

**The Long-eared Owl as a Ratter.**—Norway or barn rats (*Rattus*) as a rule have rarely been represented in the diets of the mid-west Long-eared Owls (*Asio wilsonianus*) which I have studied (CONDOR, XXXIV, 1932, pp. 178-180); whether this was due to lack of availability of the rats as prey, or to reluctance on the part of the owls to attack them, or to difficulty in handling the prospective victims, my previous data do not tell.

However, one lot of 177 complete and fragmentary pellets, the 1932-1933 winter deposit from beneath a favorite roost tree used by as many as four Long-eared Owls at once, contained the skulls of 11 adult rats. The other contents of the pellets determined mainly on the basis of skulls were: meadow mouse (*Microtus*), 142; deer mouse (*Peromyscus*), 47; house mouse (*Mus*), 3; shrews (*Blarina* 2; *Sorex* 3), 5; English sparrow, 1; junco, 1; total, 210 individuals. Analyses were made by Mr. F. N. Hamerstrom, Jr., of the Iowa State College zoology staff, and by myself.

The pellets were collected from the Des Moines, Iowa, city waterworks grounds, a large wild life refuge teeming with mammals and birds. Inasmuch as rats were procurable chiefly from the vicinity of farm buildings and a relatively few quail feeding stations at a time when native mice were known to outnumber them far more than the pellet ratio shows, it is not easy to provide a truly plausible explanation for the disproportionate pressure upon this one species.

Aside from the possibility of the owls exhibiting an actual preference for rats as prey (which I seriously question), these new data may be looked upon as adding more weight to the evidence already at hand as to the alien rat being exceptionally vulnerable, even at low population densities, to the preying of native owls. Peculiarities of behavior, conspicuousness, lack of racial familiarity with specific predatory perils, confinement in woods and fields to restricted habitats (such as corn shocks and other rich food sources in winter) may be terms that perhaps will ultimately serve to explain one more ecological relationship now obscured by the usual unknowns.—PAUL L. ERRINGTON, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, April 7, 1933.*

**Records from North Central Arizona.**—The following observations were made during field work in the general region of the San Francisco Mountain Plateau in late October, 1932. Oak Creek Lodge is located in Oak Creek Cañon, twenty-three miles by road southwest of Flagstaff, at the point where West Fork joins the main cañon. Sedona post office is on Oak Creek seven miles south of Oak Creek Lodge.

*Ardea herodias treganzai*. Treganza Heron. Individuals recorded on Oak Creek a short distance below Sedona post office on October 29 and November 1, may be of interest because of the few records for herons in this region.

*Buteo regalis*. Ferruginous Rough-leg. In a roadside zoo maintained in connection with a filling station at Cañon Diablo, on Highway 66 between Winslow and Flagstaff, I found two immature birds that had been taken during the summer from a nest in Anderson Pass about twenty-six miles southeast of Flagstaff. These birds, reared by hand and remarkably tame, were secured for the National Zoological Park and are now on display in Washington, D. C. This seems to be the first record for the breeding of this species in Arizona. On October 26 two of these hawks were seen soaring below El Tovar in the depth of the Grand Cañon.

*Falco columbarius bendirei*. Western Pigeon Hawk. At Turkey Tanks, eighteen miles by road northeast of Flagstaff, at an elevation of 6000 feet, on October 20, I shot a pigeon hawk in hot pursuit of a robin. Mr. L. L. Hargrave and I recorded another at Heiser Spring on October 21. The specimen taken has the dark coloration typical of this western race.

*Capella delicata*. Wilson Snipe. One was seen near Oak Creek Lodge on October 30.

*Glaucidium gnoma pinicola*. Rocky Mountain Pygmy Owl. Near Oak Creek Lodge at an elevation of 5300 feet these small owls were fairly common. A male was taken at dusk on October 28, and the birds were heard calling regularly.

*Cinclus mexicanus unicolor*. American Dipper. Near Oak Creek Lodge the Dipper is found regularly. An immature male was collected October 30.

*Nannus hiemalis pacificus*. Western Winter Wren. On October 28 I collected a male on the West Fork of Oak Creek about two miles from Oak Creek Lodge. The