

November 29, 1980

GETSCHER

12/1/80

Dear Dr. Kent

Coming right down to the wire. This is sort of the reason why I try to get off my few items early. However, I am adding some notes in case they may be of interest to you. You may recall that I wrote we had few geese here because of the warm weather, and those we saw were extremely high. The enclosed sheet gives you an up-to-date item.

Hope you had a nice thanksgiving. Our weather has been delightful to date but we'll get ours eventually!

Regards,

Jone

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Snow geese

Nov. 21-8

Flight after flight of geese flying normal height in a northeasterly direction, possibly to Riverton Refuge and maybe Forney's Lake. On the 27th fields were covered with these geese at the junction of the East and West Nishnabotna Rivers (our land abuts this) - covered acres to the extent you couldn't see the land.

On the 28th as we were traveling I-29 north geese flying low near Honey Creek (south of De Soto Bend closeby) in great numbers. It was reported that 150,000 geese were at De Soto Bend the day before, Thanksgiving day. If all were in that flight (and it was huge) then there had to be 150,000 geese which flew over Hamburg that same day (the 28th) from 9:30 to 10:00 in the morning. All these geese were flying south. If it is true that Squaw Creek is low in water then these geese going in a southwesterly direction would have to be going to Southeast Nebraska, along the Missouri R. Those we saw near Honey Creek seem to be heading for Forney's or Riverton Refuge. The Missouri River itself is quite low.

- from Riverton area

black ducks

Nov. 21

A flight of about 50 over Hamburg going NE

ring-billed gulls

Nov. 28

Three north of Forney's on one of the barrow pits, skimming it. Seems awfully late for them.

kingfisher

fall to date

I have 2 resident kingfisher I believe - and it could be a pair. I've had them almost a year

Ruth Phipps tells me they have pine siskins, evening grosbeaks and purple finches but I don't seem to have any of them. Just the regular winter birds.