General Notes

ahead. I started toward it, and as I neared the tree a Barred Owl flew from an adjoining tree. The heron took after the owl, squawking, and followed it across a small opening in the woods. When the owl had disappeared the heron returned and alighted at the edge of the stream, quite contented. Was this heron actually trying to attract my attention to the hiding place of the owl? It seemed that way to me, for I had been in the vicinity of this woods for a long time before this happened and up to that time the heron had made no commotion or I should have noticed it.—F. W. RAPP, Vicksburg, Mich.

Some Bird Notes from Central Illinois.—Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*). Three Blue Geese were seen March 19, 1933, three miles southwest of Manito, **at** the edge of a small pond, by W. C. Van Deventer and the author.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*). On April 6, 1935, W. Kannapal and the author saw an Osprey near Spring Lake. The bird was noted several times. The last date of observation was May 12, 1935.

Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus cachinnans*). A crippled male bird was found in Peoria, July 22, 1934. The bird died within a few days, refusing to take food of any kind. The skull was saved.

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*). V. H. Chase saw two of these birds at close range January 11, 1925, in the city of Peoria. The observation followed a severe sleet storm.

Evening Grosbeak (Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina). Dr. W. Packard reports having seen six Evening Grosbeaks in early April of 1934, near Banner. The birds remained in the vicinity for about three weeks.—WILLIAM C. STARRETT, Peoria, Ill.

The Cruising Speed of the Golden Plover.—While on a business trip across the fertile Hornick Bottoms south of Sioux City, Iowa, on October 1, 1935, the writer had a splendid opportunity to determine the speed of the Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus dominicus*). A flock of about thirty of these birds was first noticed flying parallel to the highway and just inside of the fence line. The speed of the car at this time was an even sixty miles per hour. The birds were, however, pulling away from the car at this speed, but by increasing the speed of the car to seventy miles per hour I was able to keep even with the plovers. This pace was kept up for nearly a mile until the birds swerved out over a field and were soon out of sight. I think that this speed is not unusual for the Golden Plover and had danger threatened in the form of one of the large falcons, this speed probably could have been increased quite a bit more, for a short distance.—WM. YOUNGWORTH, Sioux City, Iowa.

Bird Notes from Anderson, Indiana.—This spring (1933) we had the honor of a call from a Woodcock. It came to our back yard, but disappeared with a whir of wings as a member of the family almost stepped upon it. We live but four blocks from the center of the city, yet our yard is a small wilderness which many birds of unusual varieties visit, owing to its many attractions for birds of almost every kind. The back of the lot is entirely filled with dense shrubs, suitable for birds, with a hidden rockery and bird bath and leaves left as they fall, thus attracting many birds of the wilderness. We have room for only a flagstone walk through the place, and in the hot summer weather birds collect in this cool spot, where water and shelter attracts them and bird enemies are few.