

York, since a stray Blue-wing which lingered on into the breeding season would not be likely to find a mate of its own species, but plenty of available Golden-wings.

In spite of this probability, the Brewster's Warbler has apparently never before been collected in New York away from the southeastern corner. A search through the files of *The Prothonotary* reveals a number of sight records for the Buffalo area, including two nesting records near Versailles. This is not unexpected, as both of the parent species breed in this vicinity. Other than in this western New York area, and in the Hudson valley—Long Island region, there are but a few sight records for Brewster's Warbler; at Rochester, Canandaigua and Corning. None is a breeding record, and no specimen was taken. Our Potter Swamp specimens, therefore, represent the first breeding record of Brewster's Warbler, authenticated by specimens, in New York outside of the southeasternmost counties.

The skins of the two parents and their five offspring have been deposited in the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Memorial Collection at Cornell University. I am indebted to Edgar M. Reilly, Jr., who checked for me the distribution files of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.—Kenneth C. Parkes, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

RUFFED GROUSE EATS SNAKE

In the Porcupine Mountains, Ontonagon County, Michigan on September 16, 1947, I flushed two Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) from the ground into tall hemlocks. One shortly fell fluttering to the ground. The second bird then flew down and joined it. On my closer approach, both birds again flushed. A medium-sized snake, probably 1.5–2 feet long, dangled limply from the mouth of one bird. It appeared that the snake had been partly swallowed, but about a foot of its length was left protruding from the bird's beak. The grouse seemed abnormally weak but its peculiar flight and fall may have been due to awkwardness caused by its unusual prey.

The birds could not be located again and the snake was unidentified. Scott (Auk 64: 140, 1947) has recorded finding a small Red-bellied Snake (*Storeria occipitomaculata*) in the crop of a Ruffed Grouse in Wisconsin, but this must be a very unusual food item nevertheless.—George A. Petrides, Ohio Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Ohio State University, Columbus 10, Ohio.