

throughout the country should be on the watch for this species.—ALLAN D. CRUICKSHANK, *Freeport, Long Island, New York.*

**Snowy Egret in Michigan.**—On August 10, 1935, Louis W. and Bernard R. Campbell collected a female Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula thula*) four miles southeast of Erie, Monroe County, Michigan, and have presented the specimen to the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology (now catalogue No. 85917). This constitutes the first unquestionable record of this species for Michigan.

Walter B. Barrows included this species in his list of Michigan birds (Michigan Bird Life, 1912: 141) on the basis of several alleged specimens. With a single exception, these records (including the one which Barrows incorrectly quoted as Norman Wood's record) were based on reports from A. B. Covert. Michigan ornithologists long ago learned the unfortunate necessity of ignoring Covert's records (Wilson Bulletin, 1913: 28) and in the case of at least two of the records here under consideration there are additional causes for doubt, not the least of which are Covert's own contradictory statements (mentioned even by Barrows). The one remaining specimen cited by Barrows is that from Kalamazoo in the collection of G. B. Sudworth. This specimen, now at the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station in Syracuse, was examined by Leonard W. Wing on August 19, 1932, and found to be not this species but the American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*). A report of a flock of eight seen by Benjamin O. Bush near Kalamazoo "during the month of August" [1924?] (Bird Lore, 26, 1924: 402) is of some interest, although the possibility of confusion with the Little Blue Heron must certainly be kept in mind.—JOSSELYN VAN TYNE, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

**Spring Occurrence of the American Egret in Ontario.**—In view of the scarcity of published records of the American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) from this province, it seems well to record a spring occurrence at Orillia, Simcoe County, Ontario, which is ninety miles north of Toronto.

In August, 1935, the writer accompanied by Mr. R. A. Smith, visited Mr. W. Sutherland, former taxidermist of Orillia, in search of local ornithological data. We were shown a beautifully mounted specimen of the American Egret in breeding plumage. It was adorned with 42 graceful, flowing 'aigrette' plumes. A label on the back of the case read: 'Great American Egret, April 30, 1908, Kean's Creek, foot of West Street, Orillia, Ontario.' According to Mr. Sutherland, the collector, the Egret was in company with several Great Blue Herons (*Ardea h. herodias*), when taken.

Spring records of Egrets are rare. There is a specimen in the National Museum at Ottawa, taken at Rockcliffe in the Spring of 1883 (Auk, Vol. 2, 1885, 110). One recorded by Seton (Auk, Vol. 2, 1885, 336) from Lake Nipissing in 1883, is now in the collection of the late Home Smith at the Old Mill, Toronto. There is another in the collection of J. H. Fleming of Toronto, taken at Port Union, Ontario, on May 24, 1895 (Auk, Vol. 23, 1906, 447). The writer is indebted to Mr. Sutherland for the privilege of recording this rare species.—O. E. DEVIET, *Toronto, Ontario.*

**A Red Phase of the Black-crowned Night Heron.**—To the best of my knowledge the Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoacelli*) has not to date been noted as having an erythristic phase. In the Dickey collection is a specimen collected at Laguna Beach, Orange County, California, on July 10, 1912, by Leon Gardner, which represents this phase in what is probably an extreme degree. It is an immature bird of unknown sex, but of just what age is uncertain since it does not