

of a Mourning Dove," the corn being from the stomach of the Dove. The man who shot this Owl told me that he had seen one or more additional Owls of the same kind at this place and that they had been roosting there through the fall months. On visiting the place later I could not start one, but found where an Owl, presumably, though of course not certainly, one of this species, had been roosting on a small branch about a foot from the ground. From the mound of pellets beneath this branch I sent twenty-nine to the Biological Survey for examination, the report from which showed the following mammals: (43 mice and 7 shrews): *Microtus pennsylvanicus*, 25; *Pitymys pinetorum*, 6; *Reithrodontomys humilis*, 10; *Peromyscus* sp., 2; *Cryptotis parva*, 7.—JAMES J. MURRAY, Lexington, Va.

**The Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus flammeus*) in the District of Columbia.**—The Short-eared Owl, which is one of our rarer Owls, has been reported in the District of Columbia only once in recent years, on the second of March, 1913. During the autumn of 1929, however, it appeared in several different localities in the vicinity of Washington, and at least three specimens were collected. The first of these was obtained by Norman D. Linn, on November 11, at Clarksville, in Howard County, Maryland; another was reported by Miss Ida Elizabeth Dickerson on Seneca Creek, near Dawsonsville, Maryland, on December 14; and a third by the writer on the twenty-seventh of November, in Rock Creek Park, an unusual place for this species.—JOHN COURTS JONES.

**The Florida Barred Owl in North Carolina.**—In an account of the bird life of North Carolina<sup>1</sup> Pearson and the two Brimleys in discussing the Barred Owl remark that "it is probable that the Owls of this species found in summer in the southeastern part of the State may, upon closer study, prove to be the southern variety known as the Florida Barred Owl, *Strix varia alleni* (Ridgw.)."

During a recent visit to the section known as Bayview, on the north shore of the Pamlico River near Bath, N. C., I obtained a female Florida Barred Owl thus substantiating the supposition of occurrence of this form in the state. The bird in question was brought to me by Fred Cutler on January 16, 1930, and is preserved in the collections of the National Museum. It shows in normal manner the lack of feathering on the toes that distinguishes this race. Barred Owls were common in this lowland area.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, National Museum, Washington, D. C.

**Downy Woodpecker and Moth Cocoons.**—I had tied out one each of *Attacus cecropia* and *Telea polyphemus* cocoons to a lilac bush. One day a Downy Woodpecker (*Dryobates pubescens medianus*) found them. He had already eaten the contents of the polyphemus cocoon, through a very small aperture, and was intently working on the cecropia when I

<sup>1</sup> Pearson, T. G., Brimley, C. S., and Brimley, H. H., Birds of North Carolina, North Carolina Geol. Econ. Surv., vol. 4, 1919, p. 180.

interfered. Upon examination I found that he had bored the cocoon in such a way as to puncture the pupa just below the wing case in the soft abdominal region and had eaten a portion larger in circumference than the opening through which he worked, but he would not touch the still living pupa when I put it in the feeding tray nor when replaced in the cocoon.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, *East Westmoreland, N. H.*

**On the proper Name of the "Parauque."**—In reading the item, "Proper Name of the 'Parauque,'" which occurs in the "General Notes" of the July Auk, I am struck with the probability that the "u" may have been erroneously intruded in the first place and that Sennett made the mistake of writing the Spanish words "Para que?" (*i. e.* "what for?")—as they sounded when pronounced in the Mexican patois, Pau-ra-que.

If the call of the bird is a three syllable call with a rising accent on the last syllable there would be little difference between "pow-rack-kee" and "pah-ra kay."

Webster's International gives the spelling "Parauque" but the accent is given "pa-roke" with a broad "a" and a long "o". This would not be Spanish pronunciation nor would it indicate an onomatopoeic word.

It seems quite likely that Sennett made the same sort of mistake that a Spanish ornithologist working in the United States would make who should write it "Wheep-poor-weel."—EDW. R. FORD, *Wilmette, Ill.*

**Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) on Long Island, N. Y.**—An Arkansas Kingbird was seen at Long Beach, Long Island, N. Y., on September 23, 1928. It was seen also by Mrs. Carl Tucker, Miss Marcia Tucker, and Mrs. Baker. There were other reports of the species that month from scattered points in the New York—New England district.—JOHN H. BAKER, *1165 Fifth Ave., New York.*

**Habits of the Rocky Mountain Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis capitalis*).**—During a trip to the Rocky Mountain region of Colorado in September, 1928, I made a trip to Echo Lake, 10,600 feet, some fifty miles west of Denver. This lake is at the foot of Mt. Evans, 14,450 feet, and surrounded by evergreen forests. Here I saw four of these Jays around a table at which two ladies were having their lunch. They had white grapes and were feeding the birds, and I observed them for about ten minutes. One grape at a time was offered the birds near the edge of the table. A Jay would fly down from an overhead branch, seize the grape without hesitation and with it in its bill fly to a tree to eat the prize. The lady would place another grape and a bird would descend and carry it away. Doubtless they would have accepted the entire supply of grapes had they been allowed them. Pieces of bread were offered but were not taken, grapes being preferred.

As I reluctantly left the spot one of the Jays followed me, and as I stopped it came down on a low branch and eyed me curiously at not over five feet. I felt highly favored.—CHARLES L. PHILLIPS, *Taunton, Mass.*