hunters of shooting Brant (*Branta bernicla*) along both the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers in extreme southern Illinois, but no specimens or confirmed identifications have been obtained. Smith and Parmalee (1955. "Distributional Check-list of the Birds of Illinois," p. 14) note only one observation of the Brant, an immature captured at Lacon, Marshall County, 9 November 1921. Three Brant were observed at McGinnis Slough, Cook County by K. Bartel (1932. *Oologist*, 50:6). Two Brant were observed at Chicago in October 1947 (1948. *Audubon Field Notes*, 2:15) and a male, now in the Principia College collection, was shot by a hunter in Jersey County in 1964 (1965. *Audubon Field Notes*, 19:45). All of these reports are from the northern or central part of the state.

On 19 December 1963, I observed a single Brant feeding with several thousand Canada Geese (*Branta canadensis*) in a pasture on the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge, Williamson County. The Brant was observed for about 15 minutes at a distance of about 30 yards. On 31 December the bird was seen by Mr. James R. Rice, wildlife aid at the refuge, in the morning and during the afternoon I photographed the bird using a 300 mm lens (Fig. 1). The bird was not seen thereafter. —ROBERT A. MONTGOMERY, Box 95, Vienna, Illinois, 27 May 1966.

**Sedatives interfere with walking more than flying.**—Birds apparently find that flying takes less finesse than walking. Under the influence of chloral hydrate, a principal component of the barman's "Mickey Finn" or knockout drops, Western Gulls (*Larus occidentalis*) and White-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*) immediately lose much or all of their ability to walk and stand, yet can be urged into flying very effectively for short distances. Ethyl alcohol has a similar effect on the sparrow.