

a week of her release. It strikes me as phenomenal that the bird should return and lay a second set under these circumstances, particularly at such a late date. The first set of eggs was only slightly incubated.—WILLIAM A. WIMSATT, 11 Grafton St., Chevy Chase, Maryland.

**Early nesting of the Duck Hawk in Maryland.**—In 'The Auk' for April 1939, was published my note concerning an early breeding record of the Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia (nest is on Maryland side of the Potomac River). In the spring of 1939 the record was even more unique. Three 4-weeks-old fledglings were removed from the nest on April 10 by Washington falconers. Allowing a period of 28 days for incubation and four days during which the set was being completed before incubation began, I might reasonably conclude that the eggs were laid about February 12, a full two weeks earlier than last year. Other nests in this region did not have eggs until the end of March and early April.—WILLIAM A. WIMSATT, 11 Grafton St., Chevy Chase, Maryland.

**Ruffed Grouse budding on western serviceberry.**—On January 3, 1939, while driving down a narrow country lane in the woods along the South Branch of Park River, I observed a Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) budding on the western serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*). The bird fed on the buds for ten minutes at a distance of about fifteen feet from the observer before it flew away. Dr. Wm. R. VanDersal in his book 'Native Woody Plants of the United States' (U. S. Dept. Agric. Misc. Publ., no. 303) in summarizing food-habit records for *Amelanchier alnifolia*, reports stomach records for the Sooty Grouse and Richardson's Grouse; observations for Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse and Blue Grouse. He reports stomach records of the Ruffed Grouse feeding on the serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*). The portion of the plant eaten is not indicated in the above records.

The U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey recently informed the writer that "we have no records of Ruffed Grouse feeding on *Amelanchier alnifolia*. *Amelanchier canadensis*, of course, is an important grouse food. It has been recorded in 43 stomachs examined by the Biological Survey."—ADRIAN C. FOX, Park River, North Dakota.

**King Rail breeding in southern Ontario.**—Although apparently uncommon everywhere throughout its range along the southern edge of Ontario, the King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) does breed sparingly in a few of our marshes from Lake St. Clair east to Toronto. The earliest account of its nesting was published by the late J. A. Morden and Mr. W. E. Saunders (Canadian Sports. and Nat., 2: 193, 1882) who stated that it was common at St. Clair Flats (in the extreme southwestern corner of Ontario) and bred there. A female with a set of thirteen eggs, taken at St. Anne's Island, Lake St. Clair, Lambton County, in May, 1882, by Mr. Saunders is still in his collection (Baillie and Harrington, Trans. Roy. Canad. Inst., 21: 32, 1936). Information on its present status at St. Clair Flats has not come to the attention of ornithologists, so far as we are aware.

On May 30, 1894, a second set containing ten eggs was discovered in Ontario at Point Abino, Welland County, near the eastern end of the north shore of Lake Erie, by Edward Reinecke (Oölogist, 12: 45, 1895) but no further light was thrown on its breeding range in Ontario for nearly thirty years.

During the summer of 1921, and again in 1926, the late Charles K. Rogers observed a female with her family of young near the 'cottages' on Long Point, Norfolk County, on the north shore of Lake Erie (Snyder, Trans. Roy. Canad. Inst., 18: 163, 1931) and thus a third breeding station became known.