

to state was incorrect, as the specimen has proven to be a young King Eider (*S. spectabilis*). Through the kindness of Mr. P. A. Taverner, Zoologist of the Geological Survey Department, and Mr. Hoyes Lloyd, Ornithologist of the Dominion Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, who recently placed at my disposal a very large number of specimens of both King and Common Eider, the bird has been positively identified as a young King Eider, in the plumage of the female.—GEORGE R. WHITE, *Ottawa, Canada*.

***Anas diazi novimexicana* and *Grus americana* in Nebraska.**—

Last November while on a shooting trip in Cherry County, Nebraska, I obtained a duck which appeared strange to me. The specimen was saved and has been identified by Dr. H. C. Oberholser as *Anas diazi novimexicana* (Huber). The bird, a female, was shot October 17, 1921, on Dad's Lake, Cherry County, Nebraska, by Colonel Dale Bumstead and is now in my collection. As this is believed to be the first known occurrence of this bird outside of New Mexico, it seems worthy of note.

While on this same trip I heard of a supposed occurrence of the Whooping Crane. The gentleman from whom the information was obtained was a member of the Red Deer Lake Shooting Club, and stated that on October 14, 1921, two Whooping Cranes had alighted on the shores of Red Deer Lake and that one had been killed by a farmer boy in the vicinity. I did not see this bird myself, but believe the report to be authentic.—H. B. CONOVER, *Chicago, Ill.*

**Whooping Cranes (*Grus americana*) in Texas.**—On December 23, 1921, it was my good fortune to find four individuals of this rare species in southern Texas. At the time I was in company with Richard M. Kleberg, in charge of the Laureles Ranch, a sub-division of the great King Ranch.

Perhaps twenty-five miles almost directly South of Corpus Christi there is, except in abnormal seasons, a large shallow lake known as Laguna Larga. It was here that the Cranes were seen. The past winter was an unusually dry season in Texas and the water in the Laguna Larga was very low. On the prairies formerly constituting the lake bottom there were a large number of geese, particularly Snow Goose (*Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus*), and the Hutchins' Goose (*Branta canadensis hutchinsi*). One Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) was identified.

While riding over this territory with Mr. Kleberg, he pointed out at a distance two Whooping Cranes feeding on the prairie. They were probably a quarter of a mile away at the time. On nearer approach they rose and alighted after flying a short distance. There was no possibility of doubt as to the identification. Perhaps five miles farther south two others were discovered. On approaching these we encountered some

marshy ground and the car was stopped at a distance from the birds which we estimated as 300 yards. After watching them for a time through the field glasses Mr. Kleberg fired a shot and the birds both rose. He told me that Whooping Cranes have been coming to Laguna Larga every winter for sixteen years, and that eight is the largest number he has ever known to be there at one time. The same general statement was borne out by other local people who are acquainted with the section.

In this connection I might add that I have recently received from Miss E. Margaret Estlin of Victoria, B. C., a statement to the effect that she saw two Whooping Cranes in northern Saskatchewan in the autumn of 1921. She also forwarded photographs of a living immature Whooping Crane which she states she made in the same general neighborhood "a few years ago."—T. GILBERT PEARSON, *New York*.

**Florida caerulea in Saratoga County, N. Y.**—On April 13, 1922, a Little Blue Heron (blue phase) adult was seen feeding along the abandoned Champlain Canal one mile north of Waterford, N. Y. Waterford is in the south-east corner of Saratoga County, at the junction of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers, 160 miles north of New York City. A two day period of very warm weather terminated April 11 with intense thunderstorms and gales.

The bird was very tame and allowed me to approach within forty feet, once at 11.30 A. M. and again at 2 P. M. Each time it was in fine light, even the plumes on head and upper tail coverts showing distinctly. The color, size, length of neck, manner of flight (as a Great Blue Heron), etc., identifying it beyond question as I am very familiar with this heron in the Florida Everglades.

Mr. S. C. Bishop, N. Y. State Zoologist, and Mr. H. P. Chrisp of Albany came to see it the next day but the bird had disappeared.—EDGAR BEDELL, *Waterford, N. Y.*

**Greater Yellow-legs Records at Elizabeth, N. J.**—In response to the request of Mr. J. T. Nichols in February, 1922, 'Bird Lore,' for details concerning my statement in October, 1922, 'Auk' that at least two Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) remained here throughout the 1921 breeding season, I submit the following: The Greater Yellow-legs, according to intermittent observations by the writer during the past twenty-five years, is normally absent from the local salt marshes from June 15 to July 15. Between these dates in 1921, I found one or two birds of the species on each trip to a certain locality on the marshes—a cluster of ponds about one mile inland from the shore of Newark Bay. Selected dates of record follow:

June 11—Two birds, calling.

June 18 to 24—Species frequently heard calling about the same ponds by local hunter, but locality not visited by me.