

It is a puzzle what "set off" the offensive behavior of the goose toward a bird which for a long time previous had been within its reach, both fearless and unmolested.

Given equal power and control, the spurs of a spur-winged goose must be as efficient weapons as any possessed by a bird of equal size.—THOMAS T. MCCABE and ELINOR B. MCCABE, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, December 15, 1934.*

The Snowy Egret in Oregon.—A Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) was collected at Nestucca Bay near Pacific City post office, Tillamook County, Oregon, on November 3, 1934. This specimen, a male, was preserved as a study skin, and is number 9510 in my collection. I can find no definite published record of the occurrence of this species in Oregon.—ALEX. WALKER, *Tillamook, Oregon, January 14, 1935.*

American Golden-eye and American Merganser on Salton Sea.—On December 8, 1933, Mr. George Willett found a dead immature male American Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta clangula americana*) on the west shore of Salton Sea in Imperial County. On November 11, 1934, Mr. Tom Smith, owner of the Pintail Duck Club, shot an immature female American Golden-eye on his ponds near Mecca, Riverside County. This bird is now a specimen in our study skin collection. Since then we have identified six others in the strings of hunters at this club, and Mr. Smith reports a number of others shot prior to our visits.

On December 2, 1934, an immature male American Merganser (*Mergus merganser americanus*) was shot by Mr. Harry Rau of the Pintail Duck Club, identification being made by Mr. George Willett, who now has the skeleton in the Los Angeles Museum collection. On December 16, 1934, we identified an adult male American Merganser which was shot at the same duck club.—MR. and MRS. BEN L. CLARY, *Coachella, California, December 21, 1934.*

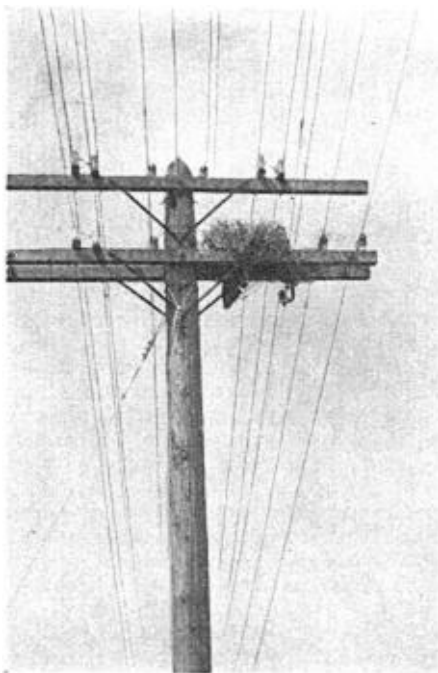


Fig. 20. Nest of Swainson Hawk on telephone pole showing wing of dead male in nest foundation.

A Swainson Hawk Disaster.—In 1933 a pair of Swainson Hawks (*Buteo swainsoni*) built a nest on the crossbars of a telephone pole beside the Interprovincial Highway not far from Piapot, Saskatchewan, a not unusual occurrence on the treeless prairie. When I drove past the site on June 10, 1933, and parked on the side of the road a short distance away, the female flew off the nest. She alighted on the ground, picked up a stick in her claws and flew with it to a nearby post. Soon afterward her mate appeared and soared, quite low down, over the nest.

During this time I had examined the nest and discovered that the body of a male Swainson Hawk, dead perhaps a week, formed part of its foundation. The wing of the bird can be seen in the accompanying photograph (fig. 20). The explanation seemed to be that the dead bird, the first of two males, had been shot on the nest, probably with a .22 calibre rifle, following a local custom. Afterwards the female found another mate and proceeded to raise the height of the nest so that the carcass of the first male was built into its foundation.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, B. C., Canada, August 20, 1934.*