

unknown in this State. While still watching the specimen two more came into view and one flew so low, directly over me, that I could see his rather chunky body outlined against the grayish white of the under wing surface, the black nakedness of the neck and head and even the white tip of the bill. The bird turned his head this way and that while circling over me at low altitude evidently trying to determine if the person below him was alive or dead, but finally drifted away in the direction his fellows had taken. The comparatively small size and the shortish tail which gave a decidedly chopped-off appearance to these Vultures, in addition to the other marks, made identification easy.

Barrows, in his 'Birds of Michigan,' places the Black Vulture in the hypothetical list, and I find no record of a visit of this species to this state but Butler, in his 'Birds of Indiana' (p. 769) mentions the fact that the range of the Black Vulture has been extending. Certainly three individuals of this species visited southern Michigan in the fall of 1924.—ERTA S WILSON, *Detroit, Mich.*

Golden Eagle near Pensacola, Florida.—On January 23, 1925, a specimen of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) was taken at Walnut Hill, a small town about thirty-five miles northwest of Pensacola, and near the Alabama line. Upon examination and dissection it proved to be a young female. It is said to have been shot in the act of killing a kid, and the farmers of the region also accuse it of having killed and partly eaten eight or nine other kids during the preceding week. Other records for this species in Florida are noted in 'The Auk,' Vol. XXVII, 1910, pp. 80 and 206, and describe the capture of four specimens.—FRANCIS M. WESTON, JR., *U. S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.*

Osprey at Guelph, Ontario.—On September 28, 1924, Mr. R. E. Barber and I together saw an Osprey sailing through the air high above the waters of the little River Speed about half a mile east of the City of Guelph, and we could plainly see its great expanse of wings, white under parts, fuscous upper parts, fuscous banded tail, crest, and white and fuscous head, exactly like its pictures in the bird books. We observed it through 8-power prismatic field glasses, if indeed they were needed, as the big Fish Hawk came within 75 yards of us. We were standing on the edge of a cliff almost on a level with the Osprey. So far as we have been able to ascertain this is the first local record of the species for at least twelve years although about twenty years ago they are said to have been more plentiful.—HENRY HOWITT, *Guelph, Ontario.*

Behavior of the Barred Owl.—On April 6, 1925, a few miles from Princeton, N. J., the writer was fortunate to discover the nest of a Barred Owl. It was in a shallow hollow in the trunk of a hickory tree, in swampy woodland, about twenty feet above the ground. It contained two newly-hatched, downy young, lying prone on the floor of the cavity and

softly squeaking, and one egg, cracked across near the middle. The shells from which the young had come, were still in the nest. No pellets were to be seen anywhere near the nest. The only "signs" found were two tufts of downy feathers caught in the underbrush.

The brooding bird flew out when the writer was about fifty feet away, approaching from the side toward which the cavity opened. The ground was covered with dry leaves. It was not clear whether the bird was disturbed by the sound of foot-steps in the leaves, or looked out and saw some one coming. A test made later, suggests that the latter stimulus was the one to which the bird responded.

No sooner was the bird on the wing than a party of Crows, idling in the neighborhood, gave chase with all the choice expletives which are reserved for the big Owls. When perched in the midst of a cawing mob, the Owl would duck its head when one of the Crows made a dive at it, and would often counter by a thrust of the beak. When the Crows were quiet enough, the snapping of the Owl's beak could be plainly heard for 100 yards. The Owl did not make any visible attempt to use its feet as weapons. On two occasions it dived into a big hollow beech tree, leaving the watching mob outside. No doubt the Crows would have gone away in time, but in both cases the Owl came out again before they had dispersed. When perched in the open, the Owl's plan, if it had any, was to endure the pestering and profanity until the Crows one by one lost interest and drifted away; then by easy stages, approach, and finally disappear in the nest cavity. It did not approach its nest so long as a single Crow appeared to be watching. There was no loud talk near the nursery door. To test the sensitiveness of the bird while brooding, the writer approached from the side away from the cavity. The Owl did not come out until the tree was struck gently with the hand.—J. D. CARTER, *Lansdowne, Pa.*

Barn Owls at Chicago, Ill.—Mr. Karl W. Kahmann, a Chicago taxidermist, reports that he has mounted about twenty Barn Owls this season. This is a greater number than he has handled in other years, the average being four or five. One party brought in five which were taken from a church steeple in Evanston; and said that the birds made so much noise that the neighbors could not sleep. I have always found this species rare here.—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

Unusual Nesting Site of Great Horned Owl.—On March 30, 1925, I heard that a "Booby Owl" had two young on top of hay in a mow about two miles from home. Fully expecting from the situation that I would find Barn Owls I visited this barrack next morning and found two young *Bubo v. virginianus*, about half nest grown.

A hay-barrack as here built has a stone foundation usually a foot or more above ground where ground is highest to keep the sills up from dampness. The frame goes up sixteen feet to the plate, and is then weatherboarded on each end and for one third along the sides, leaving the center third on