

as he was riding in an automobile with B. W. Cooper and J. D. Kilby. Identification was possible because of the slow speed of the car and because the bird was only about three or four yards from the road in a small oak tree. By the time the car stopped, the bird had disappeared into a thicket. The weather was cold and cloudy with strong winds from the northwest.

On December 22, 1948, Pierce Brodkorb returned to Cedar Key with Cooper and S. K. Eshleman III and discovered the bird in exactly the same tree. It flew across the road into a nearby clump of bushes and was shot by Cooper.

The specimen was a female; it weighed 71.9 grams and was fat. The ovary measured five by 11 mm. The stomach contained two Orthoptera (*Macneillia obscura* and *Belocephalus davisi*, determined by I. J. Cantrall), an immature spider (Family Argiopidae, determined by H. K. Wallace), an ant (*Pheidole* sp., *flavens* group, determined by A. Van Pelt), the leg of a beetle, and fragments of miscellaneous Hemiptera. The skin is now in the collection of Pierce Brodkorb.

Howell (Florida Bird Life, 1932: 290) gives only two records of this species in Florida.—THOMAS W. HICKS, *Department of Biology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.*

Rehabilitation in the Wild.—That nature's progeny are often highly adaptable was demonstrated by an adult Screech Owl, *Otus asio naevius*, that had lived for some time with but one leg.

A Screech Owl struck on the head by motor traffic near McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, on October 9, 1948, was in surprisingly good condition for the possessor of but a single leg. A careful inspection of the carcass revealed no vestige of a left leg. The socket (*acetabulum*) for the head of the thigh bone was normal on each side. The left leg had apparently been pulled from its socket a considerable time before, as the skin over a very small hole—about the diameter of a man's smallest finger—was wrinkled and completely healed.

Despite its obvious handicap, this Screech Owl had evidently managed to make a satisfactory living. The bird was in good flesh, and its stomach and gullet were well filled with a variety of foods. Examination showed that this crippled bird had recently fed upon the following items (listed in approximate volumetric percentages):

One white-footed mouse (<i>Peromyscus</i>).....	70 per cent
Four large grasshoppers (<i>Melanoplus differentialis</i>) and fragments of four others (probably of same species).....	12 per cent
Fragments of 16 camel-cricket (<i>Ceuthophilus</i> sp.).....	5 per cent
Two small grasshoppers (<i>Melanoplus femurrubrum</i>).....	4 per cent
Fragments of 12 grasshoppers (<i>Acrididae</i>).....	4 per cent
Fragments of three field crickets (<i>Gryllus assimilis</i>).....	4 per cent
Fragments of four large spiders (<i>Lycosidae</i>).....	1 per cent
Fragments of one walking-stick (<i>Phasmidae</i>).....	trace
Fragments of one wasp (<i>Hymenoptera</i>).....	trace
Fragments of one ground beetle (<i>Carabidae</i>).....	trace
Fragments of one large seed, undetermined.....	trace

—CLARENCE COTTAM, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.*

Two Calamities to Roosting Chimney Swifts, *Chaetura pelagica*.—Early in December, 1945, an explosion in the heating system of a Quincy, Illinois, store was caused by dead Chimney Swifts which prevented the normal draft. A heaping bushel basket of dead birds was removed from the flue. The following year a disagreeable odor in the Methodist church revealed a similar but greater tragedy. Nearly two baskets of dead birds were found in the base of the great chimney of that institution.