

Evening Grosbeak, 6; Pine Grosbeak, 4; Common Redpoll, 5; White-winged Crossbill, 3; Snow Bunting, 40; (Add: Snowy Owl, 1) — **Joyce Gunn, Bill Anaka.**

SWAN RIVER, Dec. 26, 20 mi. by car. 16 species, 508 indiv. Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Canada Jay, 3; Blue Jay, 6; Magpie, 2; Black-capped Chickadee, 16; Brown-capped Chickadee, 1; White-breasted Nuthatch, 1; English Sparrow, 22; Evening Grosbeak, 36; Pine Grosbeak, 2; Hoary Redpoll, 3; Common Redpoll, 16; Red Crossbill, 4; White-winged Crossbill, 17; Snow Bunting, 375. (Add: Sharp-tailed Grouse, 1; Snowy Owl, 1; Great Gray Owl, 1; Pileated Woodpecker, 1; Raven, 5) — **Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McDonald.**

WYNYARD, Jan. 3. 8 species, 60 indiv. Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 2; Canada Jay, 1; Blue Jay, 1; Magpie, 3; Black-capped Chickadee, 10; English Sparrow, 30; Pine Grosbeak, 11. (Add: Evening Grosbeak, 2) — **D. Bardal.**

YORKTON, Dec. 26, 66 mi. by car in 4½ hrs., 10 mi. on foot in 4 hrs. 11 species, 415 indiv. Sharp-tailed Grouse, 22; Snowy Owl, 1; Hairy Woodpecker, 2; Downy Woodpecker, 1; Blue Jay, 1; Black-capped Chickadee, 8; Bohemian Waxwing, 7; Starling, 6; English Sparrow, 143; Pine Grosbeak, 7; Snow Bunting, 217. — **Mr. and Mrs. Art Gellert; Brother Clarence; Paul Welgan; Lionel Coleman; Cliff, Doug and Karen Shaw.**

The American Egret

(*Casmerodius albus egretta*)

NESTING IN MANITOBA

By RALPH D. BIRD, Brandon, Man.

Mr. E. L. Fox's article on the American Egret in the Oct.-Nov.-Dec. 1955 number of **The Blue Jay** has stimulated me to round out records on its occurrence and breeding by a short note on this bird in Manitoba. In 1954 and 1955 the American Egret appeared in all three prairie provinces. Oeming and Rigall (**Canadian Field-Nat.** 69(2):67-68) record the first occurrence of the bird in Alberta at Cowley and Edmonton in 1954. Fox records it nesting in Saskatchewan in 1955,



—Photo by R. D. Bird

and I have just submitted an article to **The Canadian Field-Naturalist** recording it nesting in Manitoba in the same year. Previous to this there have been only four sight records of the bird in Manitoba.

On May 10, 1955, I observed a single egret feeding on flooded flats of the Souris River near Napinka, Man. On June 5 I saw a single bird among a colony of Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons near Pipestone, and on returning on June 19 I found it had a nest and young. One bird was wary but the other, presumably the female, was quite tame and permitted me to obtain a number of photographs, one of which is included. On August 12 Mrs. James Stewart of Napinka saw an adult and three young close to the location where I had seen the single bird in May and only fifteen airline miles from the nesting site.

The number of recent egret records gives evidence of a possible northward extension of breeding range.

Another recent occurrence of a southern bird is a female Red-bellied Woodpecker, which I observed at the feeding station of Mrs. Cliff Chapman, ten miles southeast of Brandon, on New Year's Day 1956. There are only a few previous records of this bird in Manitoba.