

it when there were two eggs in it, had watched the progress of it, and had banded the two young when they hatched. He considered it "some kind of an eagle" as had all of the fishermen on that part of the Lake, none of whom had ever seen such a bird before. He stated that he talked to numbers about the birds, and all had seen them, but none knew what they were. This is mentioned, not because of the infallibility of the record, but because of the fact that the young were banded. If they ever turn up anywhere, and are recognized for what they are, the matter will be clinched, though the record went in as 'eagles.'

In November 1938, Audubon representative Edward M. Moore, stationed at Key West, saw one of these birds there. Mr. Moore was formerly for years on Bull's Island, South Carolina, and has been with the writer on the Cape Romain Refuge (of which Bull's Island is a unit) when we saw this species in that locality in November 1935.

On March 14, 1940, while conducting Trip 13 of the Audubon Wildlife Tours (out of Okeechobee) the writer saw one of these birds while passing through the Seminole Indian Reservation, Glades County. In the car with him, were two ladies from California, who recognized the species themselves as soon as they saw the characteristic hovering flight and other field marks. In the same party was Mr. L. B. Arnold, of Wilmington, Delaware, who had come up from Miami Beach to participate in the Tour. On March 12, Mr. Arnold, at Miami Beach, saw what he was sure was a Rough-legged Hawk, and had told me about it earlier that day. As soon as he saw the bird in the Reservation, he exclaimed, "That's the bird!"

Finally, Mr. Guy Emerson, of New York City, writes me that on December 9, 1939, he saw a pair at Okeechobee. They were first noticed out over the lake, but later flew toward him at about 500 feet in the air. Suddenly one of them spied a Snowy Egret, and swooping down, turned on its back and seized the egret from below with its talons and carried it to the ground. Apparently it did not eat the bird but moved off about ten feet. He remained there several minutes but the egret appeared to be dead. At length the hawk's mate came and alighted on the ground at some distance from the egret and then both hawks rose and flew away over the lake.

Evidently this species has occurred in Florida of late, and it will be recalled that in February 1925, one was shot near Thomasville, Georgia, ten miles north of the Florida line (Auk, 45: 211, 1928).—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R. F. D. No. 1, Charleston, South Carolina.*

**Golden Eagle reported nesting in Ontario.**—This Museum recently received the feet of a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos canadensis*) shot on April 10, 1938, a few miles inland from Cape Henrietta Maria in far-northern Ontario. This Cape is that familiar 'corner' on our map which demarcates Hudson from James Bay—familiar but unknown. The donor of the specimen, Mr. Jack Rodgers, was then stationed at the Hudson's Bay Company's Lake River Post near the base of the Cape. Mr. Rodgers informed us that the specimen was shot while on, or in close association with, its nest, by an Indian. On further inquiry about the nesting, Mr. Rodgers remarks that he was "very much surprised to learn this, but it is true. The nest was in a pine tree [jack pine?] on what the Indian termed a 'hill.' There were more than one pair. Eagles were observed again in the spring of 1939. In fact I outfitted another Indian and sent him to get me a complete specimen and perhaps the eggs. He reported no luck but I doubt if he went."

The nesting date reported may seem early for the latitude concerned, since it was "long before the break-up which comes in May," but it is not improbable. It is possible that the birds were observed in association with a nest of the previous year. Tree-nesting is not in any sense unlikely, especially in an area where ledges are non-existent.—L. L. SNYDER, *Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, Canada.*

**A bud-eating Ring-necked Pheasant.**—The inability of the Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus torquatus*) to adapt itself to a winter diet of buds is thought to be one of the factors controlling its present distribution. Because of this, the following analysis of the crop contents of a male Ring-necked Pheasant may be of interest.

On February 3, 1939, at about 11 a. m., a cock pheasant was seen scratching in the snowplow-cleared strip at the edge of a country road about three miles north of Ithaca, New York. With it were ten to fifteen Crows and a number of Tree Sparrows and Starlings. Except where cleared by man, the snow was about fifteen inches deep and covered by a light crust. One-half hour later a pheasant, presumably the same one, was found dead along the road, having been struck by a car.

The crop contents, with approximate percentages by volume, were as follows: large flower buds of elm (*Ulmus americana*), 50%; leaf buds of elm, 10%; Geum seeds (*Geum arvense*), 7%; ragweed seeds (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*), 6%; milkweed seeds (*Asclepias* sp.), 3%; burdock seeds (*Arcticum* sp.), 3%; Prunus pits (*Prunus* sp.), 4%; green leaf fragments, 5%; grass stems (*Gramineae*), 5%; apple fragments (*Malus* sp.), 3%; Bidens seeds (*Bidens* sp.), trace; buckwheat seed (*Fagopyrum esculentum*), trace; 1 small spider (*Arachnida*), trace; gravel, trace; unknown seeds of four species, 2%.

The writer wishes to express his thanks to H. B. Banks of the Department of Botany, Cornell University, for identification of the elm buds.—A. HEATON UNDERHILL, *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.*

**Purple Gallinule and King Rail at Lexington, Virginia.**—A living Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis martinica*) was brought to me on May 16, 1940, by Mr. Clarence W. Morrison, who had just secured the bird at his home on South Buffalo Creek, ten miles southwest of Lexington, in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He had considerable difficulty in capturing the bird. It flew several times into a small tree near the stream, but made no effort to fly very far and always came back to its feeding in the creek. As far as I have been able to learn from published records this bird has not occurred in Virginia for nearly fifty years, the latest report being for Cobb's Island, May 1891, as recorded in Bent's volume on marsh birds. The present record seems to be the only one for the mountain region of western Virginia. It seemed advisable, therefore, to make the bird into a skin. Unfortunately the friend who prepared it for me neglected to sex it. The bird was in very bright plumage but in exceedingly poor flesh.

Curiously enough the first King Rail (*Rallus elegans elegans*) which I have seen in this county was brought in on the previous day from the same neighborhood and also alive. It was later released.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia.*

**Eskimo Curlew record corrected.**—The writer has recently purchased from the Will E. Snyder collection (Beaver Dam, Wisconsin) his mounted specimen carrying tag number 7660 which was reported in various publications as an Eskimo