

ticularly in the female Sharp-shinned Hawk among American species. From this record it appears that it may occur also in *Circus*, a matter that should be investigated as opportunity offers.

It is of interest to add that this specimen exhibited the more or less rare or little known streaked plumage of this species.—L. L. SNYDER, *Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, Ontario*.

Horned Owl Migration in British Columbia.—While no Snowy Owl flight took place in British Columbia last winter there was an invasion of Horned Owls (*Bubo virginianus* subsp.) and Goshawks (*Astur atricapillus*); the former on the coast region only; the latter general throughout the Province.

During the period from October, 1926, to January 1927, 287 Horned Owls were brought into the City of Victoria, either to the local taxidermists or to Lenfesty's sporting goods store. The latter paid a bounty of fifty cents on each bird and obtained a refund for this expenditure by selling them to the Chinese who used the flesh as the chief ingredient in making chop-suey. It seems rather a pity that someone did not take advantage of this unusual opportunity to secure a large series of skins. It is interesting to note that the last invasion of Horned Owls occurred ten years before during the winters of 1915-16 and 1916-17. No marked increase was noted in the Okanagan Valley during either of these invasions, the migration being apparently confined to the Coast region.

An unusual number of Goshawks was observed in the Okanagan Valley during the months of November and December 1926; a large percentage of those taken being adults. A similar flight was reported from the coast region and from the Province of Alberta.

Three Gray Gyrfalcons (*Falco rusticolus rusticolus*) were taken in the vicinity of Okanagan Landing: immature male, November 6, 1926; adult female, February 18, 1927; and immature not sexed shot early in March, 1927. A fourth specimen was taken near Victoria some time during December, 1926.

Hawk Owls were unusually abundant in the Okanagan Valley during November, 1926. This species also was taken on Vancouver Island where it is rare. One of the Victoria taxidermists received two specimens taken in October, 1926; one from Alberni and one from Nanaimo.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, B. C.*

Some Late Records of the Snowy Owl for Southern Ontario.—In "The Snowy Owl Migration of 1926-27," by Alfred O. Gross,¹ the latest date recorded for the spring (of 1927) was "during the first two weeks of April." A few records for southern Ontario which are later than April are recorded in this note.

The birds appeared in the Toronto region during the first two weeks of November, 1926, the first record on file at the Museum being that of one

¹ 'Auk,' XLIV, No. 4, Oct. 1927.

seen on November 13. From this date until well into January, 1927, they were commonly reported but during the latter part of the winter they became scarcer. Very few were seen in the spring, but odd reports were received from March, April and May, the last date for Toronto being May 22, on which date members of the Brodie Club on their annual field day flushed two birds from the marsh at Ashbridges Bay. A still later date for southern Ontario was made at Long Point, Lake Erie, when members of the Museum staff observed three individuals in the extensive marsh between May 25 and June 13, on which latter date the last was seen.—JAS. L. BAILLIE, JR., *Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, Ontario.*

Kingfisher and Sharp-shinned Hawk.—On August 31, 1927, at the Upper Geyser Basin in the Yellowstone National Park, I was following up the bank of the Firehole when a Belted Kingfisher flew up the River. Just after it had passed me, a Sharp-shinned Hawk darted out of a grove of lodgepole pines on the shore and gave chase. As soon as the Kingfisher saw his pursuer, he began to scold and sound his "rattle" in excited, piercing tones. As he darted along, he first tried to outfly the Hawk, but the latter bird was much swifter and gained rapidly. The Kingfisher then began to dodge and zig-zag his flight, maintaining a height of about twenty feet above the surface of the water. But the Hawk could turn and twist more quickly than the Kingfisher which had been getting more and more excited and its calls shriller. As the Hawk almost reached its prey, the Kingfisher suddenly turned and shot down into the water. The baffled Hawk tried to follow, at least when the Kingfisher first turned, but its impetus was too great and it could not stop. Then, upon seeing its prey disappear in the water, the Sharp-shin flew on to a perch on the railing of a foot-bridge. Meanwhile the Kingfisher remained under water for perhaps a minute, and then came to the surface of a quiet pool. Upon finding his enemy gone, the Kingfisher flew quietly up-stream and alighted on the other rail of the foot-bridge. Here he rediscovered his enemy sitting on what was his own favorite perch, and immediately recommenced his excited, shrill, rattling screams.

For a few minutes the relative position of the two birds was maintained, and then the Hawk shot at the Kingfisher again. But the latter flew away up-stream with the Hawk in hot pursuit. This chase was a repetition of the first one except that when the Kingfisher dived, the Sharp-shin recovered from its impetus and swung around in a circle so that it was above its prey when the Kingfisher reappeared. The Kingfisher was not to be caught napping, but remained *swimming on the surface* of the water. This swimming was not like a Duck, but more awkward and with a constant beating of the wings. As the Hawk swooped, the Kingfisher dived again. For a few moments the Hawk circled about above the spot, and then finally flew away up the Firehole River past Old Faithful Geyser. After seeing his enemy well on his way, the Kingfisher rose from the water, flew