

Of particular interest was a local gathering twice observed by Donald Vogtman (Corres., 1948 and 1949) at the channel separating the middle and east portions of Devils Lake. Here he counted 125 birds in November, 1948, and 150 on September 21, 1949. We believe that this was only a fall flock, but a breeding population may possibly be using the locality.

We do not know whether the rare breeding female migrates from southern wintering grounds in the spring or moves in from the east about June 1 when the males appear.—MERRILL C. HAMMOND AND EDWARD J. SMITH, JR., *Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of Interior, Upham, North Dakota, and Germfask, Michigan.*

**On *Accipiter striatus suttoni* van Rossem.**—In Number 4, Part 1, 13, of the 'Catalogue of Birds of the Americas' recently published, the name *Accipiter striatus suttoni* van Rossem was placed in the synonymy of *A. s. velox* with a note (p. 71) stating that none of the Mexican material in the Field Museum showed the characters of this race except an immature from Michoacan. At the request of Dr. George M. Sutton, I have just examined the type and four topotypes of this form. These birds are very different from anything in our collections except one specimen from the Huachuca Mountains in Arizona which is very like *suttoni*. They bear out Dr. Sutton's belief that the race is a very good one. Evidently all our Mexican examples, except the Michoacan specimen, are migrants.—BOARDMAN CONOVER, *Chicago Natural History Museum (Field Museum), Chicago, Illinois.*

**Sparrow Hawk Pursued by Chimney Swifts.**—As noted by Bent (U. S. N. M. Bull., 176: 284, 1940), the speed and erratic flight of the Chimney Swift, *Chaetura pelagica*, renders it almost immune to attacks by birds of prey. He cites one report of such an attack, however; a swift was seized by a Sharp-shinned Hawk just as it was about to drop into a chimney (Musselman, *Bird-Lore*, 33: 397, 1931). In view of the rarity of such occurrences any evidence that Chimney Swifts regard hawks as enemies seems to me to be worth reporting.

In downtown Washington, D. C., shortly after sundown on October 3, 1949, my attention was attracted by 40 or 50 Chimney Swifts pursuing a Sparrow Hawk, *Falco sparverius*. My first thought was that possibly they just happened to be going in the same direction, but then the hawk reversed its course and they promptly turned to follow, swarming around the hawk like mad bees. I was unquestionably observing a genuine pursuit which ended only when the hawk abruptly descended to land on the ledge of a building. It seems unlikely to me that the swifts would have taken after the hawk if they had not been molested or had not recognized the species as an enemy.—FRANK C. CROSS, 9413 Second Ave., Silver Spring, Maryland.

**Red Ant Predation on Bob-white, *Colinus virginianus*, Chicks.**—During nesting studies of the Interior Bob-white, *C. v. mexicanus* L., in southeastern Iowa, evidence was found of red ant, *Monomorium pharaonis* (Linne), predation in a newly hatched quail nest. This ant was identified by Dr. H. H. Knight, Department of Zoology and Entomology, Iowa State College. On July 5, 1946, a Bob-white nest containing 13 eggs was revisited six hours after the first egg had been found pipped. The clutch had hatched and there was no evidence of the new family at the nest or in the near vicinity. While recording the necessary data, a weak chick call was heard. Examination of the nest revealed a single egg at the bottom beneath 12 discarded shells. The cap of this egg had been partially pipped, so that the chick, which was still alive, could be seen. Several red ants were not only in the nest but were also moving in and out of the egg opening. Upon removal from the shell, the chick had no sense of balance but continued to *peep* when held in the hand. The ants