

been frozen completely over the night before. Wondering just what any visiting Ducks would do under the circumstances, I had just sat down to watch, when a young male Pintail came in, half circled, and then fluttered lightly down onto the ice, which, to my surprise was strong enough to support him; and there he stood, very erect, and perhaps a couple of hundred feet from where I sat watching him through a pair of 8x binoculars.

As we sat there, watching each other, a pair of Black Ducks dropped in, about fifty feet this side of the Pintail; and they, being apparently heavier than the Pintail, broke through; and there they sat, each in his little hole in the ice, watching me for several minutes, until, apparently deciding that I was harmless, they started to swim over to the Pintail. As they were quartering away from me, I could see every motion.

Discovering almost at once that the ice was too thick to swim against, they moved their heads back, in order to bring back their centers of gravity; and then, lifting their breasts just high enough, and paddling rapidly, pushed their breasts up over the ice; and then bringing their heads and centers of gravity forward, pressed down on the thin ice, and broke it. I watched them doing this repeatedly, until, after breaking the ice for twelve or fifteen feet towards the Pintail, they all three took fright at some movement of mine, and left.

Professor A. A. Allen, writes me on this subject: "I have frequently watched Ducks on thin ice of my own pond and at the head of Cayuga Lake, but never could make up my mind that they were breaking the ice intentionally. They would push up onto it with their breasts as you describe and if it were heavy enough to hold their weight, would clamber up onto it, but frequently it would break under them."

Probably these ducks of mine would have "clambered up onto" the ice also if they had not broken through, but with this thin ice, and I was watching every movement, they made no attempt to do so, and their repeatedly breaking through it as they did, seemed to me to be deliberate. They could easily have flown to the Pintail if they had so desired.—FRED H. KENNARD, *Newton Centre, Mass.*

European Teal in South Carolina.—On February 13, 1930, Mr. Richard E. Bishop, of Philadelphia while duck shooting at the Santee Club, South Carolina, killed a male European Teal (*Nettion crecca*) which he kindly presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia where it is preserved as a skin in the study series of Anatidae. Unless I am in error this is the first record of the species for the state.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

First Record of Ring-necked Duck in Delaware.—During the late winter and early spring of 1933, I found this Duck in comparative abundance on the recently completed Hoopes Reservoir near Wilmington, Delaware. I first saw the species (with which I was well acquainted in South Carolina) on the reservoir on March 4, 1933, a small flock, which I