

a trap set for some marauding animal. On kneeling down close beside a spreading ground juniper (*Juniperus communis* var. *depressa*) the rays of his light revealed three Robins roosting side by side in the midst of the juniper. Presently they became alarmed and flew out. On several subsequent occasions he found them, always in the thick junipers close to the ground, viz. January 10, 15, 26, 29; February 3, 8, 11, 13, 18. Their winter diet he noted to be berries of the juniper, cedar and barberry.—AARON C. BAGG, 72 Fairfield Ave., Holyoke, Mass.

Winter Notes from Southeastern Wisconsin.—*Marila affinis*, LESSER SCAUP DUCK; and *Harelda hyemalis*, OLD SQUAW DUCK.—A sub-zero spell of weather visited southern Wisconsin the second week in December, 1927, after which the following was noted.

In a walk along the Lake Michigan shore north of Port Washington, Wisconsin, a track of some interest was observed in the new fallen snow. It looked like that of a crippled Gull that had some difficulty in flying, and was unable to rise into the air. The wing marks seemed rather short for a Gull, and after following the track for fifty yards, a Lesser Scaup Duck was found hiding under a tuft of dead beach grass. The bird was alive and quite vigorous, but in very poor flesh. Its left foot was encased in a ball of ice almost four inches long and three inches thick. With this heavy impediment it had been unable to fly. Marks along the beach indicated that the bird had been in the vicinity for probably two days, and had once been followed by a fox to the water's edge.

With great care, the ice was removed from the duck's foot. The bird was taken to the Milwaukee Zoo where it lived for eight days.

About a mile beyond where the Scaup was picked up, and on the same day, a tuft of feathers was noticed sticking through the ice of one of the recently formed caves. Upon examining it to see what bird had met its death, the feathers moved and a pair of eyes blinked at me. Here was an Old Squaw Duck completely encased in ice; only the head free. The bird was buried alive in its icy tomb.

An attempt was made to liberate it, but the task was most difficult, for the only instrument at hand suitable for the work was a pocket knife. An hour and a half were spent digging the bird out. A few drops of water and some shreds of meat were forced down its throat in an effort to stimulate life, but the emaciation of the creature together with the shock of its rescue were too much, and it died five hours after being freed.

Strix varia. BARRED OWL; *Bubo virginianus* HORNED OWL, and *Astur atricapillus*, GOSHAWK.

The Milwaukee chapter of the Isaac Walton League has established a thousand acre wild life refuge near the headwaters of the Milwaukee River, fifty-two miles north of the city. On this refuge numbers of Wild Ducks and Pheasants have been raised and liberated. In order to protect this game, it was necessary to set traps for marauding Hawks and Owls. From September 15, 1926 to February 20, 1927, forty Horned Owls were

captured; also eight Barred Owls. From September 20, 1927 to March 1, 1928, forty-two Horned Owls were trapped. Of greater interest than the Owls in this latter period was the capture of six Goshawks, two adult males, one adult female, and three immature. The skins of the adult female and one immature male and female are now in the skin collection of the Milwaukee Public Museum. Almost without exception, these Owls and Hawks were caught either in the act, or after, of killing game on the refuge.

Picoides arcticus. ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.—A female of this species was flushed from a pile of cut brush in a tamarack swamp at Calhoun, Waukesha Co. Wisconsin, March 25, 1928. It gave a grating catlike call as it flew out, and disappeared in some heavy timber. After listening attentively for four or five minutes, its very distinctive and deliberate pecking was heard on a nearby tamarack. The bird was located on a tree that it had gone over in a most thorough manner. The outer bark had been chipped off completely around the tree from its roots to a height of fifteen feet. Instead of driving straight into the wood as do the Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, this bird struck glancing blows, chipping off flakes of bark sometimes as large as a silver dollar. Instead of driving with a series of taps followed by a rest as most Woodpeckers do, the Arctic Three-toed puts all his might into each blow, and seemingly must take a rest after the strenuous effort. This results in the slow tapping that is typical enough to be a means of partial identification of this bird before ever seeing him.

I do not know of this bird having been observed in southern Wisconsin within the last twelve or fifteen years.—CLARENCE J. JUNG, 553 Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

Notes from Murray County, Oklahoma.—On December 28–29, 1927, a single Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*), was observed by the writer at the Devil's Bath tub, Falls Creek, Murry County, Oklahoma. Since there are only three previous records of the occurrence of this species in Oklahoma, this observation is of much interest. Of these former records two are from the Panhandle (R. C. Tate, Dec. 11, 1911, and W. E. Lewis, July 30, 1921) and the third is from the Kiowa Agency, Caddo county (E. Palmer, Mar. 19, 1867 No. 53021 U. S. Natl. Mus.). As Murray county is approximately 350 miles southeast of the east end of the Panhandle and 100 miles southeast of Caddo county, this is a decided extension of the known range of this species in Oklahoma.

The winter status of the Black Vulture (*Coragyps urubu urubu*) and the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) in this county is of interest. I found both species to be winter residents, but the Black Vulture outnumbered the latter more than ten to one according to my observations near Falls creek. Heretofore definite winter records for the Turkey Vulture in south central Oklahoma have been lacking.

A single Pileated Woodpecker (*Phloeotomus p. pileatus*) was seen and