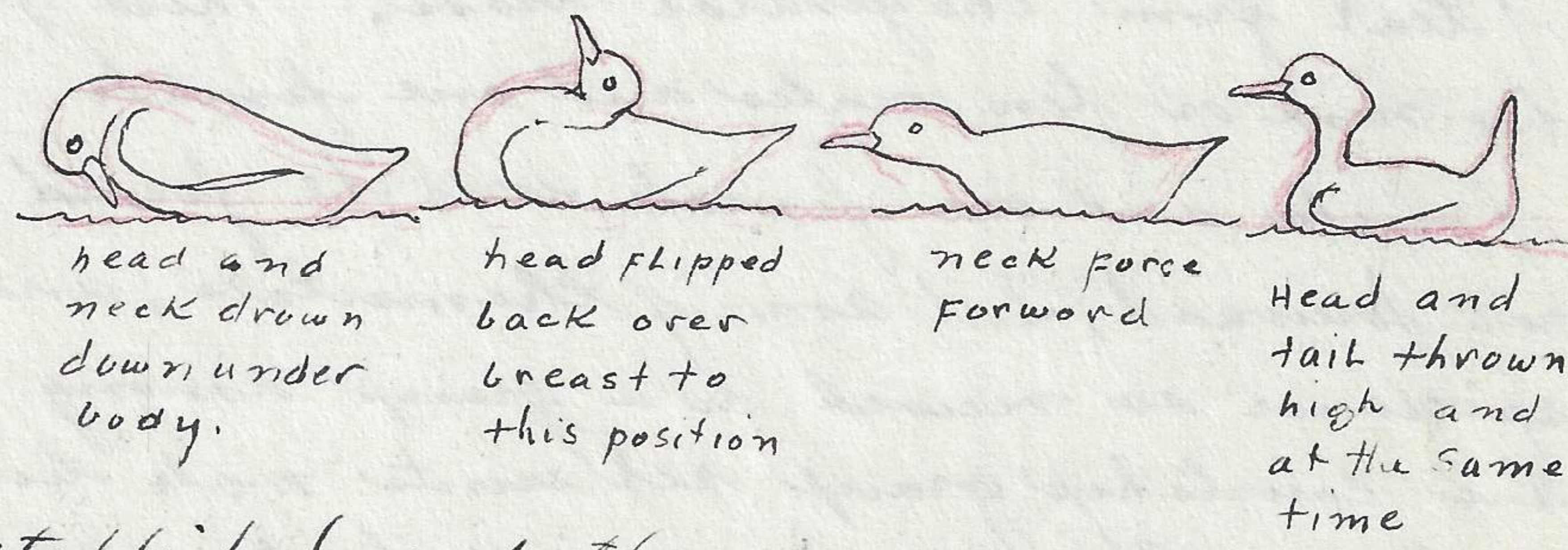


did not ^{want the female} to know that they were concerned with her. One could not but help compare the males actions with a small school boy "shawing off" before his girl friend. The males did not at any time approach the female directly or did they at any time, while observed actually contact or chase the female. Actions were carried on generally in front of her or in back of her some two feet away. The persistent following of the female kept her turning from side to side and confusion resulted at being favored so much. I wonder if possibly the female forms are smaller in so many cases because of ^{the} continual annoyance of the male forms. The actual courtship display of the male was the most conspicuous feature. After gliding by the female and stopping some 2 feet behind her, it would partially raise its body from the water and elevate its fore part. The head and bill was then placed as far down underneath the body over its breast as possible, taking on the appearance of straightening its feathers, then all of a sudden and with the speed of a released spring it would throw its head back over its back and then thrust it forward. This flipping of the head from its position under its breast to the position over its back is most conspicuous. The last act is for the bird to raise head with upstretched neck and at the same time raise tail. This movement reminded one of a ballet dancer throwing her head back and kicking it with her foot. After the head and tail are raised it falled back immediately to its normal position. The three parts of the display are followed in rapid succession without any pause between. The acts of this drama could

be crudely diagrammed as follows: The entire performance doesn't take over 4 seconds. I noticed



that there were many pairs of greenwing already established and the usual action of the male was to merely elevate head in a succession of jerky movements. Another interesting thing to occur during my stay here was the concern of my terris' dogs presence. The ducks had arrived and knew nothing of his presence although they could see me in partial view and their distribution indicated it. The dog remain concealed as long as his patience would last and then walk out into water in front of me some 10-15 feet. Had my glasses trained upon the ducks just before dog stepped out.