

Very shortly after the pheasant fell a large Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) and a Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*) arrived on the scene. The Duck Hawk attacked the Red-tail twice, driving it and the Marsh Hawk from the scene, and then left itself. No attempt to feed on the fallen bird was made by any of the three raptors.

On different occasions other pheasants have been found dead in the same general area, presumably killed by the same bird. Never has evidence of feeding on the carcass been found. In all instances the birds were killed by breaking the spinal cord between the skull and the first vertebra.—GORDON W. GULLION, *Eugene, Oregon, April 10, 1947.*

**An Unrecorded Specimen of *Neochloe brevipennis*.**—When describing a new subspecies of *Neochloe brevipennis* from a male taken near Chilpancingo, Guerrero, Mexico, Miller and Ray (Condor, 46, 1944:41-45) listed every skin of this rare species of vireo known to have been collected in the period between 1856 and 1940, six in all. It may prove of interest therefore that the Zoological Museum of Berlin received in 1932 a beautiful specimen of this species, formerly mounted (Z. M. B. No. 32.25), which was collected at the Hacienda de Fuxpango, Orizaba, Vera Cruz, Mexico. Neither date nor collector is indicated on the label, which bears a mysterious original number (No. 275). Possibly the bird is one of Matteo Botteri's specimens of which only two could be traced by Miller and Ray. The wing measures 56.9 mm., the culmen about 9 mm.—ERWIN STRESEMANN, *Zoological Museum, Berlin, Germany, August 4, 1947.*

**The Black Vulture and the Caracara as Vegetarians.**—McIlhenny's note (Auk, 62, 1945: 136-137) on Black Vultures (*Coragyps atratus*) eating chopped sweet potatoes prompts me to report my observations on this bird in Surinam, Dutch Guiana. On the grounds of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Paramaribo I regularly observe Black Vultures feeding on the fruits of the African oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*). The birds either sit in the trees and gnaw small bits from the fruits which they swallow, or they sit on the ground under the trees and feed on the fruits which have fallen down. Also the Black Vultures regularly feed on the flesh of coconuts. The most striking example of this I witnessed in July and September, 1946, in Coronie. This is a coconut growing district where in a factory at the Leasowes plantation oil is pressed mechanically from the coconut flesh. The nuts are opened by laborers, after which the flesh is removed and laid to dry either in the sun on stone floors or in rather primitive ovens fed by the bark of the nuts. After work ceases in the evening, the coconut flesh is removed from the stone floors and the workmen go home. At that time about 75 or more Black Vultures which have assembled in the meantime in the neighboring cocopalms glide down and start searching for the remnants of coconut flesh. According to the manager of the plantation this is a daily spectacle which he has witnessed for years.

At the same place two Caracaras (*Polyborus cheriway*) searched for and fed on the coconut flesh on one of the stone floors.—FR. HAVERSCHMIDT, *Paramaribo, Surinam, Dutch Guiana, January 27, 1947.*

**Zone-tailed Hawk Feeds on Rock Squirrel.**—Because of the paucity of records of both occurrence and food habits of the Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*), it may be of interest to report that on July 3, 1947, about 18 miles north of Globe, Arizona, on U. S. Highway 60, at approximately 5300 feet elevation, a Zone-tailed Hawk was observed on the highway struggling with a young rock squirrel which was perhaps three-quarters grown.

When first seen from an approaching automobile approximately 100 yards distant, the bird was dragging the squirrel which was struggling frantically to escape. The struggling squirrel was too heavy for the bird to carry off; consequently the hawk dragged it over the pavement for perhaps 50 feet. When our automobile was within 20 or 25 feet of the bird, it released its prey and flew off reluctantly. The bird seemed sluggish and slow in its movements.

At first glance from a distance, the bird appeared to be a Turkey Vulture. However, closer inspection clearly revealed that the bird was a Zone-tailed Hawk. The conspicuous tail bands and distinctive head and beak are unmistakable characteristics.

After leaving the fray, the bird circled overhead, remaining in the vicinity for about 15 minutes before leaving in search of other food.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois, July 15, 1947.*

**Notes on the Occurrence of Birds in Lower California.**—On April 3, 1946, a Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea bancrofti*) was seen foraging along the shores of a small cove that lies on the southeast shore of San Martin Island, Lower California, Mexico. The bird remained in the vicinity of this small cove for two days and was taken there on April 6. The