

Occasionally two cocks would eye each other from a distance, then crouching low, would run directly at one another. Sometimes a short encounter with the feet and a flapping of the wings, much like the spurring combats of domestic cocks, took place as they met, but quite as often they stopped when a foot or so apart and crouched on the ground with many a threatening cackle. This might continue for several minutes without any action taking place, then, rising stealthily still eyeing each other suspiciously, they would strut slowly about, booming now and then, until, apparently satisfied that the opponent cared for no more combat, they would go back to their grounds by several short, cackling flights and continue their booming.

When a hen appeared on the scene one morning, the cocks seemed to forget to a great extent the boundaries of their dancing grounds and strutted with added vigor towards the hen. She ran about through the grass, avoiding their advances but circling around within the dancing grounds, until apparently tiring of their shows of vanity, she flew away. During the pursuit the cocks remained some yards apart and succeeded very well in maintaining wonderful poise and dignity without losing their positions near the prospective mate, despite the fact that she frequently chose to run very rapidly away.

Twice during these observations, Marsh Hawks flew low over the little group of Chickens. Once they all ceased booming and crouched low on the ground. The second time two of the birds flew as though a real fear of the Hawk existed. Several times a Short-eared Owl came over even lower than the Hawk. Although it appeared fully as large as that bird, the Chickens did not so much as stop performing during its visits.

Two Crows alighted on their grounds one morning. Immediately one of the cocks rushed at them causing them to move a few yards but not to leave entirely. After that he made no antagonistic moves but strutted about close to them giving no indication of fear.—W. J. BRECKENRIDGE, *Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.*

**Domestic Pigeons Nest Hunting on a Mountain Top.**—While watching Rock Sparrows on Eagle Mountain in the Wichita National Reserve in southwestern Oklahoma June 5, 1929, I was greatly puzzled as to the identity of a pair of birds flying about the great boulders at the very top of the mountain. When one began the familiar display of the Domestic Pigeon, the problem was solved. The male apparently wished to revert to ancestral habits and nest in the rocks; he would fly into a crevice and stay for ten or more minutes while his mate remained outside; out he would come and bow and coo, but she merely edged further away. Again he went in and came out, then tried another spot, continuing his efforts for more than an hour, but she failed to show the slightest interest. Evidently it did not appeal to her to make her home among bare rocks, where her neighbors would be Turkey Vultures and Red-tailed Hawks, wood rats and rattle-snakes.

Eagle Mountain is 1600 feet above sea level and 700 feet above the stream at its base. The Pigeons may have come from the town of Cache five miles to the south.

I left the Wichitas June 6, but Dr. R. D. Bird who stayed another week wrote me that he saw nothing more of these birds.—MARGARET M. NICE, *Columbus, Ohio.*

**Zone-tailed Hawk in Lincoln Co., New Mexico.**—On April 11, 1929, while watching five or six Turkey Vultures wheeling over the pines, in the Lincoln National Forest on the south side of El Capitan Mountain, I noticed one with a white band across the tail. Upon closer observation I found it to be a Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus albonotatus*). Its shape and actions in the air were so Vulture-like that had it not been for the conspicuous white band on the tail I should not have noticed its smaller size. I was unable to collect this bird as it was too far away.

I returned two days later and about a mile farther up the canyon was greeted by a loud Buteo call. Just above the tree tops and directly above my car were two Zone-tails circling and screaming. Their note was very like that of the Broad-wing Hawk except that it was much more piercing and not so highly pitched. The bright yellow legs were very conspicuous in flight. Both birds were collected, No. 85973 Coll. Acad. Nat. Sciences Phila. adult ♂ with testes very large. Stomach contained only a few feathers. No. 85974 adult ♀ contained an egg five-eighths of an inch in diameter. Crop contained Mountain Bluebird. Canyon on south side of El Capitan Mountain, Lincoln Co., New Mexico, April 13, 1929, elevation 7000 feet.

In the fresh specimens the iris was dark brown, bill bluish horn color, cere and gape bright yellow, legs and feet, bright yellow, claws black.

While their actions were those of nesting birds yet I failed to locate a nest near by.

Another Zone-tailed Hawk was seen above the highway, twenty miles west of Roswell, which would be about on the line between Chaves and Lincoln Counties on April 20, 1929. As I did not have a gun with me I could not collect it but did stop and observe it for some minutes; part of the time it was less than one hundred feet from me.—WHARTON HUBER, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Screech Owl Apparently Poisoned by Spraying Solution.**—On June 28, 1929 Miss Helen Hebard of Chestnut Hill, Phila., Pa., brought me a young Screech Owl (*Otus asio*) that had died under rather unusual circumstances. She found the Owl upon the lawn and in the hope of obtaining a photograph of it took it to the house. Before she could get her camera the Owl was dead. Upon opening it I found six large *Catalpa* caterpillars (*Ceratonia catalpae*) in the stomach.

Upon examination the caterpillars showed traces of arsenate of lead. As the trees upon an adjoining lawn had just been sprayed with this solu-