

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*).

The bird, apparently an adult, was on the top of a boathouse and flew when we were within fifty yards, landing by the side of a marshy island a short distance away. Excellent views were had through 8-power binoculars while the bird was on the boathouse, in flight, and again when it was on the island. As it was about noon and the light good, there could be no confusion with the American Egret which is fairly common in that area. The legs were distinctly light yellowish, a diagnostic mark of this species, the bill large and yellowish, and the plumage immaculately white. These features as well as the size, behavior and rather heavy flight made the identification certain. Mr. Charles Breath, owner of the boat, also pronounced the legs pale yellowish after studying the bird through his own field glasses. The water at this point is salt and tidal and the location about three miles from Mississippi Sound, a part of the Gulf of Mexico. Another trip on July 8 to the same place on Bay St. Louis failed of results. A few white birds were seen at a distance but too far away for identification.

The writer spent almost four years at Key West as Refuge Manager for the Fish and Wildlife Service and became very familiar with these herons, making daily studies and photographs along the Florida keys and in the federal refuges.

There seem to be no records to date for either Mississippi or Louisiana as the recent admirable work, 'The Bird Life of the Gulf Coast Region of Mississippi' by Mr. Thomas D. Burleigh, 'The Bird Life of Louisiana' by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser, and other authorities have been consulted. In addition, Mr. Frederick C. Lincoln states that there are no records on file with the Fish and Wildlife Service for this bird in either of these states or in Alabama or Texas.

Some questions naturally arise. Where did it come from? Is it possible that some Great Whites make a northward migration in summer similar to certain other members of the heron family? In view of its restricted habitat and habits this does not seem likely, and there are not enough records of wandering birds as yet to warrant such a statement. Did stormy weather bring it here? There was a hurricane, June 22-24, which swept along the western coast of Florida, then turned eastward to the Atlantic near Daytona. However, from the position and direction of this storm, it is hardly possible that it was responsible. Have Navy and Army activities, such as bombing, firing, and aerial maneuvers along the Florida keys, frightened some birds from that area? Probably this individual was just a casual or accidental visitor; many such cases occur in the bird world. However, it is suggested that ornithologists and bird students, who are familiar with the species, keep a sharp lookout for this magnificent bird, which occasionally strays from its real home among the Florida keys.—EARLE R. GREENE, 22 *Virginia Court, New Orleans 19, Louisiana.*