

colonies there have been under vigilant care of Audubon Warden Marvin Chandler for the past several seasons and, as far as field work can reveal, there are no others in the state now. While the nesting season varies considerably in extent and date of commencement, it usually takes place from late February on through May. Howell states that, at times, nests have been found as early as January, and Bent in his 'Life Histories of North American Birds of Prey,' lists 68 breeding records occurring from February 15 to July 20. No breeding record after late July has hitherto appeared in the literature which is available to the writer. One would not expect any.

However, very recently the writer was the recipient of some amazing information from that state of amazements, Florida. Through Mr. Clinton C. Sherman, Jr., of West Palm Beach, a gentleman who has the good of Florida's bird-life much at heart, an ardent field observer, taxidermist, and sportsman, a new chapter has been added to the life history of the Everglade Kite. On November 2, 1941, while duck hunting in the marsh south of Clewiston on the south shore of Lake Okeechobee, he found three nests of this species! One nest held one egg and one newly-hatched chick; the other two nests held two eggs each. The writer in answering this letter, requested Mr. Sherman to watch this little colony and report on further progress. A letter, dated Nov. 12, has just been received which states that on Nov. 9 another trip was made to the locality and an additional nest discovered. This held three eggs. The former three nests then contained two young each, all having hatched since Nov. 2. In one instance the youngsters appeared to be about a day old.

The surroundings are unlike the grassy 'reefs' of Lake Okeechobee where the nesting colonies known to the writer occur. According to Mr. Sherman his nests, now four in number, are "in the middle of a large marsh of cat-tails, deer-tongue, pepper-grass and water lilies with a few scattering willow trees." He took several photographs of the nests and young which have not yet been received by the writer. This is an absolutely unprecedented occurrence, and utterly at variance with the usual nesting season. Recently, the National Audubon Society issued a pamphlet on the status of the Everglade Kite, primarily for distribution among Florida duck hunters, and Mr. Sherman has been very diligent in distributing these. The kite is a decided favorite of his and he has frequently urged his fellow sportsmen not to shoot the birds. He intends to keep a careful watch on this remarkable colony and will report how the youngsters fare. He has added a valuable piece of information on the ornithology of the Lake region, and the writer is indebted to him for making the information available.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *The Crescent, Charleston, S. C.*

American Egrets nesting at high altitude.—The American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) is usually considered as breeding in semi-tropical, low-lying swamps, islands, keys, bayous and the like, of the southern states. True, in recent years it appears to have extended its range to the northward at least as far as Paulsboro, New Jersey, and has been known in the west for some years. However, as far as the writer is aware, the great majority of its nesting areas are characterized by either water-level elevation (sea level) or very slightly above that. Situated as he is at the present writing (Rockport, Texas), the writer is divorced from any contact with a reference library and has no recollection of egrets breeding at high altitudes. Therefore, the following should be of more than ordinary interest, and may constitute a 'high' in the nesting habits of this increasing species.

Audubon Warden H. C. Blanchard, of Brownsville, stationed usually in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, but currently patrolling the area about Corpus Christi, has furnished the writer with the following information. In the summer of 1938, he made a trip to the west coast from Brownsville, travelling by car through New Mexico and Arizona. As is his invariable habit, he kept a watch for birds on the way, and his long years of collecting and ornithological guiding in various parts of Texas and the west has accustomed him to such observation. While in the vicinity of Flagstaff, Arizona, he heard of a colony of egrets nesting not far off. He investigated this report in July, 1938, and found it to be authentic. He found twelve pairs of egrets nesting at what is known as Mormon Lake, Arizona, about thirty miles southeast of Flagstaff. He understood at the time that the elevation of this place was "about 7600 feet." The writer has communited with reliable sources in Flagstaff, and has ascertained that the exact elevation of Mormon Lake is 7000 feet. This would appear, in the lack of any additional information, to be the highest elevation at which the egret has been known to nest, at least in the writer's knowledge. The peculiar post-breeding-season migration of some of the herons has resulted in their being seen by the writer in the North Carolina mountains at elevations of at least 4500 feet, these being Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*), but he has never seen an egret in the east at even this elevation, much less nesting thereat. Seven thousand feet is a considerable elevation for a bird of this species, and constitutes a most interesting record and item in the life history of the bird.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *Charleston, South Carolina*.

A hummingbird migration.—In the case of most birds, both the method and the time of migration are hidden by the darkness of night, and usually our knowledge of their movements is summed up in the statement that they were here yesterday and now they are gone, or the converse, that yesterday there were none and now they are here. Even in the case of those we can see because they fly by day, except for the few reports from such favored localities as Point Pelee, Ontario, we know very little of times and ways. With no other bird are the foregoing statements more emphatically true than in the case of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*), whose insignificant size removes him from our view before he has gone a hundred yards. Therefore it gave me a most pleasurable shock when I found myself with two capable assistants watching a daylight migration of those birds on August 30, 1936.

The locality was at the top of the cliff, some 150 feet in height on the north shore of Lake Erie, two miles east of Port Stanley, Ontario. This is the spot where we look each year for the autumn migration of hawks and we had actually gone there on that day hoping to see some of the first hawks, though feeling that we were probably too early. Hawks and some other birds turn west in autumn when they reach the north shore of the lake, and it is positively known that many of them cross the lake at Point Pelee, 100 miles west; it seems a fair assumption that they do so at Long Point and Rondeau also. Long Point extends about twenty miles east from the mainland, and the bay at that point is more than twenty miles from the land. At Rondeau the shore takes a dip toward the south, but no flight has been observed there. The observations of Mr. George North at Kingsville, some ten miles west of Point Pelee, in 1936, showed that all the hawks seen there were still going west. Whether all of those go around the end of the lake is yet unknown.

Now that most of our hawks have been killed, there are not enough left to