

covered an acre in a large growth of small loblolly pines. It was on high ground, near a highway, several miles from any water. The Dismal Swamp lies about ten miles south, and the Chesapeake-Albemarle Canal four miles north. A few nests still contained eggs, and some had small young, but in most cases the young birds were in the trees, although none were yet on the wing. From the top of one pine I counted 250 young birds in sight within thirty yards. In the circling flock of adults only four or five were in white plumage. This is the only colony in the state of which I have definite knowledge at present. The first wandering Little Blue Herons that I have seen up-state during this season were two white birds in Nelson County, within sight of the mountains, on July 3.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia.*

Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea caerulea*) in Wisconsin.—On July 26 and 27 I observed eighteen Little Blue Herons in the immature or white phase in the swamp at Golden Lake, Waukeshaw County, Wisconsin, about thirty miles west of Milwaukee. Their light green legs and small size eliminated any possibility of confusion with either the Snowy or American Egrets. They were very tame and easily approached.—C. M. FLOYD, *2220 Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, Wis.*

Recent Duck Records in Southwestern New England.—*Chaulelasmus streperus.* GADWALL.—A female was surprised in a small, shallow marsh in Hadley on the extraordinary date, May 13, 1934, and identified by Ludlow Griscom. It was with a male Baldpate. The following evening both birds were again there and gave me close views. No white was visible in the Gadwall's wing, only a central gray patch; but she had no vinaceous color, and her neck was thinner than the Baldpate's.

Mareca americana. BALDPATE.—The just-mentioned, late (May 13-14) drake was the only Baldpate seen this spring in western Massachusetts, though around Hartford, Conn., several were observed at the usual season. Similarly in the fall of 1933, only one was observed at Northampton, a male which spent the period October 10-22.

Mareca penelope. EUROPEAN WIDGEON.—Thrice, now, I have seen ducks in Arcadia sanctuary, Northampton, which I felt sure were of this species, but until I had seen others on Long Island last winter I did not care to record them, as they were not in the plumage of the adult male. However, the warmly ruddy head of the female and the small amount of white in her wing are unmistakable field-marks for one who knows well the more familiar ducks. The dates of my observations are Nov. 4, 1931 (when I was within 30 feet of the bird as she swam toward me out of the bushes), Oct. 19, 1933 (when I watched one through a 25 x telescope), and May 22, 1934,—a date only credible in the light of the Baldpate and Gadwall records just given. This bird flew past me, very low and near, in perfect light, and exactly corresponded to the other two in the long, reddish neck, slender wing-white, and peculiarly buoyant, tipsy, easy flight.

Cannot all three of the unprecedented May records be correlated with the mid-western drought and the great dust-storm that blew east early in May 1934?

Querquedula discors. BLUE-WINGED TEAL.—It is tempting to attribute also to the drought and dust-storm the unusual numbers of this Teal, which ordinarily is very rare in spring here. A ♂ was in Northampton April 10–11, and a pair May 13, 1934; and at the little marsh in Hadley above-mentioned, 2 ♂♂ and 3 ♀♀ were regularly noted from May 11 on, save that one mated pair moved elsewhere after a week or so, and the other three birds were last noted May 21, when the marsh was threatening to dry up. At South Windsor, Conn., two pairs nested, quite early in the spring, as their broods of downy young were seen May 26, and often thereafter, by C. W. Vibert and others.

Oidemia americana. AMERICAN SCOTER.—The interesting note on this species in 'The Auk' for April, 1934 (pp. 228–9), inquires whether it has a normal migration-route over western New England. Our investigations indicate that it has, but not so far west as Norfolk, Conn. The late R. O. Morris of Springfield, Mass., kept closely in touch with fall Duck-flights for many years, yet only once heard of this species: a bird killed near Northampton in 1905. But farther up the Connecticut valley, between Vermont and New Hampshire, there are several records, and after passing down this pathway from the St. Lawrence between two mountain-ranges, the Scoters normally swing east, as indicated by G. H. Thayer's "rather regular fall migrant" at Dublin pond, N. H.; C. E. Ingalls' "not rare in fall on the large ponds" near Templeton, Mass.; and the occurrence of flocks at Lake Wickaboag in West Brookfield, Mass. which have been seen in nearly every autumn since 1925 by observers living there. Only abnormally does the species appear farther west. A flock of 61, all males, at Barrytown, N. Y., Oct. 8, 1927, is graphically described in Griscom's recent "Birds of Dutchess County," which otherwise records only three female stragglers. We noted similar stragglers, alone or with Scaups, in 1932 at Ludlow, Longmeadow, and Northampton. But in 1933 a real flight occurred. On October 6, about as the sun rose after a rainy night, a flock of 130 or so flew down the river between Northampton and Hadley, swerving to avoid the mist-crowned Holyoke range; and towards evening about 30 were observed, huddling timidly, in the middle of Ashley pond, southwest of Holyoke. On Nov. 5, about 15, none of them adult males, were again on Ashley pond. This, with the occurrence of seven males on Onota Lake, west of Pittsfield, Oct. 18, and the calamity that overtook a larger flock at Norfolk, Conn., Oct. 22, suggests that (1) the species was in 1933 diverted to a more westerly route than normally, by some cause not merely meteorological; (2) it does normally migrate alone without mixture with other species; and (3) the adult males tend to keep together and avoid the company of the females and young.

To save space, other notes may be combined as follows. The White-

winged Scoter (*Melanitta deglandi*) and Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*), both rare in autumn, were observed at Northampton in 1933 on October 28 and 27 respectively. The Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) was unprecedentedly common in western Massachusetts in the spring of 1934, between March 18 and May 12. The Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) arrived very early (March 18), despite the harsh winter, and the Green-winged Teal (*Nettion carolinense*) lingered very late: a pair were at Northampton on April 27, and one was seen at South Windsor, Conn., on May 9 by C. W. Vibert. Mr. Vibert also recorded a Lesser Scaup (*Nyroca affinis*) there on May 7. A ♂ Old-Squaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) was noted at Holyoke, Nov. 8, 1933, and a ♀ Bufflehead (*Charitonetta albeola*) was there March 18-19, 1934.—SAMUEL A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Mass.*

Lead Poisoning in *Branta canadensis canadensis*.—On May 23, 1934, a male Canada Goose, which had been captured the day before at the St. Clair Flats, St. Clair County, Michigan by State Game Warden O. B. McClellan was examined by the writer at the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan.

The bird was in a weakened condition, with wings hanging but not trailing on the ground, when it was forced to walk which it did in an unsteady manner. It was evidently unable to fly as it made no attempts to do so when placed on the floor in the laboratory. It did struggle when handled and a light green fluid came from the throat as a result of its struggles. The voice was very weak, the eyes bright and steady and the feces light green and watery, with evidence of a very small amount of organic matter present. The bird was emaciated and weighed 3023.25 grams. A small number of *Phlopteryids* were present, but not enough to seriously affect the bird.

Dr. E. C. O'Roke made a blood examination for *Leucocytozoon anseris* but found no evidence of the presence of this parasite. Upon autopsy the flesh was found to be pale in color. The testes measured, left 7 mm. x 4 mm. and the right 5.5 mm. x 4 mm. These sizes are small, but it was unknown whether or not the bird was of breeding age.

The proventriculus was greatly distended and packed with grasses, scirpus, and common horsetail. A group of seven lead shots were found in the posterior part, in contact with the tissue, which at this point was dark gray or black in color and sloughed easily. The remainder of the inside of the proventriculus appeared to be in a normal condition.

The gizzard contained nine lead shot and a small amount of fine gravel. Large areas of the lining of the gizzard were carotized, with areas between in which the mucus membrane was soft and sloughed easily. The shots showed evidences of having been ground, while those in the proventriculus were comparatively smooth. An examination of other organs revealed no parasites and showed no evidence of anything which might have contributed to the sickness of the bird.