

part of the baldpate.—JESSIE HAMBLETON, 182 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, Canada.

The American pintail in the Province of Quebec.—In June, 1945, the writer flushed an unknown female duck at Point St. Denis. Judging by her strange behavior she must have been brooding. Some time after, as I waited in the woods, she came back. I managed to see where she landed and found a nest with six or eight ducklings, one of which was captured and sent to Mr. W. E. Godfrey of the National Museum of Ottawa. It was identified as the pintail duck, *Anas acuta*. I think this is the second authentic record of breeding of the species in the Province of Quebec.—ABBÉ A. TANGUAY, *St. Ann de la Pocatiere, Province of Quebec, Canada*.

European teal in coastal South Carolina.—On November 28, 1947, while conducting the Audubon Wildlife Tour to Bull's Island, South Carolina, the writer with a group of eight observers, saw a well-plumaged male *Anas crecca* in House Pond. The bird was about 50 yards distant, in excellent light, and in company with four or five drakes of *Anas carolinense*. Even the observers unfamiliar with ducks could readily see the differences between this bird and the accompanying teal. The lack of the white bar in front of the wings and the presence of the horizontal white stripe on the scapulars was perfectly apparent and commented on by all of them.

The occurrence of *A. crecca* in South Carolina is, of course, purely accidental. One specimen was secured (February 13, 1930), at the Santee Gun Club, Charleston County, by Richard Bishop. This was recorded by Stone (*Auk*, 51: 227, 1934) and constituted the first record for this region. In December, 1946, the writer saw one of these teal on Bull's Island practically in the same place as recorded above. There have been, therefore, three records for this accidental wanderer in South Carolina, two of them sight records by this writer. The Bull's Island bird was still present on December 5, but in another pond (Moccasin).—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *The Crescent, Charleston 50, South Carolina*.

Breeding of the shoveler in New Brunswick.—During the course of the summer of 1948, I was able to follow the activities of a pair of shovelers, *Spatula clypeata*, which nested on the Midgic Marsh, in Westmorland County, New Brunswick, near the Nova Scotia boundary.

I first saw this pair on May 4 and continued to observe them during visits in May and the first half of June. On June 20, I flushed the female from her nest which was built on the bank of a small drainage ditch. The poorly concealed nest was located about three feet from the edge of a small, shallow pond and about six inches above the level of the water. It contained eight eggs and, judging by the behavior of the female, I would say that incubation was well under way.

On July 12, I visited the marsh after an absence of about two weeks. The nest was empty and there was not a sign of either of the shovelers. Previously, I had always observed both birds within 500 yards of the nest site.

It was not until August 7 that I again saw any sign of the shovelers. In the early evening I was observing a group of waterfowl from concealment in the cattails surrounding a pond of about five acres. This pond was approximately one mile from the nest described above. I saw a female shoveler duck with a brood of nine swimming towards me. They approached to within about six feet and, stepping out of my hiding place, I managed to retrieve four of the ducklings from the bottom of the pond where they had sought concealment. They were only a few days old and, although they bore no pinfeathers, their bills had begun to take on the shape

characteristic of the species. As they were too small to band I returned them to the water after a brief examination.

I am quite certain that there was only one pair of shovelers in the area. Therefore, this brood must have been the result of a renesting attempt. It is interesting to note that there was at least one more egg laid during the renesting than in the first attempt.

My last observation of the brood, on August 25, showed them to be well-feathered and about half the size of the female. By this date their number had dwindled to six.—G. F. BOYER, *R. R. No. 1, West Sackville, New Brunswick.*

Recent records of the ring-necked duck.—On August 3, 1947, a juvenile female ring-necked duck, *Aythya collaris*, almost ready to fly was trapped and banded by Jack Jedlicka at the Orland Wildlife Refuge, eight miles southwest of the Chicago city limits. His father who has previously banded ducks here for the Illinois Natural History Survey and he identified the bird.

The evidence points toward breeding in northern Illinois. This is further strengthened by observations of the author in 1940 when on June 26 and on July 3 and 5 he saw several males and a female of this species on Longjohn Slough, five miles north of the refuge near the town of Willow Springs, Illinois. It was not determined if these were breeding birds, but the dates are far past the spring migration period, as most individuals have passed through by the first week in May.

A review of the literature indicates that the southern breeding range of this species formerly extended into the lake region of northeastern Illinois, but it has not been known to nest there for many years. However, at present the ring-necked duck appears to be a rare breeder in this area.

Another interesting record of the ring-necked duck is that of an adult male banded at the refuge on March 23, 1945, and shot on October 27, 1945, at Mingan, Quebec, north of Anticosti Island. Correspondence with Dr. Oliver Hewitt of the Dominion Wildlife Service and Mr. Howard Mendall of the Maine Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit reveals that this apparently constitutes the most northeasterly record for the species.—PAUL F. SPRINGER, *Illinois Natural History Survey Laboratory, Havana, Illinois.*

Greater scaup eating frogs.—On April 12, 1948, four greater scaup, *Aythya marila*, were observed eating frogs on a roadside pond near Ortonville, Minnesota. The ducks diving near the shore and perhaps 30 yards from the road had swallowed several large objects before we recognized that the objects were frogs. Seven frogs were then eaten within the next few minutes. Apparently they were leopard frogs, *Rana pipiens*, with a body length of about two inches. I believe they were in the dormant condition as yet. Near the middle of the pond, 100 yards from us, were three more greater scaup and ten lesser scaup, *Aythya affinis*, which fed on vegetable material.—WILLIAM H. LONGLEY, *Saint Paul, Minnesota.*

Rallus philippensis on Mindoro, Philippine Islands.—Mr. J. Frank Cassel has generously donated a small collection of birds from New Guinea and the Philippines to Cornell University. Among these specimens is a skin of *Rallus philippensis* from San José, Mindoro, P. I. This specimen apparently represents the first record of the banded rail from any Philippine island other than Luzon or Bataan (Delacour and Mayr, *Birds of the Philippines*, 1946: 62).

The specimen is a subadult female taken April 1, 1945. It was captured by William K. Clark in a rat trap near a garbage pit in an old sugar-field which had