

Returns from Banded Mallards.—For six or seven years past I have been turning out Mallard ducks, incubator hatched, on my Montcalm Farms, near Phoenixville, Pa. In the spring of 1930 I banded (with Biological Survey bands) and released 1000 birds and in 1931 about 1500 and I am now receiving returns some of which are listed below. The most surprising are those from Iowa, Minnesota and Kansas showing that these birds travel west as well as north and south.

All of the following were released in the spring of 1930 and were shot or captured at the localities and on the dates given, with one exception in 1931: Cqrney Point, N. J., March 13 and March 11; Raritan River 3 miles below New Brunswick, N. J., January 19; Milton Del., March 21; New Castle, Del., November 26; Taylor's Bridge, New Castle Co., Del., January 19; Elkton, Md., January 21 and November 18; Cecil Co., Md., December 6, 1930; Rock Point, Md., January 16; Hampton, N. H., October 11; Highgate Springs, Vt., October 2; St. Claire Flats, near Pt. Trembles, Mich., October 16; four miles south of Burlington, Iowa, November 17; Barrart Lake, six miles south of Le Center, Minn., October 4; twenty-five miles west of Pittsburg, Kas., October 4.—FRANK B. FOSTER, *Franklin Trust Building, Philadelphia.*

A Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus candicans*) at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.—On January 21, 1932, as Deputy Sheriff Willard Welsh was driving along the St. Mary's River road just below the Soo, he saw what he thought was a large hawk eating a Ruffed Grouse by the side of the road. Welsh stopped his car and the bird flew across a field, lighting on a fence post. A shot from his .38 police special revolver killed the bird. The distance paced 95 yards, a remarkable shot for a remarkable bird.

Mr. Welsh took the bird to F. R. Vigeant, a taxidermist, to have it mounted. Mr. Vigeant had never seen a bird like it but thought it was a falcon of some kind. I was called and on sight of the bird knew at once it was one of the Gyrfalcons. I realized it should go to our University Museum at Ann Arbor and Mr. Vigeant backed me up. Mr. Vigeant kindly agreed to give it to the Museum and it was sent down in the flesh.

On receipt of the bird Dr. Josselyn VanTyne, curator of birds, wrote me "The magnificent gyrfalcon arrived and is now safely made up into a very fine study skin. The bird is an adult female and weighed 1,970 grams minus its crop and stomach contents. It was very fat. Adult specimens of gyrfalcons are rare even in large collections. In our very large series from Greenland less than 10% are adults."

Prairie Chickens have been increasing in this locality for several years. The first authentic report for the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan that came to my attention was for May 2, 1923, when Dr. K. Christofferson saw a pair nest building at Chatham, Alger Co., some 110 miles west of the Soo. November 8, same year, the Doctor saw a flock of over thirty same locality. Last winter several flocks were reported and January 16, 1931, saw a flock of over 100 just south of town. This

year they are even more plentiful. Our gyrfalcon was not "eating a Ruffed Grouse," as supposed, but a Prairie Chicken and I so reported when I sent the bird to Ann Arbor. Dr. VanTyne in his letter says "The bird had inside it 140 grams of Prairie Chicken, meat, bones and feathers," and called attention to the following: "Albert Lane (Auk, Vol. 29, 1912, p. 239) published a note on a gyrfalcon taken near Madison, Lac Qui Parle Co., Minn., on December 11, 1894 and said it had the remains of a Prairie Chicken in its stomach."

Dr. VanTyne also states: "It is of course *Falco rusticolus* but the sub-specific divisions of that species are still very uncertain. For although the extremes are very different, we have so little material from the breeding range that it is not very clear how we should name them." In a later letter Dr. VanTyne writes me "The bird had best be called *Falco rusticolus candicans*. The bird is very like the adult male from Godthaab, Greenland, figured by Walter Koelz (Wilson Bulletin, Vol. 41, 1929, Dec., p. 209, fig. 5)." The under tail-coverts of our bird were virtually pure white, just a few minute specks of black on the shafts of a few feathers.

The wing measured 395 mm. Coloring of flesh parts as follows: Bill—near Pale Medici Blue; tip, black. Feet—near Reed Yellow (both of these from Ridgway's Color Standards and color Nomenclature, 1912). The cere and orbital skin dark grey. The bird is now No. 68,416 in the Museum's bird collection.—M. J. MAGEE, *Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan*.

White Gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus candicans*) at Wayland, Mass.
—On the afternoon of December 19, 1931, while watching a Sparrow Hawk on the bank of the Sudbury River in Wayland, about eighteen miles west of Boston, a large white bird was noted flying up river which on a casual glance was taken for a gull. Fortunately the bird came down river, raised to pass over the trees on the side of the road where I was standing and soared directly over me at an elevation of not over thirty yards, when it was easily identified as a falcon with long pointed wings, a rather long rounded tail and white below with the exception of a few dark streaks along the sides and towards the breast.

Over the marsh its flight was rapid with occasional short periods of sailing and sudden sharp turns either upward or to the side. As it dipped low the back showed nearly white with some streaks or bars of a dark color either gray or brown.

Most of the time while the bird was in sight, possibly ten minutes, its flight was rather low over the marsh where there are several pond holes not then frozen over and where a few ducks are usually to be found nearly all day, but when I last saw the bird it was flying north over the course of the river and at an elevation of about one hundred feet.—HERBERT E. MAYNARD, M.D., 464 Commonwealth Ave., Boston.

Another Golden Eagle Captured in Georgia.—I am in receipt of letters from Mr. S. A. Grimes of Jacksonville, Fla., telling of the recent presentation to the Zoo in that city of a live specimen of the Golden Eagle