

The White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons gambeli*) in New Jersey

—On November 28, 1926, while at Beachhaven Point, a lone Goose was seen flying south. As it came opposite me over the bay, it was obviously Brant size, but uniform gray all over. It attached itself to the rear of a flock of American Scoters, but when these turned to go out to sea through the inlet, it left them, swerved to the right, and went off down the bay. When it had just passed me, I could see the white belly, and a little later, the white upper tail coverts. A moment later a flock of Brant flew up the bay on approximately the same line of flight, and I had been seeing thousands of this species all morning. A cold wave had arrived during the night, the morning was brilliantly clear, with a high northwest wind. I am well acquainted with this Goose in life, and it is, in my opinion, readily identifiable even at great distances. It is worth noting that this same fall the species was shot in Massachusetts, North Carolina and South Carolina.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *American Museum of Natural History*.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron Nesting in New Jersey.—On June 6, 1927, we visited a Black-crowned Night Heron rookery located on Seven Mile Beach, Cape May Co., N. J., and noticed two pairs of Yellow-crowned Night Herons (*Nyctanassa violacea*) each pair with a nest containing five and eight eggs respectively, one bird was photographed on the latter nest but as a limb obscured the head the photograph is useless as evidence. On June 13, 1926 a single Yellow-crown was observed in this same rookery but no nest discovered (Auk, 1926 p. 538.)—BENJAMIN C. HIATT and CHARLES B. DOAK, *Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Habits of the Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis martinicus*).—In reading Mr. A. C. Bent's 'Life Histories of North American Marsh Birds,' I was greatly interested in the account of the food and habits of the Purple Gallinule. It is a common species in lower Louisiana, and many opportunities were offered to note it in the field, and to examine specimens in the flesh.

On one occasion I had an experience which throws light on the habits of an individual, if not of the species, when photographing Louisiana Herons on Willow Pond, Avery Island, in June, 1919. The Heron's nest was a low one, a foot or so above the water, and contained four very small babies. The mother bird had not yet returned to the nest, and all about I could hear the characteristic harsh notes of the Purple and Florida Gallinules. They are noisy when undisturbed, and one would occasionally dart across a little mud flat, and into the bordering reeds. Suddenly one came cautiously to the Heron's nest, jumped upon it, and grabbing one of the little Herons by the head, paused for a moment on the edge of the nest with the pot-bellied youngster kicking feebly as it swung back and forth, pendulum-like, and then with a cackling note more like laughter than otherwise, the Gallinule darted from sight. I have never heard of a similar instance.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Chicago Academy of Science*.