

swamp in Orient, Long Island, on May 12, 1920. The female on being dissected was found to contain eggs, one which was practically ready for deposit. The Duck evidently had a nest in that vicinity. The pond bordered on an extensive marshland of several hundred acres mostly encircled by woods, tangles and creeks. This offered seclusion and an ideal location for the Teal to select as a nesting site.

In twenty years' observations the writer has recorded this species but a couple of times before in spring and on those occasions on much earlier dates. This Teal has been reported as breeding on Long Island many years ago. The establishing of this recent breeding seems to confirm the former record and is of much local interest.—ROY LATHAM, *Orient, Long Island*.

Ring-necked Duck in Northern New Jersey.—On March 25, 1923, the writers were as usual on spring Sunday mornings on the marshes of Overpeck Creek, Bergen County, studying the waterfowl, which seem to increase in variety and abundance every year. On this particular morning nine species of Ducks were found, the commoner such as the American Merganser, Black Duck and Pintail in abundance. After practically all the Ducks had flown away, a pair of Ring-necked Ducks were found hiding in the grass on the opposite bank. Soon, however, they swam out into the creek in the full blaze of sunlight, and we watched them for half an hour as they floated on the quiet water. The drake was immediately recognizable by its dark back, and triangular shaped, puffy head, and the female was a dark bird, without any white ring around the bill. A few minutes before we had seen a flock of Lesser Scaups at about the same relative distance, and the white backs of the males, and the white faces of the females gleamed in the sun. This species, which is well known to Griscom in life, has not been recorded from northern New Jersey. It is interesting to note that the preceding fall and winter produced an unusual number of Ring-necks from various points along the Atlantic seaboard.—LUDLOW GRISCOM and J. M. JOHNSON, *American Museum of Natural History*.

White-fronted Goose in North Carolina.—A White-fronted Goose sex unknown, was killed on Currituck Sound on November 13, 1923.

A party of Raleigh men was shooting from Lloyd O'Neal's place, Sea Gull, Currituck County, N. C., and, on the day in question, Eugene L. Bartholomew and another member of the party were occupying a blind together.

A single Goose had been noticed associating with several bunches of Canada Geese, flying from bunch to bunch without seeming to affiliate closely with any. Finally, a small bunch of Canadas rose and headed for the decoys, with the lone Goose leading, but all except the leader swerved off before coming within gunshot. The single bird was promptly killed by Mr. Bartholomew, and it later excited much interest among all who saw

it, as none of the party and none of the guides or other local men were able to identify the specimen.

It was brought back here along with other Geese and Ducks, and was included in a lot sent out in the country as material for a game dinner for the hunting party and their friends. I did not hear anything about a strange fowl having been killed until it had been picked and prepared for cooking, but as soon as my friend Bartholomew had told me of the taking of some kind of fowl unknown to the Currituck guides, and I had asked if it were possible to secure its head, or a leg or wing, he promptly jumped into his car and drove out to the Club where the dinner was to be, to see what he could save. He brought back the head and one wing and a foot, so identification was easy.

This is the second record of the White-fronted Goose in North Carolina, the other being that of a specimen in the flesh sent the State Museum by Captain T. J. Poyner in 1897, which was also taken on Currituck Sound, in January of that year.—H. H. BRIMLEY, *Raleigh, N. C.*

Behavior of Swans.—My scanty literature on the Swans fails to mention similar performances and possibly the one I observed a few years ago may be exceptional. One Sunday morning a man came to my house for information regarding the peculiar actions of a Swan. It appeared that a pair of tame Mute Swans from a private estate up the West Canada Creek had been spending some time in a cutoff part of the same creek just above here and known from its shape as "The Oxbow." This man reported having seen both the Swans alive at 5 P.M. the previous evening but on returning the following morning, one of them was apparently dead and its mate was slowly covering the body with mud and grass. I visited the scene twice Sunday afternoon and saw the big bird still at its sad work. The dead Swan lay on a mud bar extending out into the stream, and its white body was more than half covered with mud, roots and grass. The living bird was very tame and I was able to approach to within twenty-five feet of it. I was under the impression that some thoughtless person had shot the Swan. I would ask if this performance is characteristic of these birds.—CHARLES A. GIANINI, *Poland, N. Y.*

Curlew Sandpiper on Long Island, N. Y.—I collected a young female Curlew Sandpiper (*Erolia ferruginea*) at Mecox Bay, near Watermill, on September 7, 1923. I was occupied in observing a pair of Stilt Sandpipers when I heard the note of this bird, and subconsciously ticketed it as a "krieker" with a squeaky voice. It lit on the shore some distance away, and I thought no more of it. Soon it jumped, and flew about the inlet, zig-zagging erratically, and I listlessly watched it, without much attention. The bird suddenly swerved nearer, and I "came to life" with a start, realizing that it was no common creature of this locality, whatever else it might be. Nearby, it resembled in some way a sort of aberrant Dowitcher, the suggestion being due to the tint of rusty underneath, the comparatively