

I banded it and released it at 3:20 P. M. and next day at 8:25 A. M. I saw a bird of this species wearing a band, which was almost certainly the same individual. On February 18 an individual of the same species was seen but no band could be detected.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, *McMillan, Luce County, Michigan*.

A Note on *Brachygalba goeringi* Sclater.—In studying, recently, the collection of birds received some years ago by the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia, from M. A. Carriker, Jr., I came upon two specimens of *Brachygalba goeringi* from Palmar, Province of Boyaca, Colombia, collected April 24, 1915 (Nos. 73608♂, 73609♀). Mr. Todd wrote me from the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, that he had four skins from Palmar, taken by the same collector, and that they were identical with skins of *B. goeringi* from Venezuela. After looking through the Library of the Academy and the Zoological Record (1918–1927), I find no record of this species from Colombia and record these specimens as apparently extending its known range. Therefore, in addition to “Northern Venezuela” as stated by Cory (Field Museum Publications, Zoological Series, 1919) the range should include the area around Palmar, Boyaca, Colombia.

Dr. Chapman’s collectors did not secure any specimens in Colombia, although they were in the same general locality; whether this means that the bird has an extremely limited range in Colombia, more particularly Boyaca, or proves that much more collecting should be carried on in this region, is an open question.—C. ELIOT UNDERDOWN, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Northern Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*) in Rockbridge County, Virginia.—The Raven is rare enough now in our southern mountains to make its occurrence worthy of report. I have been for some time reasonably sure that Ravens were to be found in one section of this county. I have had dependable enough reports to make me believe that a few were resident around Goshen Pass, where the Maury River makes a three mile gorge through the eastern-most high range of the Alleghanies. A young man who has camped often in the Pass has told me that he had seen three or four at a time in the early morning on the ground near the Maury Monument in the Pass. One of the farmers in that section tells me that they occasionally come out from Hogback Mountain over the neighboring farm lands. And finally Mr. M. G. Lewis, County Farm Agent, who is a careful bird student, reported to me that he had seen two near the river at some distance from the Pass on December 4, 1928.

In spite of this evidence of their occurrence, one observed by me on January 4, 1929, was the first that I had been able to see in several years of fairly constant field trips. On this date I was looking for Hawks in the flats along the Maury River opposite some high wooded cliffs. The spot is some ten miles down the river from the Pass, in a secluded and thinly settled region. I had been watching at close range a Duck Hawk, which

is the first occurrence for this immediate section for which I have any evidence. Soon afterwards I had the unusual pleasure of seeing in the air over me at one time two Red-tailed Hawks, a Black Vulture, a Bald Eagle, and a Raven. I had been watching the Hawks when the Eagle appeared higher up. While I had my glasses on the Eagle, I heard a hoarse "cra-ak," and about two hundred yards over my head was the Raven. I watched the bird for five or ten minutes and was positive of the identification. The Raven was soaring most of the time in small circles and calling at frequent intervals. I had the opportunity to compare the size both with the Red-tailed Hawks, which were still near and were also soaring, and with some Crows which flew past. The diamond-shaped tail, in marked contrast with the rounded tails of the Crows, was very evident. The Raven rose higher and higher and finally disappeared in the direction of Goshen Pass. —JAMES J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia.*

Bill Deformity in a Blue Jay.—Late one fall several years ago, while hunting in a strip of woods in the Columbia Heights district of Minneapolis, Minnesota, my attention was arrested by the peculiar actions of one member of a small flock of Blue Jays that was moving leisurely through this patch of woods. The bird in question was perched upon a horizontal limb of an oak and was evidently struggling to grasp with its bill some object of food which presumably it had carried to the limb to eat, but the nature of which I was unable to make out at the distance. X

Its efforts to seize the object, whatever it was, were so extraordinary that I shot the bird in order to learn if possible what unusual item of food it had managed to secure. When I reached the spot I looked about first for the expected object of interest, but failing to find any such thing I turned my attention to the dead bird itself and then discovered the rather remarkable deformity of the bill here reported, and which, I was immediately convinced, was alone sufficient to explain the unusual behavior of the bird.

The deformity consisted of a dorsally bent upper mandible, the bend occurring just behind the anterior margins of the nares, with the affected premaxillary portion forming an angle of forty-five degrees with the basal plane of the skull. The condition was such that when the bill was held closed a considerable part of the tongue remained exposed, and it seemed hardly possible that the bird could have picked up any food with such a beak.

In the cleaned skull, with the horny sheaths of the bill removed by maceration, the bend is seen to include also the anterior tips of the palatines. The transverse direction of the bend is oblique to the horizontal plane of the skull, so that the upwardly bent premaxillary presents further a distinct rotation to the right on its own long axis.

With regard to the possible cause of the deformity, neither the horny nor the bony parts of the bill presented any clear evidence of mechanical injury, such as a break or a shot wound, and the most plausible explana-