

I hoped to preserve one as a specimen for the record of the occurrence of the Mallard in Puerto Rico, but did not succeed because they were skinned before I could reach his place.—VENTURA BARNÉS, JR., *Division of Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.*

Swainson's Hawk in Massachusetts.—There are half a dozen published records of Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) in the little (but much "birded") Commonwealth of Massachusetts, so far to the eastward of its normal range, besides several others termed "apparent" or "probable." My own experience indicates that the bird may be less unusual—especially in the August-September period when other western species seem likeliest to occur here—than has been thought, for the vast majority of our observers, on seeing one, would give it up as unidentifiable. For instance, on September 13, 1939, at the southern end of the Artichoke reservoirs in West Newbury, I thus "gave up" a hawk which I saw very well: big; mainly a plain, dark, dull brown; with long tail; long, pointed wings not quite extending to tail-tip; behavior of a Marsh Hawk (standing on mud, or perching on a rock in the shallow water) but with no white croupe! Again, on August 23, 1942, I "gave up" a hawk I watched in very low, steady flight at Arcadia Sanctuary in Northampton. Its long wings and very long tail suggested Marsh Hawk, but the flight seemed too regular and again there was no white croupe. It appeared to be dark gray all over.

Now on the same month and day, August 23, in 1945, at Clark's Pond, Ipswich, I spied a big hawk alighting in one of the lonesome trees on the bare hills, and through a telescope made certain it was a Buteo, but a remarkably long-tailed Buteo. It presently flew out of sight behind the western hill. Mr. Ludlow Griscom arrived and was told of it, and four of us in the car of Mr. Richard C. Curtis drove over the hill and flushed the hawk so that we could first look down upon it and later up at it as it gyrated higher and higher and moved away on the easterly breeze. Mr. Griscom, of course, *knew* Swainson's Hawk and pronounced this one an immature in the dark phase, pointing out to us its "sooty" appearance, scarcely lighter below than above; the absence of bars in its long tail (which looked dull tan when the sun shone through it); and the great length of the wing, with blackish tip and a light patch clear across the primaries proximal to this tip but more distal than is the smaller light spot in the primaries of the Red-shouldered Hawk.

Seeing this bird so perfectly enabled me to identify with moral certainty that of September 13, 1939, and with at least probability that of August 23, 1942.—SAMUEL A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts.*

A baby Florida Sandhill Crane (Plate 4).—On May 27, 1945, Capt. and Mrs. Donald B. Lawrence, Wray Nicholson, Lt. B. F. McCamey, and I motored from Orlando south to the Kissimmee Prairie expressly to observe the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum floridanus*) on its nesting ground. We found a few pairs of these sparrows in open country southwest of Kenansville, Osceola County, heard the males singing their weak songs, and found a nest with four fairly fresh eggs. The most thrilling find of the day was, however, a captive baby Florida Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis pratensis*), about two days old, which we saw at a farmhouse near Lake Marion, just north of the Prairie proper.

The beautiful little creature had been taken the day before from a nest on an islet in a shallow pond on the Prairie. It was too young to stand firmly, appeared to be wholly unafraid, and cheeped in a high, fine voice. If put in the strong