

Accipiter trivirgatus peninsulae, new subspecies

TYPE: Adult female; Londa, Bombay Presidency; January 21, 1938. W. Koelz collection (deposited in the American Museum of Natural History).

Differs from *trivirgatus* in the plumage of the adult male by having fewer but darker spots and stripes underneath. Breast shield earthbrown, reduced in size and mixed with much white; bars on abdomen and thighs narrower and blackish. The adult female differs by having the breast darker, more blackish brown; on abdomen and flanks the white bars are broader and the dark bars narrower. Size as in *trivirgatus*.—W. KOELZ, *Care of American Consul, Bombay, India*.

Nesting of a Swainson's hawk in Illinois.—On May 18, 1947, near Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois, we found the nest of a Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). The female was incubating, and a sharp rap on the tree trunk sent her hurriedly in flight from the nest. The male flew out from a nearby tree where he had been perched unobserved by us, and joined her. The nest containing three eggs was built 65 feet high in a basswood tree.

All three of the eggs hatched on June 5. On June 15, the parent birds were not seen. The nest contained two partly eaten thirteen-lined ground squirrels. On June 22, pin feathers were beginning to show on the young; on July 6, the young were almost completely feathered. They were not able to fly as yet, however, and climbing to the nest again, I removed one of the young for study at home. This bird learned to fly in two weeks. This, I believe, is the second record of Swainson's hawk nesting in Illinois.—DON S. PRENTICE, *5216 East Drive, Rockford, Illinois*.

Concentrations of bald eagles on the Mississippi River at Hamilton, Illinois.—Bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) have been seen at Keokuk in small numbers for more than a half century. Originally they were attracted by offal thrown into the river from the pork packing houses to the south. The water of the river was almost always open during the winter due to the Des Moines rapids; an occasional dead fish along with the offal supplied an abundance of food.

The packing houses are gone, yet recently the number of these great birds has increased due to the fact that the water below the Keokuk dam is always open, and an abundance of fish are killed as they pass through the turbines which are creating electricity. As this food is retrieved by the gulls and dragged onto the ice, it is taken by the eagles who in turn must protect it from crows which crowd about hoping to filch a particle of flesh which falls away or is left untouched.

In the winter of 1947 and 1948, there was the largest accumulation of eagles in the history of this location. Mr. Cyrus Phillips makes almost daily trips through the territory in which these birds roost and reports that he counted 83 eagles at one time. Mr. W. G. Ingram reported 59 birds during the week of February 14, 1948. Mr. L. E. Dickinson reported seeing 56 birds at one time on February 15, 1948. Mr. Maurice Dadant reports that his salesmen saw 35 eagles on several occasions. The writer has seen from 20 to 30 birds on three occasions resting in groups of cottonwood trees.

The public is so interested that so far as known, not a single bird has been disturbed with rocks or gun within the last five years. The largest accumulations gather on cloudy or stormy days. The birds start to gather about December 15, and fly north about February 15 when the upper river begins to open. Anyone crossing the Mississippi bridge at Keokuk between these dates is assured of a sight of these great American birds.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois*.