

altitude but a little to the east of the position of the former group. After circling a few times they took a course toward the south.

I found the carcass of the hog by this time had been pretty well stripped of flesh. Although there were a number of Turkey Vultures sitting on the ground and trees near by, there were no Black Vultures among them. However, when I visited the vicinity the following day I saw two Black Vultures circling at close range accompanied by four Turkey Vultures.

As far as I am aware the eight Black Vultures seen by me on July 3 constitute the first record for the occurrence of this bird in Greenbrier County, and for that matter, in West Virginia. The point of occurrence is approximately ten miles west of the summit of the Alleghany Mountain range on the plateau 2,100 feet above sea level.

The Turkey Vulture is a common, permanent, resident in the region of Lewisburg, W. Va. On several occasions during my boyhood, I recall having seen bands of five hundred or more gather to feed on the carcass of some dead animal. My father told of having seen fully two hundred roosting in the sugar maple grove near the hog carcass at dusk on July 2, 1930.—CHAS. O. HANDLEY, *Ashland, Virginia*.

The Black Vulture (*Coragyps urubu*) at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.—A Black Vulture was seen by the writer soaring overhead in a flock of forty Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*), at the junction of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, on the morning of April 12, 1931, at 6:30 A.M. The short, square tail and the gray patches at the end of the wings were easily discernible. The Rev. Earle A. Brooks informs the writer that there is but one other bona fide record for West Virginia.—W. HOWARD BALL, 1861 *Ingleside Terrace, N. W., Washington, D. C.*

Marsh Hawk vs. Coyotes.—On May 24, 1931, while driving between Los Banos and Dos Palos, California, at about 6:00 A.M., two coyotes crossed the road about one hundred feet in front of the car. Directly above them in the air was an adult male Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonicus*) which swooped down on them continually. Though the animals soon disappeared in the sage brush, my companion and I were able to trace their route through the brush by the actions of the bird which followed just above them attacking continually until out of our sight.

There were immature young Marsh Hawks already on the wing in the vicinity, and the adult bird was probably concerned about their safety, as no doubt the coyote would not hesitate to eat wild "poultry" of this kind.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California*.

Barn Owl nesting in Springfield, Mass.—Another extremely interesting record for the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts is that of a pair of Barn Owls (*Tyto alba pratincola*) found nesting this spring in the belfry of the North Congregational Church of Springfield. When the young birds were quite well grown some boys inadvertently climbing into the