

skin. The bird, an adult male in worn breeding plumage, was collected on July 21, 1947, in Stamford Township, Welland County, Ontario, about four miles north of Niagara Falls by A. R. Muma and Marion Miles. This is the first occurrence of this species in the Province of Ontario.—C. E. HOPE, *Division of Birds, Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology*.

**The Mississippi kite along the Savannah River in Georgia and South Carolina.**—Dr. Eugene E. Murphey has given a good account (Contrib. Charleston Mus., IX: 10, 1937) of the Mississippi kite, *Ictinia mississippiensis*, along the Savannah River below the Fall Line at Augusta.

It was my good fortune to be sent on an inspection trip down the Savannah River by boat on May 22 and 23, 1948, covering the entire river from New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam, at mile 187, about 12 miles below Augusta, to mile zero at Savannah. The entire trip was made in daylight hours, and except for a few minutes at a time, I was on deck constantly.

From the Lock and Dam, we saw one or two kites very frequently until we reached the vicinity of Little Hell Landing at mile 135. From that point down none were seen, though there was no perceptible change in the forest encountered. It is unlikely that there were any kites below that point, or we would have seen a few at least. Though the river distance is about 187 miles, it is in air miles only about 100.

At this time of spring, the kites should be present and nesting. Thus it seems that the summer range along this river is limited to Richmond and Burke counties, in Georgia; and to Aiken, Barnwell, and possibly the northwest corner of Allendale counties, in South Carolina.—IVAN R. TOMKINS, 1231 East 50th St., Savannah, Georgia.

***Ictinia mississippiensis* collected in Paraguay.**—The winter range of the Mississippi kite is imperfectly known, but hitherto it has been regarded as extending southward only to Guatemala. The species is uncommon, or of only casual occurrence in the southern portion of its winter range, and the single record for Guatemala is based upon a specimen collected near Coban, in Vera Paz, during the last century (Salvin, Ibis, 1861: 355).

Two adult Mississippi kites collected at Colonia Nueva Italia, Dept. Villeta, Paraguay, on February 26, 1942, and December 14, 1944, by Pedro Willim extend the currently accepted winter range of the species southward by almost 4000 miles. Both specimens (C. N. H. M. Nos. 102966, 152816) are females in mature plumage, with no evidence of unusual wear, and are indistinguishable from a series of birds from Texas and Florida.

The status of this North American species in Paraguay is, of course, uncertain. However, a note written by the collector on the label of the 1944 specimen states that the species appears in small numbers from October to February almost every year, but only with a south wind during stormy weather, when the barometer is very low. It is not known definitely that Mr. Willim's field identification of *mississippiensis*, as distinguished from the common resident species (*plumbea*), is dependable, but it is noteworthy that his observation is supported by two specimens collected in different years.—EMMET R. BLAKE, *Chicago Natural History Museum, Chicago, Illinois*.

**A new hawk from India.**—Crested goshawks from the Indian Peninsula are usually considered to belong to the nominate race (type locality: Sumatra). A comparison of Indian and Sumatran material, however, has shown that the Indian birds belong to an undescribed subspecies:

*Accipiter trivirgatus peninsulae*, new subspecies

TYPE: Adult female; Londa, Bombay Presidency; January 21, 1938. W. Koelz collection (deposited in the American Museum of Natural History).

Differs from *trivirgatus* in the plumage of the adult male by having fewer but darker spots and stripes underneath. Breast shield earthbrown, reduced in size and mixed with much white; bars on abdomen and thighs narrower and blackish. The adult female differs by having the breast darker, more blackish brown; on abdomen and flanks the white bars are broader and the dark bars narrower. Size as in *trivirgatus*.—W. KOELZ, *Care of American Consul, Bombay, India*.

**Nesting of a Swainson's hawk in Illinois.**—On May 18, 1947, near Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois, we found the nest of a Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*). The female was incubating, and a sharp rap on the tree trunk sent her hurriedly in flight from the nest. The male flew out from a nearby tree where he had been perched unobserved by us, and joined her. The nest containing three eggs was built 65 feet high in a basswood tree.

All three of the eggs hatched on June 5. On June 15, the parent birds were not seen. The nest contained two partly eaten thirteen-lined ground squirrels. On June 22, pin feathers were beginning to show on the young; on July 6, the young were almost completely feathered. They were not able to fly as yet, however, and climbing to the nest again, I removed one of the young for study at home. This bird learned to fly in two weeks. This, I believe, is the second record of Swainson's hawk nesting in Illinois.—DON S. PRENTICE, *5216 East Drive, Rockford, Illinois*.

**Concentrations of bald eagles on the Mississippi River at Hamilton, Illinois.**—Bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) have been seen at Keokuk in small numbers for more than a half century. Originally they were attracted by offal thrown into the river from the pork packing houses to the south. The water of the river was almost always open during the winter due to the Des Moines rapids; an occasional dead fish along with the offal supplied an abundance of food.

The packing houses are gone, yet recently the number of these great birds has increased due to the fact that the water below the Keokuk dam is always open, and an abundance of fish are killed as they pass through the turbines which are creating electricity. As this food is retrieved by the gulls and dragged onto the ice, it is taken by the eagles who in turn must protect it from crows which crowd about hoping to filch a particle of flesh which falls away or is left untouched.

In the winter of 1947 and 1948, there was the largest accumulation of eagles in the history of this location. Mr. Cyrus Phillips makes almost daily trips through the territory in which these birds roost and reports that he counted 83 eagles at one time. Mr. W. G. Ingram reported 59 birds during the week of February 14, 1948. Mr. L. E. Dickinson reported seeing 56 birds at one time on February 15, 1948. Mr. Maurice Dadant reports that his salesmen saw 35 eagles on several occasions. The writer has seen from 20 to 30 birds on three occasions resting in groups of cottonwood trees.

The public is so interested that so far as known, not a single bird has been disturbed with rocks or gun within the last five years. The largest accumulations gather on cloudy or stormy days. The birds start to gather about December 15, and fly north about February 15 when the upper river begins to open. Anyone crossing the Mississippi bridge at Keokuk between these dates is assured of a sight of these great American birds.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois*.