

I had expected that the adult birds would have taken the chicks to the water some thirty feet away, but that was not so, I believe, in this case, because at 10.30 p.m. on November 3 the adult birds had not returned and I noticed one of the chicks at the entrance of the shelter. Next morning at 7 o'clock the chick had gone. Precisely the same procedure was followed by the other and although I watched until 12.30 a.m., hoping to see it depart, I missed it, and it had gone by 6 a.m. As far as I am aware these chicks had never previously left the shelter, yet they were able to find their way to the sea either by following the water channel by the road and down a drain-pipe, or crossing the road and taking the risk of traffic, yet I am sure they found the sea safely.

This has been an interesting study and one which I hope can be repeated next year, when better facilities for study will be introduced.

The following is a brief summary of dates and events:—

- 1938
- August 3—Adult birds adopted the shelter.  
" 4—First egg seen in the morning.  
" 9—Male bird returned at 7.30 p.m., and there at 10 p.m. I believe it did not replace the sitting bird. Dates of changes show that the female hatched the eggs. The female sat between August 4 and August 22.  
" 22—Birds changed over about midnight, the male replacing the female. The male bird sat until Sept. 2.
- Sept. 2—Change-over at 7 p.m.  
" 7—Change-over at 9.15 p.m.  
" 8—Change-over at 7.15 p.m.  
" 10—Chicks hatched before 8 p.m. Quite small and appeared very weak. At 9.40 birds changed over.  
" 11—Birds changed at 9.50 p.m.  
" 12-22—Birds changed regularly between 7 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.  
" 23—First witnessed the method of feeding.  
" 24—Birds changed at 8 a.m.  
" 25—Birds did not return.  
" 26-27—Birds changed at 8.25 p.m.  
" 28—Both birds at rest with the chicks.  
" 29—Birds did not return.  
" 30—Birds returned at 8.30 p.m.
- Oct. 1—From this time onwards chicks left alone all day, parents returning during the evening to feed.  
" 17—Noticed first signs of moulting.  
" 28—Most of the down now moulted.
- Nov. 1—Only little down left on back of flippers.  
" 3—Adult birds did not return. The male chick left some time between 10.30 p.m. and dawn.  
" 4—Female chick in shelter all day and suspecting she would leave I kept watch till 12.30 a.m. on November 5. Had gone at 6 a.m.

Mr. Peter Scott, of East Lighthouse, Sutton Bridge, Holbeach, England, is preparing a monograph to deal with all the Geese and Swans in the world, and hopes to include the best photographs which have been taken of such birds, some eight hundred in all. Will any members able to and desirous of helping Mr. Scott communicate with him direct.