

rupted the proceeding. I believe that if this interruption had not occurred, she would have succeeded in leading the hawk away, and would then have escaped from it and returned to her brood.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, 48 Longview Ave., Fairfield, Conn.

King Eider taken on Illinois River.—On November 21, 1936, a young male King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*), was killed at Henry, Illinois, on the Illinois River by J. Andrews King, who presented it to Field Museum. The bird had been shot and was unable to fly; from its emaciated condition it must have been in the vicinity of Henry at least ten days. The King Eider is an extremely rare visitor to southern Lake Michigan, and this is the second bird ever recorded on the Illinois River. In 1874, an adult female was obtained at Chillicothe, Illinois (Cory, 'Birds of Illinois and Wisconsin'). Besides this record, Cory also lists a specimen shot on the Mississippi River near Keokuk, Iowa, in November 1894, and six specimens taken in Wisconsin: Racine 1, Milwaukee 4, Lake Sheboygan 1. Several more were taken off Navy Pier, Chicago, November 29, 1917, by C. W. G. Eifrig ('Birds of the Chicago Region,' by Ford, Sanborn and Coursen).—LESLIE WHEELER, *Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois*.

The Type of *Falco cooperii* Bonaparte.—Among the ornithological rarities which it was my privilege to examine when visiting the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris during the summer of 1933, was Bonaparte's type of the Cooper's Hawk. It is a mounted bird, the only specimen of the species, so far as I could determine, which came to the Muséum with the Bonaparte collection. It matches very closely, in fact almost exactly, the Bordentown, New Jersey, individual described by Bonaparte and figured in Plate 10, figure 1, of 'American Ornithology,' vol. 2, 1828. The only apparent differences between the plate and the mounted bird are that the latter has the head only slightly turned and the whole plumage is badly stained and discolored with soot. It is, of course, a young bird, obviously in its first fall plumage, narrowly streaked below, and is a typical example of the nominate race of eastern North America.

Written data concerning the specimen are rather meager but are pertinent. On the bottom of stand on which the bird is placed, is written, obviously many years ago: "Etats Unis Coll par l'Prince Ch. Bonaparte, C. G. 1854—1136 [that is, 1136 of the general catalogue for 1854, a year in which a great many specimens from the Bonaparte collection were incorporated into the museum collection] 608 ♂ *Accipiter cooperi* Bp. Type d' l' espèce et de la pl. Amer. Ornith. vol. 2. pl. 1." The number 608 refers to the new catalogue and this, as well as the data following, were written rather recently. Measurements as taken by me are: wing, 235; tail, 200; culmen from cere, 16.3; tarsus, 67.0; middle toe without claw, 36.0 mm. These so closely approximate those given by Bonaparte in his description that, taken in combination with the characters and attitude of the mounted bird, there would seem to be no doubt that the Paris bird is the actual type specimen.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Dickey Collections at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California*.

Dusky Grouse in the Chuskai Mountains of northeastern Arizona and northwestern New Mexico.—On June 21, 1936, a pair of Dusky Grouse (*Dendragapus obscurus obscurus*) was seen eight miles southeast of Lukachukai, Apache County, Arizona, approximately four miles from the New Mexico state line, at an elevation of approximately 8800 feet on a steeply sloping, southeasterly exposed canyon wall. The vegetation was dominantly *ponderosa* pine and Engelmann spruce with underbrush of oak, aspen, *Symphoricarpos*, wild rose, cliff rose, ferns, *Cercocarpus*, and small Douglas fir.

The hen was seen first at a distance of about ten feet. She merely clucked and walked slowly away among some clumps of underbrush and stopped behind a small bush about thirty feet from where she was started. Approximately one hundred feet up the trail the male was encountered. On being disturbed he squawked and flew about thirty feet up to a horizontal limb of an open *ponderosa* pine where he perched for about fifteen minutes jerking his head this way and that, apprehensive, but not excited. Both individuals were extremely tame and apparently had never been molested by human beings. The Navajo Indians inhabiting this area during the summer do not hunt game birds unless taught to do so by the white man.

Mrs. Florence M. Bailey ('Birds of New Mexico,' p. 198, 1928) does not give the Chuskai Mountains as former or present range of Dusky Grouse. She records the bird on top of Mount Taylor and in the Zuñi Mountains but states that they are apparently no longer found there. It is of great interest to learn that this valuable game bird is still present in this area.—PAUL PHILLIPS, *U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Gallup, New Mexico.*

Young Black Rail banded in Illinois.—Authentic records of Black Rails (*Creciscus jamaicensis stoddardi*) in Illinois are so few, that the following items from Adams County are of interest. The first mature specimen I ever saw, was collected by O. C. Poling in May, 1896. On August 22, 1932, I captured and banded two immature Black Rails. On July 25, 1936, I was called to the garden of a yard in Quincy to see a "strange bird." Here I spied an immature Black Rail hiding under the leaves of a canna plant. We drove the bird under a minnow net and thus effected its capture. It was five inches in length, with characteristic red eyes and in typical juvenal plumage. The bird was banded with band no. 36:149101 and then released. The fact that I have captured immature birds twice recently, during the summer months, suggests that Black Rails probably nest here yearly.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Ill.*

Willet in Arkansas.—In 'The Auk' of October, 1936, I reported the Eastern Willet from this section. Recently two skins collected during May, 1936, together with one taken in September, were sent to Dr. H. C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey at his request. He identified them as Western Willet. Willets were seen here August 16, 17, 21, 23, 26, and September 15, 1936, a single bird at each observation except on August 17 when a group of six was seen. The Western Willet has been reported from Arkansas but once, March 29, 1886.—WILLIAM H. DEADERICK, *36 Circle Drive, Hot Springs, Ark.*

Gulls and Sunfish.—The strangely formed Sunfish, *Mola mola*, of our Pacific coastal waters often lies horizontally on its side at the surface, with one of the small, narrowly triangular fins held vertically erect in the air at right angles to the dorso-ventral plane of the body,—a curious habit, since the fin is too small to be effective as a sail: at most, it could do no more than revolve the heavy, circular body where it lies. On December 9, 1935, while hunting pelagic birds about twenty miles off Santa Cruz, California, I noticed a Sunfish in this position with a Western Gull (*Larus occidentalis*) sitting on the water so close, that its breast feathers must have touched the fish, which it pecked hard at intervals of a few seconds. Drifting down from windward, I was able to gaff the fish, which was about fifteen inches in diameter, vigorous, and without injury, but rather heavily infested with amorphous, jelly-like copepods, 'fish-lice,' doubtless *Lepeophtheirus nordmanni* or *L. insignis*, which are known to be parasitic on the species. The pearly surface showed a few clusters of vague white marks, such as could be duplicated by a light scratch of the finger-