

1936-37 on Barr Lake, Adams County, Colorado, and were observed on several occasions by the undersigned.

**CANADA GOOSE**, *Branta canadensis canadensis*.—This is the common goose in Colorado, although there are comparatively few specimens in collections. During the winter of 1936-37, several hundred birds wintered on Barr Lake, Adams County, and vicinity, where we saw them on many occasions.

**HUTCHINS'S GOOSE**, *Branta canadensis hutchinsi*.—This subspecies has been considered a common migrant by Bergtold (l. c., 1928) on the basis of sight records of small *Branta*, apparently. We find only one specimen, however, recorded by Selater (l. c., 1912) from the State Historical Society's collection as a definite record. This bird, a male, which was taken near Loveland, Larimer County, Colorado, on April 10, 1898, by J. F. Campion, is now in the collection of this institution (no. 14709) and we find that it is *Branta canadensis leucopareia*, as described by Taverner (Ann. Rept. Nat. Mus. Canada, 1929). It is a light-bellied bird and measures as follows: culmen, 39.5 mm.; wing, 425 mm.; tarsus, 71 mm. On the basis of the above, and the lack of other records, we suggest that *hutchinsi* be dropped from the Colorado state list.

**CKACKLING GOOSE**, *Branta canadensis minima*.—This small goose is included in the list of Colorado birds on the basis of one record, given by Selater (l. c., 1912). This specimen was taken April 10, 1898, near Loveland, Larimer County, Colorado, by J. F. Campion, on the same date as the bird heretofore considered as *hutchinsi*. This specimen, now in the Colorado Museum of Natural History collection (no. 14708), was obtained from the State Historical Society's collection, and, like the above, must be considered as *leucopareia*. It measures: culmen, 37 mm.; wing, 385 mm.; tarsus, 66.5 mm. *Branta c. minima* should be dropped from the Colorado list, as it has been included on the basis of this single specimen.

**LESSER CANADA GOOSE**, *Branta canadensis leucopareia*.—Small *Branta* occur uncommonly in Colorado. Although the naturalists of this Museum have tried for years to obtain specimens from game clubs and sportsmen, only one has been secured. It is an adult female (no. 11378) and was collected at Masters, Weld County, Colorado, by Thomas Holland, on November 10, 1925. This, and the two specimens mentioned above (adult female no. 14708 and adult male no. 14709), taken near Loveland, Larimer County, Colorado, on April 10, 1898, by J. F. Campion, are the only ones of this race represented in our collection. Occasionally small geese are observed in flocks of *canadensis*, and it is probable that they should be referred to as *leucopareia*.

**AMERICAN BRANT**, *Branta bernicla hrota*.—Selater (l. c., 1912) lists this as a State bird on the basis of one shot, but not preserved, by Captain Thorne, at Fort Lyon, Bent County, on April 11, 1883. He says there can be little doubt about its identification, but it seems to us that the data are too questionable and that the race should be dropped from the list of Colorado birds.—ALFRED M. BAILEY AND ROBERT J. NIEDRACH, *Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado*.

**Mexican Turkey Vulture in southern Florida**.—Several years ago Dr. Alexander Wetmore, while examining bone fragments taken from Pleistocene deposits near Saint Petersburg, Florida, found bones of a Mexican Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura aura*) in a good state of preservation, and, at the time, suggested to me the possibility that this southern race might well be still the breeding bird in the extreme southern part of Florida. Unfortunately no skins were available in any collections to verify this conjecture, and it was not until this past spring that the opportunity presented itself to obtain a small series of these birds from the Cape Sable region.

On March 18, 1937, while engaged in field work at Cape Sable with Mr. Arthur H. Howell, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, and Mr. John B. Semple, of Coconut Grove, Florida, Mr. Semple, at my suggestion, collected a male Turkey Vulture near Flamingo that, from its measurements, apparently represented the southern race. This skin was sent to Dr. Harry C. Oberholser for identification and on being advised by him that it actually was *aura* and not *septentrionalis*, Mr. Semple, with characteristic zeal, collected nine more specimens from this same area for the Biological Survey collection. Of this number, four males, taken March 25, April 1, and April 6, likewise proved to be this southern form; the remaining five were the common Turkey Vulture of the eastern United States. Further study will be necessary to determine the abundance and northern limits of *Cathartes aura aura* in southern Florida, but it would seem now that this southern race, heretofore completely overlooked in this region, is a relatively common bird, at least as far north as Miami. I am indebted to Mr. Semple for the privilege of recording the circumstances under which this species was, for the first time, definitely added to the list of birds known to occur in Florida.—THOMAS D. BURLEIGH, *U. S. Biological Survey, Gulfport, Louisiana.*

**Black Vulture following aeroplane.**—On March 12, 1935, as I was attending to my duck banding in my wildfowl refuge near Avery Island, Louisiana, I heard the noise of an aeroplane, and glancing up, saw what I supposed were two planes—one a little in advance of the other. As they came nearer, coming over me, I looked up and saw that what I had taken for a second aeroplane was a Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) following the plane a little below it, and about two hundred feet behind it. This bird was sailing, and kept, as nearly as I could judge, exactly the same distance behind this plane, as far as I could see it. The thing was so incredible, that I failed to make public note of it.

On December 20, 1937, at fourteen minutes of twelve, I, with my daughter, Mrs. Harold G. Osborn, whose home is in Ponca City, Oklahoma, was out in my wildlife refuge. The noise of an aeroplane attracted our attention, and my daughter said, "There are two of them—one small one a little lower and following the other." As they came nearer, I looked a second time, and saw that what we had taken for a second plane was a Black Vulture sailing at about two hundred feet behind and a little lower than the aeroplane. This bird did not flap its wings, as far as I could see it, and kept, as nearly as we could judge, exactly the same distance behind the plane as when first seen. We watched until they were both out of sight to the east. On both occasions, the plane sighted was the mail plane running between Houston and New Orleans, and the flight was from west to east. According to the Post Office Department at New Orleans, the approximate speed of these planes is from 127 to 160 miles an hour. In order to give positiveness to this statement, I am having my daughter, Mrs. Osborn, sign it with me, as I deem it a most unusual exhibition of bird speed!—E. A. McILHENNY AND ROSEMARY McI. OSBORN, *Avery Island, Louisiana.*

**Black and Turkey Vultures in Westchester County, New York.**—On the afternoon of May 7, 1936, following a week of steady southerly winds, I observed a Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) near the town of North Salem, at the northern end of the county. With the alternate flapping and sailing flight characteristic of the species, the bird circled several times overhead at an altitude so low that its points of identification could be established even without the aid of the eight-power binocular through which it was examined: the wings shorter and broader than in the Turkey Vulture; the circular, silvery patches on the underwing at the base of the primaries