

since then but as the bird is rare in the eastern states and a view of it a welcome and inspiring sight it is thought best to record its occurrence in this Federal Refuge.—EARLE R. GREENE, *U. S. Biological Survey, New Holland, N. C.*

**Brewster's Egret at Grand Canyon National Park.**—One of the most interesting and important bird records obtained at Grand Canyon National Park in recent months was reported on April 23. On that date an Egret was observed near the Kaibab Suspension Bridge which spans the Colorado River. On May 18 five Egrets were seen in the same locality.

According to the 'Check-List of North American Birds' (fourth edition), these Egrets were undoubtedly *Egretta thula brewsteri*. A careful check of bird records from Arizona reveals that the occurrence of the Brewster's Egret is exceedingly rare. In 'A Distributional List of the Birds of Arizona' by Harry S. Swarth, published in 1914, is found the following statement:

"There are but two instances of the occurrence of this species in Arizona: Coues (1866, p. 263) observed it on the Colorado River between Forts Mohave and Yuma in September, and Scott (1866, p. 385) reports a flock of five seen, one of which was secured, near Tucson, in May." (Listed by Swarth as *Egretta candidissima candidissima*).

Mr. Lyndon L. Hargrave, Curator of Ornithology at the Museum of Northern Arizona, reported that a Brewster's Egret was taken at Turkey Tanks, near the San Francisco Peaks, in April, 1932, and that two were taken at Tempo in April, 1933.

The above references are all that the writer has been able to discover regarding the occurrence of this species in Arizona.—RUSSELL K. GRATER, *Assistant Wildlife Technician, Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona.*

**Increase of the Roseate Spoonbill on the Coast of Texas.**—In 'The Auk,' vol. LII, page 77, Mr. Robert P. Allen, of the National Association of Audubon Societies, gives a census of the Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) observed by him in Florida and on the coast of Texas, in 1934, giving a total of 879 individuals for the latter state. In June 1935, the writer, in his capacity of Supervisor of Southern Sanctuaries for the Audubon Asso., made an inspection trip to Texas and covered the identical ground worked by Mr. Allen the previous year. It is interesting to note the comparison of his figures and those of Mr. Allen and it should be a matter of satisfaction to all ornithologists that the increase is as much as it is in a single year.

The locality and count at each is given below:

Vinge'tun Islands, Galveston Bay, 120; First-Chain-of-Islands, Espiritu Santo Bay, 77; Second-Chain-of-Islands, San Antonio Bay, 1120; Dunham Island, Arkansas Bay, 130; Deadman's Island, northern Laguna Madre, 73; Green Island, southern Laguna Madre, 340; Seluria Bayou, Matagorda Bay, 5. These are adult birds and those young which could fly well, and constitute a total of 1865 individuals. This does not include the young birds in two nesting colonies, viz., Vinge'tun and Second-Chain Islands, which totalled 255. The combined total therefore reaches the figure of 2090 birds. The young in these colonies were, most of them, on the verge of flight, and in another few days would have been on the wing. This is an increase of 1211 birds in 1935 as against 1934.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R. F. D. No. 1 Charleston, S. C.*

**Blue Goose and Glaucous Gull in North Carolina.**—On February 23, 1935, an adult female Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) was received at the Museum, in the flesh. The specimen had been picked up dead on the salt marsh about half a mile inside New River Inlet, Onslow County, on the previous day. Apart from the fact

that most of one side of the head had been eaten away by some predaceous animal, the specimen was in good condition, though the presence of several shot holes in the body indicated the probable cause of the bird's death. Mr. Clarence Cottam's record of the third North Carolina specimen, taken on Lake Mattamuskeet last winter (Auk, July, 1935) would place ours as the fourth record, accompanied by a specimen, from this state.

A Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) was taken in the harbor off Southport, N. C., on March 22, 1935, and reached the Museum, in the flesh, on the following day. It proved to be a female in second year immature plumage. This Gull had been observed off the Southport water-front for a week or more previous to its capture, and it would appear to be the third record, accompanied by a specimen, from North Carolina, one of the other two having been taken in the same immediate locality. As I am unable to find any record of this first Southport specimen in 'The Auk,' the following data are submitted: In a letter to my brother, C. S. Brimley, under date of January 26, 1920, Colonel Wirt Robinson, U. S. A., U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, reported the taking of a Glaucous Gull by one of his men near Fort Caswell, N. C., on February 19, 1904, Fort Caswell being situated on the west side of the Cape Fear River mouth and directly across the sound from Southport.—H. H. BRIMLEY, *Raleigh, N. C.*

**New Record for Fulvous Tree Duck in Missouri.**—In so far as I can get information, there are but two skins of the Fulvous Tree Duck (*Dendrocyana bicolor helva*) extant which were collected in the state of Missouri. One of these, I believe, is in the Smithsonian Institute and the other was from a bird killed in Marion County by Mr. William Evers of Quincy. This skin was positively identified by O. C. Poling of Quincy and Otto Widman of St. Louis.

On March 3, 1935, occurred one of the worst dust storms in the history of Missouri. Several days later a small boy living near Knox City, Missouri, told me that a peculiar bird had "blown" into his yard during this storm. When he told me it was larger than a Duck and smaller than a Goose, was yellow brown in color and had long legs, I was immediately suspicious. I drove to his farm and found a mature Fulvous Tree Duck trying to fraternize with the Geese, who drove it away and forced it to feed with the Ducks.

I stopped on a second occasion and was able to get within fifteen yards of the bird. I used eight power Goerz binoculars in studying every detail of the bird and there was no doubt of its identity. I called the attention of several other students of birds and in every case the identification corresponded with mine.

As I had no collector's license in Missouri I was unable to collect the bird, from which I should have made a skin and presented it to the museum of the University of Missouri.

At the time of my second visit, the bird took to the air several times when approached too closely, and circled about the barn, landing among the Geese. After a sojourn of nearly three weeks, the Fulvous Tree Duck again took to the air utilizing a strong north wind on its return to the Southland.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois.*

**A Note on the Turkey Vulture.**—On our way to Fredericksburg, Va., on the morning of July 1, 1935, I saw a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) feeding on a snake about three feet long, which had been killed by a passing motorist, and which was lying in the middle of the tarvia road.

The approach of our car startled the Vulture, whereupon it flew, with the snake