

The red eye is given as a diagnostic character by most authorities, E. W. Nelson alone giving the eye as yellow, Ralph Hoffmann in 'Birds of the Pacific States' correctly describes the change in the bill color which shows more black than yellow in the breeding plumage and also acquires a decurved upper mandible as the tip is no longer worn away against rocks as it is when feeding in the winter.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Okanagan Landing, B. C.*

Paired Ovaries in Hawks.—Between November 5, 1931 and April 23, 1932, I examined carefully the ovaries of twenty-five female hawks killed in Pennsylvania and sent to the Pennsylvania State Game Commission. Those with paired ovaries were: Goshawk (10), Sharp-shinned Hawk (1), Cooper's Hawk (1), Red-tailed Hawk (2), Red-shouldered Hawk (1), American Rough-legged Hawk (1), and Marsh Hawk (1). The right and left ovary in each case were equally developed except for one Goshawk, one Red-tailed Hawk, the Red-shouldered Hawk and the American Rough-legged Hawk where the right ovary was less than half the size of the left. Specimens in which the ovaries were not paired were Red-tailed Hawk (1), Red-shouldered Hawk (4), Marsh Hawk (1), and Duck Hawk (2). Goshawks collected in February had enlarged follicles on both ovaries.—MERRILL WOOD, *Harrisburg, Pa.*

A New Hawk for the Louisiana List.—The Western Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo borealis calurus*), which, so far as can be determined has not previously been recorded from Louisiana, can now be definitely added to the list of the state's avifauna on the basis of specimens collected at Ruston, in Lincoln Parish, on December 23, 1931, and January 24, 1932. The subspecific identification of each was checked by the Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture.—GEORGE H. LOWERY, *Louisiana Polytechnic Institute, Ruston, Louisiana.*

Bathing Behavior of the Osprey.—From my house on the Patuxent River, Maryland, I have often, with a powerful telescope, watched the Osprey bathing on a sandy point about a half a mile away. The bird stands in about six inches of water, and bathes in the same manner as other birds, by ducking himself under and then vigorously flapping his wings. On May 15, 1932, however, I witnessed what appeared to be a new method of bathing. When I observed the bird this time (through a 16x binocular) it was flying towards me, about six feet above the surface. It was observed suddenly to descend into the water, and then adopt a sort of vertical American-eagle attitude while flapping its wings two or three times before rising again. It then again flew along the water, keeping the same general direction, and repeated this form of immersion some five times, finally rising to a normal flight. I was as positive as I could be that the bird was not carrying anything in its talons. In fact, it had only just left the sandy point. The possibility, therefore, that it was dipping its prey in order, for instance, to secure a firmer hold, is discounted not

only by this fact, but also by the more than erect usually attitude that it took while in the water. I therefore assume that the object of the immersions had something to do with the arrangement of its plumage. Another consideration is that if there had been any prey in its talons, its line of flight, i. e., to the nest, would have been, normally, quite a different one.—L. McCORMICK-GOODHART, *Washington, D. C.*

Ospreys Bathing.—On August 22, 1927, I saw two Ospreys, birds of the year, flying over a fresh water lake at Cape May Point, N. J., and repeatedly diving down head foremost, then turning and entering the water at a low angle, submerging the head and shoulders and often remaining on the surface with wings outspread for a half minute or more at a time. The birds would then flap heavily out and shaking themselves in the air would plunge in again. Each bird dove fifteen or twenty times sometimes in quick succession and made no attempt to catch anything, if indeed there was anything there to catch, for I had not seen them fishing there at any time during the summer. They were evidently bathing, possibly to rid themselves of vermin acquired in the nest.

In connection with the preceding note it seems desirable to put this observation on record.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Mock Courtship Display by Female Ring-necked Pheasants.—At Peterboro, New Hampshire, during the winter of 1931-32, Mrs. Whittle and I had daily opportunities to observe a group of Ring-necked Pheasants consisting of two males and six females, which came several times a day to our garden some fifty feet from the house, where a continuous food supply was maintained.

Throughout March and early April the behaviour of the two males changed little, excepting that their habit of distending their feathers and shaking them increased, a habit less often practised by the females.

It was not until mid-April that the males were seen to manifest any courtship interest in the females, but prior to this, during the first week in April, the behaviour of the females themselves was distinctly of a kind which in male pheasants would be called courtship display, though Townsend's account of the male's display (*Bent, Life Histories of the Galliformes and Columbiformes*), makes no mention of any display indulged in by females. This display usually took place with no males in sight and if a male were present, he appeared oblivious to the performances.

The earliest exhibition observed consisted of sudden runs for eight or ten feet from a place where the females were in a group, and an immediate return to the same place. A day or two later a female was observed with wings partially spread, her body feathers fluffed out and the tail fanned and bent forward beyond the vertical, turning around or waltzing in a circle of a diameter about equal to her length. Following this a sudden short run took place. The last performance seen of this sort was equally