

Hence, it would seem that none of these conditions would effect insects in such a way as to hamper the Phoebes in fly-catching.

Once we saw one of the Phoebes fly to the top of a forty-foot tree and commence to fly-catch, only to return to fishing after a few minutes.

Oberlander (Condor, 41: 139, 1939) has observed similar fishing behavior in the Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*).—LAURENCE C. BINFORD, *University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan*.

***Falco peregrinus* at Sea.**—While aboard a ship crossing the North Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to southern Japan, I was startled one clear morning to observe a falcon approaching from the south. After circling widely about the ship three times, the bird came to rest upon a cable in the upper rigging of the foremast. Our position at eight o'clock that morning, 3 November 1953, when the hawk was first sighted, was approximately 600 miles north by east from Honolulu, Hawaii, more than 500 miles from the nearest land!

From sketches made during the succeeding days and from the bird's size and characteristic activities (I am no ornithologist), it has been identified as an immature Peregrine Falcon, or Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus*). How such a bird came to be so far from its known places of habitation is problematical. We had not been experiencing severe winds that might have helped to explain its presence. Once it came aboard, however, it showed no inclination whatsoever to leave the ship, except for brief forays out over the sea to obtain food. From its perch high upon the mast it occasionally dropped and flew swiftly out over the waves to capture small sea birds, which it brought back to the ship and devoured. I was unable to keep a close watch on the hawk, but I did see it catch a bird on 5 November and two more the next day, as we passed within a hundred miles of Midway Island. Again the following day I observed the capture of another small bird; and it may be assumed that the hawk caught several in addition to those seen. Birds eaten included a small, white tern and at least two Bonin Islands Petrels (*Pterodroma leucoptera hypoleuca*). The latter were identified from my sketches and notes by Dr. Deignan of the United States National Museum.

The falcon was last seen on the evening of 10 November, and it is probable that it left the ship during a storm which we encountered early on the morning of the eleventh. By this time, we were about 700 miles off the main islands of Japan, and it may be that the hawk was able to complete its trip in the air. It had remained with the ship for about seven days (The International Date-line must be considered) and for a distance of nearly 3500 miles!

Races of *Falco peregrinus* are known to inhabit both sides of the Pacific, at latitudes at least as far north as British Columbia and Japan and Siberia. However, there is no record of this species in Hawaii, either in G. C. Munro's *Birds of Hawaii* or in Bryan and Greenway's *Contribution to the Ornithology of the Hawaiian Islands*. The latter work lists *Buteo solitarius* as the only Hawaiian hawk, endemic on the island of Hawaii. It records the Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus hudsonius*), as an accidental visitor on Oahu, and the American Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*), as an accidental winter visitor on several islands of the Hawaiian group. Because the transoceanic falcon both came aboard and departed from our vessel at sea, however, it seems unjustified to propose it as an accidental winter visitor in the Hawaiian Islands. Perhaps the range of the Duck Hawk should merely be extended by one record for "North Pacific Ocean, 157° W, 29° N to 148° E, 30° N."—GEORGE W. BYERS, *Division of Entomology, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Mich.*