

looked unusually white and only a few showed dark necks. It would seem that the young must have completed the molt at this date.—JOSEPH W. TATUM, *Haddonfield, N. J.*

**Late Date for the Whistling Swan in Washington.**—Three Whistling Swans (*Cygnus columbianus*) were seen at Eighteenth Street and Columbia Road on April 18, 1934, at 6:30 p. m. They were flying very high, but nevertheless were heard above the din of heavy traffic. This bird is rare in spring in this region, and has not previously been reported in April, the latest date being March 29 in 1927 (see Cooke, Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, vol. 42, p. 23, March 25, 1929).—AUSTIN H. AND LEILA F. CLARK, *U. S. National Museum.*

**An Unusual Flock of Waterfowl at Harrisburg, Pa.**—On the night of April 6, 1934, a large flock of Swans and Ducks settled on the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, Pa., nearly all of which left the following night.

On April 7, the following were seen: Holboell's Grebe, mostly in summer plumage, 33; Horned Grebe, 30; Pied-billed Grebe, 10; Whistling Swan, 216, said to be the largest number ever seen here at one time; Canada Goose, 17; Mallard, 1; Black Duck, 50 (estimate); Baldpate, 75 (estimate); Shoveller, 2; Redhead, 27; Canvasback, 5; Scaup, 130 (one identified as Greater Scaup); Bufflehead, 3; Old Squaw, 1.

The Holboell's Grebes (*Colymbus g. holboelli*) were entirely new to the local bird students, several of them with many years of experience.

The birds were studied in good light with x8 binoculars at fairly close range.—W. STUART CRAMER, *216 Woodbine St., Harrisburg, Pa.*

**American Egrets Nesting in New Jersey.**—While Egrets (*Casmerodius a. egretta*) and Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) have of late years been visiting New Jersey in ever increasing numbers, during summer and autumn, and have established night roosts of considerable size, we have had, up to the present season, no evidence of their return as breeding birds. It is therefore with great satisfaction that I am able to report the presence of about ten pairs of Egrets associated with Great Blue Herons (*Ardea h. herodias*) in a nesting community near Pennsville, in the southwestern part of the state.

The discovery of the nesting of these birds was made by Mr. Julian K. Potter, president of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, and one of our most tireless and reliable field ornithologists, who has requested me to publish the record. In company with Mr. Potter I visited the spot on June 3, 1934, and we could plainly see the big white birds on their nests, while an occasional individual would be seen flying off over the adjacent fields to the river marshes or returning, doubtless with food, and one was seen in a small nearby swamp busily feeding during the entire time of our visit. The tall sweet gums and maples upon which the nests are built stand in several feet of water and are surrounded by a deep muddy swamp which makes a close approach very difficult, but Mr. T. E. McMullen, who did

force his way to the colony reported that the birds had young. This was also the case with the Great Blues, whose large young could easily be seen from a distance standing on the nests and greeting their returning parents. It would seem that the Great Blues are the earlier breeders.

So far as I am aware American Egrets have not been reported nesting in New Jersey since the time of Alexander Wilson, though of course they must have persisted as breeders long after that. Let us hope that they may not be molested in any way and that year by year their numbers may increase.

The presence of a rather large breeding colony of Little Blue Herons has already been reported in Delaware, in nearly the latitude of Cape May, so that it is easily possible that some of these birds also may nest in the southern part of New Jersey in some of the Night Heron colonies.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia*.

**American Egret at Bridgewater, Mass., in Spring.**—On April 22, 1934, it was our good fortune to have an American Egret (*Casmerodius a. egretta*) feeding at the edge of a small marsh pond where a number of people viewed it at fairly close range. Though disturbed at various times to the point of flight, the bird would alight in a nearby pine tree or even fly out of sight but would return later to the pond's edge where it stayed most of the day.—HAROLD W. COPELAND, *Bridgewater, Mass.*

**Yellow-crowned Night Heron in Rhode Island.**—On the night of April 16, 1934, in a wild deluge of wind and rain, a very fine specimen of the Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) was secured alive by Mr. Joseph Schwartz who found it on Broadway under the glass portico of the Paramount Theater. It was a male in good plumage and apparently uninjured.

The only other local records that I know of were one shot by C. M. Kennedy on April 23, 1886, near Fall River, and a young bird secured by J. Livermore at Newport, August, 1892 (*Auk*, 1894, p. 177).—A. O'D. TAYLOR, *Powell Ave, Newport, R. I.*

**The Swallow-tailed Kite in South Carolina.**—On March 27, 1932, at the Grove Plantation house near Adams Run, S. C., my attention was called to a strange bird circling over the live oaks. I immediately recognized the bird as a Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus forficatus*). He wheeled gracefully above the oaks directly in front of the house several times, affording an excellent view of his long forked tail. Then, apparently having satisfied his curiosity or failing to discover any suitable provender, he swung out of sight.

About three-quarters of a mile away, over a patch of brush bordering the ricefields, he executed a series of aerial acrobatics which would have put any human stunt flyer to shame. Outlined against the overcast sky he darted to and fro, skimming low above the alders, then plunging, twisting, and soaring, as if in pure ecstasy.