

Swainson's Hawk in South Carolina.—On November 28, 1935, while visiting Bull's Island, S. C., a part of the Cape Romain Federal Bird Refuge, I was told by Mr. Edward M. Moore, the Superintendent, that he had seen a Hawk on the 27th, which was a stranger to him. He had studied it at some length while it was being mobbed by a band of Crows, and noted its markings carefully. Upon referring to Dr. Chapman's 'Handbook,' and Dr. May's 'Hawks of North America,' he had decided in his own mind that it was a specimen of *Buteo swainsoni*, but added that he was entirely unfamiliar with the bird, and that all he could be absolutely positive of was that it was not the abundant *B. lineatus alleni* or *B. borealis*.

On the next day (29th) while in the house at headquarters, we were summoned outside by the calls of my own, and Mr. Moore's boys. A Hawk was directly over the yard, at a low elevation, attended by a number of Crows which were engaged in bedeviling it to the utmost of their ability. It was in bright sunlight and viewed with 8x glasses, the bird was unmistakably a Swainson's Hawk. So plainly were the markings seen that my youngster remarked the band on the upper breast. My experience with the species during three summers in the West, as well as observations on it in Texas, enabled instant recognition, and I was able to abundantly verify Mr. Moore's identification.

This is the first time that *B. swainsoni* has been observed in South Carolina and it is therefore, an addition to the avifauna of the state. Being on a Federal Refuge, collecting the specimen was not possible, and while sight records are not as satisfactory as specimens in the hand, there was no mistake about the above. In line with species appearing on the eastern seaboard from western areas, the Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) reported from Bull's Island on November 7, 1935, was still there on the 30th.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R.F.D. No. 1, Charleston, S. C.*

American Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus sancti-johannis*) in North Carolina.—While patrolling within the Mattamuskeet Migratory Waterfowl Refuge with Mr. Wille Gray Cahoon I saw a Hawk perched on the top of a small tree near one of the Canal banks and was able to approach closely before it took flight for a short distance. As we both had 8 power glasses and the bird appeared rather tame we were able to determine all of the markings of an American Rough-legged Hawk in the very dark phase. While perching it was attacked by a Marsh Hawk and pursued by two Crows when it flew away along the lake shore, but apparently put up no fight against them and flew deliberately along. As records of this bird in North Carolina are scarce and apparently lacking in the eastern section it seems worth while to record it. This Federal Refuge which lies in Hyde County is only a few miles from the coast.—EARLE R. GREENE, *U. S. Biological Survey.*

The Prevalence of the Adult Marsh Hawk in South Florida.—During a trip through much of south Florida in the third week of January, 1936, in company with Mr. Robert P. Allen, we were impressed by the numbers of adult Marsh Hawks (*Circus hudsonius*) observed in the Everglades region. The question of where the adult bird of this species winters in any numbers has long been something of a puzzle and it may be that the following will throw some light on at least what appears to be a more than usual concentration in the South.

A total of fifty birds was observed by us. The great majority of these were noted in the region lying west of Lake Okeechobee, between that body of water and Fort Myers; also across the Tamiami Trail and about the little town of Everglades in Collier County. Of the fifty birds seen, ten were adult. This ratio of one to five is excessively high compared to the writer's observations elsewhere in the South,

particularly along coastal South Carolina. He records every Hawk seen on field trips. Since November 1, 1935, to date (February 1, 1936) he has seen 123 Marsh Hawks, three of which were adult! In two weeks in Louisiana in November and December 1934, a total of 176 birds were observed, eight of which were adult.

Wayne (Birds of South Carolina) states that the females and immature birds outnumber the adults fifty to one in coastal South Carolina and I have found this to be consistently the case for years.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *Supervisor Southern Sanctuaries National Asso. Audubon Societies, Charleston, S. C.*

The Western Pigeon Hawk in Louisiana, Florida and Illinois.—On the occasion of a visit by Dr. H. C. Oberholser to the Chicago Academy of Sciences, some time ago, two large specimens of the Pigeon Hawk were submitted to him for identification. Both were females. One (C.A.S. 4432) was collected by A. M. Bailey, December 17, 1925, at Chenier au Tigre, La. The other (C.A.S. 4820) was collected by E. S. Hopkins, March 10, 1931, in the same locality. These specimens, which had been recorded by Bailey and Wright (*Wilson Bulletin*, Vol. 43, p. 204) as *Falco c. columbarius*, were referred by Dr. Oberholser to the form *bendirei*.

On April 15, 1934, another female (C.A.S. 6920) referable to this race was taken at Merritt's Island, Fla., by E. V. Komarek, who was at that time a member of the Academy's staff.

The circumstance that three Pigeon Hawks taken in the South were of this western form led to a further examination by Mr. Bailey of the specimens in the Academy collection. These were compared with a male Western Pigeon Hawk (C.A.S. 4431) taken on Unalaska Island, Alaska, September 25, 1922, by R. W. Hendee, and with the three birds noticed above. Thus was discovered what appears to be the first record of this subspecies for Illinois a female (C.A.S. 1849) taken by F. M. Woodruff at South Chicago, March 18, 1890.—EDWARD R. FORD, *Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Ill.*

The Sparrow Hawk a Pet Among the Paiutes.—During seven weeks spent last summer (1935) on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation, in Nevada, two Paiute families were found keeping Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) as pets. A family near the Agency had a young male taken from the nest before it was able to fly. It seemed in the best of condition except for one foot that had been injured accidentally, and was fed on lizards caught by the children of the family. The bird had the freedom of the house, and though unafraid, resented being handled. A finger brought too close to its head was invariably sharply pinched. The other family having a bird, lived in a remote section of the reservation. This bird was not seen at close range as it spent most of the time among the trees and bushes growing thickly about the cabin. According to the Indians themselves, Sparrow Hawks have "always" been kept as pets by the Paiutes.—ARCHIBALD JOHNSON, *Stewart, Nevada.*

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) Breeding in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.—On June 20, 1935, while visiting the shores of Lake Michigan at Manistique, Schoolcraft Co., Mich., we located a flock of nine adult Piping Plovers along the water's edge. While we were watching them through field glasses, one suddenly began to stage the broken-wing ruse and was soon joined in the act by a second. After an extensive search we managed to capture two downy young, both of which were barely able to stand. The adult male and one of the young were collected and placed in the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan.—OSCAR M. BRYENS, *McMillan, Michigan* and LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, *Battle Creek, Michigan.*