

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. DEVRTT, *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

correspond with any of the plumage sequences set forth by Gross (Auk, 40, April, 1923). Dorsally it would seem to be in the "first nuptial plumage," since it has a streaked crown and also retains the juvenile wing feathers combined with a solidly colored, immaculate mantle. However, the underparts are unstreaked, although slightly clouded in an irregular manner. In color the mantle (including the wing coverts) is close to glossy "Hays Russet," and the underparts are distinctly tinged laterally and on the pectoral region with reddish instead of the usual grayish tones. The flight feathers and tail are normal in color.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.*

**Southern Winter Range of *Ixobrychus exilis hesperus*.**—Two adult males and one immature male were taken by the author near Huacho, Peru, in February, 1932. They agree in all particulars with the colors and measurements given by the describer of this bird, the tarsi and toes reaching the maximum given for the race. Apparently this is the first South American record for the subspecies. Peters (Checklist of the Birds of the World) gives a record from Panama with a question.

They were taken in a small marsh near the seacoast, caused by drainage from an irrigation system in the vicinity. Several others, mostly immature birds, were seen at the same place. It would thus seem that it is a regular winter visitor along the west coast of South America, as far south as central Peru.—M. A. CARRIKER, JR., *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

**Invasion of Glossy Ibises in Puerto Rico.**—During the winter of 1935 and 1936 there was an unusual invasion of Glossy Ibises (*Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus*) in Puerto Rico. Previously the species was not definitely known to occur on the island. On September 14, 1935, I observed an individual in immature plumage in some mangrove swamps east of Parguera, but it proved impossible to collect it. During December, 1935, and January, 1936, I received from various sources information regarding flocks of as many as thirty individuals seen at Guánica and Anegado Lagoons. On February 13, 1936, a hunter brought me two adult females in winter plumage which he had just shot at a small lagoon near Añasco; these are now preserved in my collection. It is impossible to state yet whether individuals will remain to breed in Puerto Rico, or if this was a sporadic post-breeding season migration such as is well known to take place in certain Herons.—STUART T. DANFORTH, *University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.*

**Ring-necked Duck in Berkshire County, Mass.**—On April 24 of this year Mr. G. Bartlett Hendricks and myself identified a raft of three male and about eighty female Ring-necked Ducks (*Marila collaris*) on Stockbridge Bowl, Stockbridge. The following day Mr. Hendricks identified two males on Onota Lake, Pittsfield. In both cases the observers were able to see the markings on the bills as well as other distinguishing characteristics. This is the first known record of the Ring-necked Duck in Berkshire County.—S. MORRIS PELL, *Lenox, Mass.*

**Bay Ducks Frozen to the Beach.**—When a severe cold wave strikes Long Island it is not unusual to have even the large tidal bays freeze over, but seldom is the temperature sustainably low to have any effect on the very saline ocean waters. During the past winter, however, we experienced one of the most persistent cold spells Long Island has had in over a score of years and not alone did streams, ponds, bays and tidal creeks freeze over, but the ocean surf itself finally succumbed and turned into a pulpy, soupy mass . . . heavy dead waves would come wearily up to the shore and drop with a thud sending a slushy mass of ice rolling up on the beach.