

once that they were the soft crest feathers of the Bobwhite much extended in length. Another trip to the same spot resulted in securing two female California Quail which were normal except that the throats were black like the male. With hybridism known to exist in the flock this discrepancy might have been due to the same cause.

All three birds were sent to a taxidermist but upon returning for them several months later I found that he had gone out of business and no trace of my birds could be found.—C. E. H. AIKEN, *Colorado Springs, Colo.*

The Turkey Vulture in Western New York.—On September 10, 1929, I had a clear view of a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) soaring over the slopes of Pine Hill between Naples and North Cohocton, New York. The bird was observed close at hand as it turned and circled in the wind. Mr. E. H. Wetmore of Naples, N. Y., who was with me said that he had heard several reports of this species during the last two years in this general region where it was attracting the attention of farmers as an unusual bird. This observation brought to mind an earlier record for this same area of a single bird that I saw on July 12, 1908, on West River about a mile above its mouth at the southern end of Canandaigua Lake. This individual flew up from a pile of drift and flapped heavily around a bend in the stream. Following cautiously I found it perched in a dead tree where I watched it for several minutes. The identification in both instances was certain.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

The Black Vulture in South-west Virginia.—In view of the many reports that indicate a recent extension of the range of the Black Vulture (*Coragyps urubu*), I was interested, on September 4, 1929, to note four individuals of that species with some Turkey Vultures at a point about ten miles east of Abingdon, Washington Co., Va. This spot is in a valley with an elevation of something over 2000 feet, well in the interior of the Appalachian mountain region. I had not noted the Black Vulture on former automobile trips through that region. While I was watching them a Turkey Vulture was perched on a fence post spreading its wings to dry after a rain. A Black Vulture, with the usual labored wing flaps, flew to the post and, crowding the other off, took the perch. An hour later I saw a flock of some twenty Black Vultures near Wytheville, Wythe Co., Va., at a still higher altitude and just about where the Carolinian and Alleghanian zones meet in that part of the state. It seems that this bird, typical of the Floridian and Austroriparian faunas, is becoming acclimated in the Carolinian and even, to some extent, in the Alleghanian zone.—JAMES J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Va.*

An Osprey Tragedy.—At Blue Hill, Maine, there was formerly a great number of granite quarries and to place these huge blocks of stone on board of outgoing vessels, an immense derrick was erected down by the