

## GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

**Starlings in Washington County, Iowa.**—A wandering flock of twelve Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was seen on August 22, 1931, two miles southwest of Washington, Iowa. All were in dull plumage, presumably birds of the year.—PHILIP A. DuMONT, *Des Moines, Iowa*.

**The Brown Pelican in South Dakota.**—I wish to report the occurrence of five Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) among a flock of White Pelicans (*P. erythrorhynchos*) on Lake Oakwood, about twelve miles northeast of Arlington, South Dakota. They were seen on August 26, 1931, by Mr. George P. Reed, who was familiar with the Brown Pelican in Florida and Texas, where he lived for several years.—ADRIAN LARSON, *Arlington, S. D.*

**An Additional Observation of Food Regurgitation by Young Kingbirds.**—Referring to C. S. Bauman's article "Food Regurgitation by Young Kingbirds" (WILSON BULLETIN, XLIII, pp. 146-147, June, 1931), I wish to report that on August 22, 1931, several boys found near my home a young Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) with a wounded left wing and no tail. It could not fly and would not eat. I fed it sour cherries, bread, and insects. After each feeding of cherries, it would regurgitate a pellet comprised of the skins of the cherries. When fed insects, I would find in the cage pellets of portions of the insects, perhaps the indigestible parts.—MARIE V. BEALS, *Elmhurst, L. I., N. Y.*

**A Probable Extension of the Breeding Range of the Prairie Warbler.**—The Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*), a bird not previously accredited to the state of Louisiana as a breeder, can now probably be considered such, judging from the following records of observations made in the region of Monroe in northern Louisiana:

On June 9, 1931, in a section of scattered oak and pine covered with scrubby growth and thickets, two birds were heard in full song. In the same locality, on June 19, an adult male was collected, and upon dissection the testes were found to be large and well developed. Again, on July 8, this species of warbler was observed.

These records cannot be considered as positive indications of the species breeding here, but due to the favorable situations in which it was found, and the regularity of occurrence, it is highly probable that it does.—GEORGE LOWERY, *West Monroe, La.*

**A Bald Eagle Swims.**—On February 3, 1931, Dr. Lynds Jones and the writer watched a Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) from less than a hundred yards distance for about ten minutes. The eagle circled around four or five times, apparently trying to get a fish in the open water of Lake Erie, at Beaver Park four miles west of Lorain, Ohio. Each time it failed to lift the fish from the water. Finally it settled down on the fish and sat there in the icy water, floating as nicely as a gull. It kept working with its feet and occasionally with its wings, moving the latter with a forward and backward motion and keeping them above the water. At last it seemed to be gradually sinking, until only its head and wings were above water. We wondered if it was in trouble and had gotten so soaked it could not get up. Then it apparently made rather earnest efforts to come in toward the shore. At last it shook itself desperately and tried to fly up. It brought the fish, a carp about eighteen to twenty inches long, to the surface,

but had to drop it there again. It then gave it up as a bad job and flew away. Floating ice was near at hand so the water was ice cold. The eagle was in the water for between five and eight minutes, at least.—ROBERT L. BAIRD, *Oberlin, Ohio*.

**Records of the White Ibis in Southern Indiana.**—Records of ibises north of the Ohio River are so few that the following experiences seem worth recording. On July 25, 1925, the Louisville Courier-Journal carried this item in a "box" on the front page.

**"QUEER WATER BIRDS STOP AT NEW ALBANY**

"A flock of birds of unusual species that flew across the country just north of the city and roosted in a tree on the knobs just off the Dixie Highway a half mile north of New Albany attracted much attention yesterday. It is said that twenty or more were in the flock.

"Measuring approximately three feet from tip to tip of the wings the birds had a rather short body with legs approximately eighteen inches long, a beak ten inches long with a sharp point, and are web-footed. In color the birds are pure white with a black border on the lower part of the wings, apparently one row of black feathers.

"No bird of the species ever has been seen in this section by old residents of the knobs."

With all due allowance for the inaccuracies of a newswriter's description, it tallies fairly well with that of the White Ibis (*Guara alba*), which would certainly be of rare occurrence in this part of Indiana.

On August 18, 1925, the writer stopped on a journey from Henderson, Kentucky, to Mt. Vernon, Indiana, to investigate a creek-bottom swamp, overgrown with arrowhead, cane, and buttonbush. A large dead tree stood lonely sentinel in the midst of the swamp. Perched on the topmost branches were two tall white birds, preening their plumage in the morning sunlight. Two Boy Scouts, James N. Childs and Robert Kopp, of Huntington, West Virginia, were with me at the time. We all had a splendid view of the birds through binoculars at an easy stone's throw from the tree. At such close range we observed that each bird had yellow legs and a yellow bill, downcurved at the tip, the latter a distinguishing character of the White Ibis. When we ventured too close the birds extended their black-tipped wings and with outstretched necks flew slowly away.—ROBERT B. GORDON, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*.

**The American Egret and Least Tern in South Dakota.**—On July 25, 1931, a lone American Egret (*Casmerodius albus egretta*) was found at Loblolly Lake, South Dakota, by T. C. Stephens. The bird was in company with one hundred or more Great Blue Herons (*Ardea h. herodias*) and quite a few Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*). This egret has been seen many times since with the other herons. Probably the first record of the American Egret in South Dakota was in June, 1929, when Professor W. F. Kubi-check, of Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, collected one at Rush Lake, in the northeastern part of the state.

The past summer (1931) has evidently been a good one for the Least Terns (*Sterna a. antillarum*), as the writer has noticed them in many parts of north-western Iowa and southeastern South Dakota. One of the nesting sites near Sioux City was on a bar in the Missouri River, about one mile from Loblolly Lake. On August 3, the writer counted not less than 150 Least Terns, many im-