

Friedmann (l. c., p. 204), strangely enough, records that in *Centropus superciliosus* the left testis is the larger.

My present evidence goes to support Friedmann's statement that in general no correlation seems to exist between the size of testes and the sex ratio in birds; nor can a general statement be made regarding the relative size of the testes and sexual dimorphism.—A. L. RAND, *Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York*.

The Barn Owl (*Tyto alba pratincola*) in Maine.—Though reports of the Barn Owl at Falmouth, Maine, crept into print several decades ago, Mr. Nathan C. Brown¹ showed that these were based upon unreliable data.

We now have three reliable records of the occurrence of the bird in this state. A male, now in the collection of Dr. Henry H. Brock (to whom I am indebted for the privilege of reporting this occurrence), was shot in the limits of Biddeford, October 4, 1923.

Another was caught alive in a garage in Portland, October 26, 1927, and died the following day.² I saw both of these birds a few days after they were mounted.

The third, a male, now in my collection, was taken on Mosher's Island, town of Cumberland, a day or two before December 12, 1927, on which day I received it in the flesh. It was very lean and the stomach was empty.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Museum Natural History, Portland, Maine*.

Early Nesting of the Great Horned Owl.—On January 27 I was taking one of my accustomed hikes in a woods near my home in Andover, Alleghany Co., N. Y., when I saw a pair of Great Horned Owls flying low among the trees. Nearby, in a beech tree, I observed a nest which I knew was a last year's domicile of a Red-tailed Hawk. Twigs, littering the ground under the nest, indicated a renovation above and climbing the sixty feet of straight tree trunk, I found the nest enlarged and reconditioned. It was lined neatly with owl feathers and dry green beech leaves. I wondered where the owls could have secured the sage green leaves, as all the leaves which I could find were brown.

On January 29, with temperature near zero, I again climbed the tree. Mother owl stayed on the nest until I was about to peer over the great rim. I was rewarded by finding one nearly round chalky white egg, partially hidden in the soft feathers of the lining. On February 5, there were two eggs, with incubation apparently well started. From this fact, I feel confident that both were laid in January.

A week of snow and severe winter weather then passed, with four sub-zero nights. Wondering if these might have caused the owl to forsake her nest I visited the woods on February 12. From a rise of ground above the nest-tree, with binoculars, I could look down on the snow-covered nest. Protruding above the snow the owl's head was plainly seen with the dis-

¹ 1882, Brown, Bull. Nutt. Orn. Cl. VII, 58.

² 1927, Haven, Maine Nat. VII, 157-158.