

Cattle Egret

10 August 1952. One adult. IL., Cook Co., Saganashkee Slough. With Bob Pringle. "Unbelievably accidental!!! Flew with neck drawn in. 'Rapid' heron flight. Size of Snowy Egret and Little Blue Heron. All white except top of head, back of neck and back, which were washed with rusty; also area where neck and breast meet washed with rusty. Bill, bright yellow, apparently all around. Feet dusky or blackish. Identified after considerable book work at the Chicago Natural History Museum and talking with Rand and Blake. Also called Karl Plath and talked over the possibility of escape from Brookfield or any other U.S. zoo. Karl didn't know of any in captivity at the present time, but suggested that I write to check. Gave me names and addresses. Never got around to it.' (Clark saw Little Blue and Snowy at the same place and time; I include this record for historical reasons, as it was a state record at the time. — LCB)



Cattle Egrets. Drawing by Francina Lindon.

European Goldfinch

27 September 1953. Five, possibly seven. IL., Cook Co., Chicago, Foster at Lake Michigan. Alone. "5 possi-

bly 7, seen near the vegetable gardens at Foster. I first saw a peculiar bird that I did not recognize. It seemed to be more or less gray all over but it had a bright yellow (wide) vertical band on the wings. I saw it for about 10 seconds before it flew. I didn't know what it was — the only thing I could think of was that it may have been a European goldfinch. I continued to look and found a small flock of birds. One of these, a young one, was begging for food and was being fed by — a European goldfinch (adult). I saw the red front part of the head, the creamy side patch, and the black crown and nape; also, the broad vertical band of yellow on the wing; the brownish back; and all of the other finer points. The call was goldfinch-like, except wheezier or hoarser. When I got to the Sanctuary I saw Campbell's and Nork's cars. I rounded them up and back to Foster we tore. Luck was with us. We all had perfect views at close range, sun behind us. Birds even took a bath in a small rain puddle. There were two adults and three young, fully grown. Have to check to see if there is something unnatural about this occurrence. MOST UNUSUAL

RECORD!" On 25 October 1953 CTC (with Albert and Lee Campbell, T.J. Nork) saw two birds at the same place and wrote: "The European Goldfinches now have been seen by everyone who has made the effort. One individual today was so frowzy it looked as though it were molting. Could it be immature molting into adult plumage?"

Swainson's Hawk

9 May 1971. One adult light morph. IL., Lake Co., about 1 mile south of Half Day on US 45. Alone. "I was on my way to meet Larry at the Dundee Flats (SL) and, by error, continued northward on Milwaukee Ave. past Ill. 68 (which runs due east to the flats) almost to Half Day. About a mile south of Half Day I spotted a large hawk perched in a tree beside the road. I stopped (almost went on), and after viewing it through 8X (bird perched sideways), I became a bit excited. It looked suspiciously like a Swainson's. I'll cut out the details to save time. It was a light phase, adult, Swainson's. It soared almost over me for a

couple of minutes. The very dark flight feathers and white wing linings, the dark upper breast, the dark tail, narrowly barred, the slight dihedral of the wings, were all plainly visible. WHAT A THRILL! All because I accidentally went too far north before turning east.