

An Unusual Flight of Geese.—It may be common in some parts of the country for immense flocks of geese to pass by on migrations—the writers cannot be positive of that—but it is very uncommon in Iowa, Nebraska, or the Middle West for six or seven thousand geese to pass over in a few hours.

Such was the experience of the writers on March 14, 1928, between the hours of 7 A. M. and 1 P. M., in South Dakota across the Big Sioux River west of Sioux City, Iowa. It seemed to be one continuous procession of flocks going northward, flying high or low, but never stopping on the partly ice-covered lakes of the region.

Four species of geese were noted: White-fronted Goose, 2; Blue Goose, 3805; Snow Goose, 668; Canada Goose, 2386; and unidentified geese, 316 indi-



Flocks of Blue Geese on March 18, 1928

viduals. The total number of all species was 7177. Flocks varied in size from a few to over a thousand. Snow Geese were never seen in flocks by themselves but were scattered in flocks of other species. The two White-fronted Geese were in a large flock of Canada Geese with a few Snow Geese included.

Flocks could be heard long before coming into sight. It was noteworthy that the Canada Geese flapped their wings much slower than other species, and also appeared to maintain their flock formations better.

Never, within the knowledge of bird students of the Sioux City locality, has there been as many geese seen in one day and the big, unanswered question is, what was the reason for such a large number at that time.—WALTER M. ROSEN and WALTER W. BENNETT, *Sioux City, Iowa*.

Increase of Blue Geese in the Missouri Valley.—On March 18, 1928, I had the pleasure of being in the field with Mr. Bennett and Mr. Youngworth, on the Missouri River bottoms, about twenty miles south of Sioux City. The trip was taken especially to see the geese, which had been reported to us. The geese were too numerous to count, or even to estimate with very great accuracy. But the writer put down the following figures for the Blue Goose: 1500, 250, 500, 4000, 300, 4000; and the following figures for the Snow Goose: 6, 100, 40, 100. These figures refer to birds in the air, except the two counts of 4000 for the Blue Goose, and the two of 100 for the Snow Goose. Those in flight were in many flocks of varying size, some of which undoubtedly contained one or two