

shoals was considerably less than in previous years. The Wood Ibises on the tributaries in Shark River seemed to be as numerous as in March, 1926, at which time they had a large rookery there, extending more than three-quarters of a mile on both sides of the tributary. This rookery was shot out the following year and I had not observed the birds there in any great numbers until last January.

In former years, the Ibis had been shot in great numbers by the mackerel fishermen who congregate at the mouth of the Little Shark River and killed them for fresh meat. I think that since it has been patrolled, there is considerably less of this done than in former years.

On practically every trip I have made, I have seen scattered specimens of Spoonbills on the flats which border the Marco River, but have never seen any flocks.—EUGENE R. PIKE, 6 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Another Nesting Record of the Goshawk for Massachusetts.—

On April 19, 1931, a pair of Goshawks (*Astur atricapillus*) was found nesting in the township of Chester, Hampden County, constituting another breeding record, the second for our state. John A. Farley recorded the initial nest when he identified a pair with young in the Harvard Forest at Petersham, Worcester County, May 22, 1922. (See 'Wilson Bulletin' for Dec. 1922.) He found them nesting there the following year and on Apr. 28, 1923 collected the nest and 3 eggs, which are now in the Thayer Museum at Lancaster. The present nest was located by Arthur Woods who noticed a strange pair of Hawks acting in a manner that indicated nesting. Summoning his friend Albert A. Cross of Huntington both men investigated and discovered the birds to be Goshawks with a full set of four whitish eggs in the nest, that measured in inches as follows: 2.31×1.75 ; 2.25×1.75 ; 2.31×1.81 ; 2.37×1.68 . Ever since Farley's discovery Mr. Cross has been of the opinion that at least one pair of Goshawks nested in the western hilly, wooded part of the county bordering Berkshire. One was shot in the early fall of 1928 at Otis near the State Forest and on April 10, 1930, an adult was brought to Mr. Cross, having been caught in a steel trap and not seriously injured. He liberated the bird after identifying and banding it. Unfortunately it flew through a window a few days later and was killed.

The nest is situated at a height of forty-four feet above ground in a rock maple, set in the midst of a group of hemlocks; it is a bulky affair, three by four feet across and nearly three feet in depth. Mr. Cross hopes to band the fledglings as they approach the time of leaving the nest.—AARON C. BAGG, Holyoke, Mass.

Snowy Owls in Southern Michigan.—During the winter of 1930-31 there has been an invasion of Snowy Owls (*Nyctea nyctea*) throughout southern Michigan. We have three definite records besides many others which we have not traced up. At Berrien Springs a Snowy Owl was seen

on the campus November 1, 1930, by Miss Mary E. Lamson. On November 4 this or another bird was captured at the same place by Roy Furgeson and was kept in captivity until February 3, 1931 when it was banded and released.

Another Owl was captured at Fisher Lake, near Three Rivers on December 18, 1930 by Frank Francisco who brought the bird to Battle Creek where it died January 1, 1931. This bird has since been mounted.

Another bird was seen near Ann Arbor by the first two observers on January 11, 1931. This bird was in an apple orchard somewhat distant from water, in the northern part of Washtenaw county.—RICHARD E. OLSEN, HUMPHREY A. OLSEN, and LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, *Battle Creek, Mich.*

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) in Virginia.—On January 28, 1930, I secured a Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*), which had been wounded and caught at Markham, Virginia, approximately seventy miles west of Washington D. C. This species of Owl is a rare winter visitant in the District of Columbia.—JOHN ALEXANDER MOORE, 701 19th St. N. W., *Washington D. C.*

Feeding of Horned Owl on Jerusalem Crickets.—A Pacific Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus pacificus*) killed by a friend near Benicia, Solano County, California, and brought to me for my collection of skins, shows by the stomach contents that it had fed heavily on the Jerusalem Cricket (*Stenopelmatus*) during the previous night.

Among the softer contents of the stomach were 85 mandibles and 101 leg segments of these bulky insects which seem to be favorites with most of the Hawks and Owls. This number of segments would necessitate the destruction of no less than 43 Jerusalem Crickets, which, as found by comparing the size of these parts with specimens of the crickets, must have averaged an inch and three-quarters each in length measuring from front of head to tip of abdomen. Due to the destructive habits of these crickets, the result of this stomach examination is a point in favor of the economic value of the Horned Owl. The above insect diet composed the entire bill of fare of this bird with the exception of one tiny bone, probably from a small rodent.

I have preserved such of these stomach contents as could be dried in one of my glass-covered mounting boxes. Many items of stomach contents can be easily preserved and I find that they make an interesting and instructive exhibit.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, Calif.*

Decrease of Hawks and Owls in Northern New Jersey.—In reviewing my notes of the past six years covering field-trips in northern New Jersey I was tempted to check in detail the numbers of Hawks and Owls recorded alive throughout this period. By way of explanation the number of trips, i. e. of an average duration of several hours in the field is 271, none to the south of Atlantic City, distributed as to season about equally