

March 10, 1944, I flew with Ray Renshaw in an Alaska Game Commission plane over Prince of Wales Island, several smaller islands, and part of the Cleveland Peninsula. During the trip we counted over 300 swans. They looked big and the knowledge that Trumpeters were known to winter in the adjoining Queen Charlotte Islands and on the north end of Vancouver Island made it reasonable to believe they were of that species.

In March, 1945, Dan Ralston, the Wildlife Agent in Ketchikan, made a one-day check from a plane and counted 257 swans on Prince of Wales Island, six on the Cleveland Peninsula, and 61 on Revillagigedo Island, or a total of 324 birds. He knows of about 25 more that winter on the mainland from South Behm Canal to Cape Fox, an area which could not be covered in the survey. This makes a total of about 350 wintering birds in the Territory.

On April 4, 1945, at Ward's Lake, Ralston found a dead swan and forwarded the bones to me for identification. It was a Trumpeter Swan. This seems to settle the question of identity and to increase greatly the total known wintering population of Trumpeter Swans on the Northwest Coast.—IRA N. GABRIELSON, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington 25, D. C.*

Brown Pelican colony on Cape Romain Refuge increases.—The nesting colony of Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis occidentalis*) found on the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, Charleston County, South Carolina (near the northern limit of the Atlantic Coast breeding range of this species) has shown a continued and satisfactory increase.

For many years the nesting colony has been situated in several sites now in the refuge, the best location having been the tallest dunes at the southern end of Cape Island. In 1943 the birds abandoned these dunes for those on the southern end of the adjacent Raccoon Key, and in 1944 the birds again nested on Raccoon Key. In that year the first spring observation of a pelican on the refuge was made on February 24; by the middle of March the birds were commonly observed.

A nesting site was selected on the tallest dunes. The colony was first visited for close examination on April 20, at which time about 300 adult pelicans were present and egg-laying was well under way. A total of 133 nests had been constructed, of which two contained three eggs, 23 had two eggs each, 25 had one egg, and 83 nests were only partly completed. Three days later, two nests contained the maximum of four eggs. Although the incubation period started between April 20 and 25, egg-laying continued over a long period.

On the twenty-seventh of May, 507 nests were found in the area and by the twenty-third of June, 559 nests had been counted; later counts revealed that a few more nests were built even after this latter date. The nests, of dune grasses, herbaceous plants, and beach drift, were built on the ground in an area of dunes only one-quarter of an acre in extent. Hatching began on or about May 19 and extended to July 26. On that date a count of 575 young birds, still unable to fly, was made. Since the average number of eggs per nest had been three, it was obvious that, even with no losses from human disturbance or tidal action, natural nesting loss was high. The colony was last visited on September 16, at which time there were 25 young still in the flightless stage. Throughout the summer, examinations of food remains about the nesting site indicated that 95 per cent was menhaden (*Brevoortia*) and five per cent was mullet (*Mugil*) and other species.

Although the largest number of adults observed together at the nesting colony was 750, the nest count indicated that at least 1,120 were in the vicinity. In

addition to these and the 575 young of the year, about 175 immature-plumaged non-breeders frequented the edges of the colony site. This 1944 Cape Romain colony, which contained an estimated total of 1,870 Brown Pelicans of all ages, was two to three times the size of the colony present in each of the five preceding summers.—WILLIAM P. BALDWIN, *Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, Mc Clellanville, South Carolina.*

White Pelicans in northeastern Ohio.—An outstanding record for Canton bird students was recorded May 19–20, 1945, when eight White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) visited Lake Cable, a few miles from the Canton city limits. The birds arrived in the late afternoon on May 19. By evening, word of their presence spread via telephone from residents, whose homes surround the lake, to Canton bird students. Several of us planned to visit the lake early the next morning.

At 6:30 on the morning of May 20, a heavy fog completely concealed the lake when I arrived with Mr. and Mrs. John M. Danner. As the fog began to lift about 7:15, the huge forms of the pelicans flickered into view through the ever-changing cloud. We could scarcely believe that so rare a 'find' as this had actually stayed overnight. The air soon cleared and we watched the birds as they swam rapidly about on the other side of the lake. Through our binoculars we had excellent views. Mrs. Vernon Mitchell joined us and was there when the birds took wing about 8:15. They circled high and, when only a mere speck through the binoculars, flew off as if heading for some distant lake. As we were returning to our cars, men who had joined us called that the birds were returning. It was then that we had our second thrill. Seeing the birds was an event in itself, but now they were giving us a performance of their formation flying with special antics added. The birds circled much lower and not far out over the lake. I snapped a few 35 mm. Kodachromes which show the birds in flight, although quite small on the pictures. The pelicans soon alighted on the lake and resumed their swimming. Judge and Mrs. J. L. Floyd arrived a short while later and observed the birds from a better vantage point. Local residents said the pelicans left permanently about 9:15 A. M.

We realized this was the first recorded observation of White Pelicans for Canton. Dr. Oberholser, Curator of Ornithology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, has kindly supplied us with some additional data on the occurrence of this species in northeastern Ohio. He states: "While I am not sure that I can give you all the records that have been made in northern Ohio, this much is apparent: There is one record for Lucas County; two for the vicinity of Oberlin; two or three for Sandusky Bay; and one for Wayne County. There are also a few records for northwestern Pennsylvania, not far from the Ohio line, and a few from near Pymatuning Swamp, presumably on the Pennsylvania side. * * * * We have, up to date, no certain record for the vicinity of Cleveland. The bird appears to be of more frequent appearance in central Ohio, that is, in the general region of Columbus than in any other part of the state, as there are a number of records for this species in this area."

We wondered if these birds might have been wanderers, possibly unmated birds. The horny prominence on the bill was plainly visible in flight on at least several of them.—ROBERT E. BALL, 2622 Tuscarawas Street West, Canton 6, Ohio.

Great White Heron in Mississippi.—On July 4, 1945, while on the deck of a 34-foot cabin cruiser at the mouth of the Jordan River in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, the writer identified a Great White Heron (*Ardea occidentalis occidentalis*).