

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

The Original Roosting Habits of the Chimney Swift.—One day in the late summer, just after the Civil War, in the deep woods of middle Tennessee, I came upon a very large Tulip-tree, nearly six feet through, and at least fifty feet to the first limb. One of the limbs had been broken off, leaving a hole about two feet across, which had been the starting point of a deep hollow in the tree. It was just before sunset, and the Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) were pouring into the hole by the dozens, just as they now do into chimneys when going to roost. I have never noticed another instance of the kind.—J. A. McLAUGHLIN, *Marshall, Mo.*

The Bald Eagle in Indiana.—On January 13, 1926, I read of an eagle captured in a corn field near Greenfield, Indiana, twenty miles east of Indianapolis. The next day Mr. and Mrs. Harry H. Coburn and I drove over and located the person who had it in captivity. It was being kept loose in a cellar, but, after a little difficulty, we caught it. We found that it was a Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus* subsp.) not yet in the adult plumage. It measured more than seven feet across the wings. The shoulders were calloused as if from having been bruised and healed many times. Its strength of talons was prodigious. I found it less of a fighter than the adult Barn Owl, though much more powerful. After taking some moving pictures of its actions we again liberated it in the cellar. No nests of this eagle have been reported in recent years nearer than northern Ohio.—S. E. PERKINS III, *Secretary Indiana Audubon Society, Indianapolis, Ind.*

Some Notes on the Horned Grebe in Michigan.—On May 19, 1925, while on the State Ferry crossing the Straits of Mackinac and about a third of the way across from St. Ignace, I saw a bird on the water, which, after consulting Reed's "Bird Guide," I identified as the Horned Grebe (*Colymbus auritus*). A strong south wind was blowing, so that the waves were rolling fast and rather high for the bird. Sometimes when the waves, especially the large ones, would overtake it, it would be completely submerged, and, as the wave passed over, it would sometimes appear to go entirely out from under the bird, thus dropping it down on the water as it was left by the passing wave. On the next day (May 20) I saw three Horned Grebes at the edge of a lake near Odin, Michigan. They were first seen as I passed by in a car, which was stopped as soon as possible. The birds were yet near the edge of the water upon my approach. They hastened into deeper water as soon as they saw me and my three companions, but I obtained a good view of their colors before they got far enough out to go under the water. They remained under but a short time before coming up, which gave another good view, their farthest distance away being not more than seventy-five feet. In identifying the Horned Grebes the buffy white ear tufts were the principal field marks; but also a comparison of the size with that of other grebes was considered. It may be possible that the localities here given are included in the summer home of *Colymbus auritus*, but if they breed there it still remains to be proved by the finding of a nest.—O. M. BRYENS, *Three Rivers, Mich.*

Franklin's Gulls as Insect Destroyers in the North Platte Valley of Nebraska.—The most momentous ornithological event of the season in our part of the North Platte Valley has been the arrival of large flocks of the Franklin's Gull (*Larus franklini*). We have been afflicted, for several years now, with a grasshopper plague. Having read so much about the gulls, we had been hoping