

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.

The answers to inquiries made to several combustion engineers and to bio-chemistry professors in several universities were in accord, that death to the swifts was most probably caused by carbon monoxide gas which is more likely to be formed as a component of flue gases when the heating plant is cold. Gas, coal, or oil burning against cold surfaces may be incompletely oxidized, with the production of considerable quantities of carbon monoxide.

Local bird enthusiasts hope to cover such chimneys with galvanized chicken wire to prevent further destruction of swifts.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois*.

Breeding Record of Red-headed Woodpecker in Southern Quebec.—Mr. E. M. Putnam of Hudson Heights, Province of Quebec, on the southerly shore of the Lac des Deux Montagnes, informed me that, when passing through Belle Plage on July 10, 1948, he had seen from his car a Red-headed Woodpecker, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* (Linnaeus). Belle Plage is some six miles east of Hudson Heights along the lake-shore road to Dorian-Vaudreuil.

On July 14, I visited Belle Plage with Mr. Putnam. On arrival at the property of Mr. Eugene Vinet at the junction of the above lake-shore road and the road from Isle Cadieux to the Canadian Pacific Railway station of that name, we immediately located the bird in a maple tree on Mr. Vinet's lawn, from which it flew into a tall ash tree. We then saw the same individual, or its mate, on a small elm tree across the main road, sitting on a stub branch some 40 feet above the ground. It was clear that this branch had broken at the place where woodpeckers had made a nest-hole.

Mr. and Mrs. Vinet informed us that they had watched with interest a pair of these birds for some weeks, that they had observed them at the nest-hole and, shortly before the branch was broken off in a violent storm that occurred on July 11, they had seen the adult bird (or birds) feeding fledglings on the tree outside the nest-hole. They could not give the exact number of fledglings seen, but said there were three or four. Later on the same day, Mr. Putnam and I had further excellent views of the adult male on some willow trees.

On July 18, with Mr. C. H. Sullivan, I again visited Mr. Vinet's property when he told us he had seen both adults together that morning. On this occasion we had excellent views of the adult female, watching her during a severe thunderstorm with heavy rain, going up the trunk of a maple tree and flying down from its branches to the lawn below several times, apparently to capture insects of some kind. We saw nothing of the fledglings.

Ernest D. Wintle in 'The Birds of Montreal' (1890) refers to *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* as a "scarce summer resident" and to two observations of individuals of the species on the island of Montreal on May 24, 1882, and June 24, 1883. He also refers to a nest with eggs found by G. A. Dunlop at Lachine.

C. E. Dionne in 'Les Oiseaux du Canada' (1883) merely states, "should be met in our woods." In 'Les Oiseaux de la Province de Quebec' (1906), he terms the species "accidental" in Quebec and states that he has only seen two specimens, one killed near Quebec City and another at St. Augustin, Portneuf.

In 'Catalogue of Canadian Birds,' Part II, by John Macoun, the species is referred to as "a rather rare resident at Ottawa." E. D. Wintle is reported to have found it breeding in a hole in a dead tree along a fence between two woods at Longue Pointe on May 24, 1889.

Bent, 'Life Histories of North American Woodpeckers' (1939), includes southern Quebec in the distribution of this species (Three Rivers, Hatley and Quebec City). He gives, "spring migration date Montreal May 7"; fall migration is not mentioned.