

Comparison of 1935, 1940, and 1946 populations of nesting bald eagles in east-central Florida.—In earlier reports of this study (Auk, 54: 296–299, 1937, and Auk, 58: 402, 1941) I have presented data showing a decrease in the density of nesting bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in Florida along the Indian River in Brevard and Volusia counties between the cities of Cocoa and New Smyrna.

In 1935, I visited the nesting sites of 24 pairs of bald eagles. The areas within a radius of one mile of each of these nesting sites were selected as a composite study area in which to observe the population trend. By 1940 the population in this study area was reduced to 20 pairs of eagles. Thus the population had decreased almost 17 per cent in five years. In 1946 the population of the study area was 17 pairs of eagles. During this period of six years the population decreased 15 per cent. In the eleven years since the start of this study the population in this sample area has decreased almost 30 per cent.—JOSEPH C. HOWELL, *University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee*. (Contribution No. 19, from the Department of Zoology and Entomology.)

A new button-quail from New Guinea.—In a small collection of birds from New Guinea assembled by Mr. J. Frank Cassel and presented by him to Cornell University, there is a specimen of the spotted button-quail, *Turnix maculosa*. It was collected near Finschhafen, in northeastern New Guinea. Mayr (1941) lists only one subspecies of button-quail, *Turnix maculosa horsbrughii*, from New Guinea, for which he gives the range as follows: "South New Guinea from the Merauke district to the Aroa River and Port Moresby; Sudest group (Tagula, Veina), Louisiade Archipelago. Grasslands up to 100 m." Even the most superficial comparison of the Finschhafen specimen with specimens of *T. m. horsbrughii* in the American Museum of Natural History sufficed to show that it was not of that race. Since Finschhafen is isolated from the normal range of *horsbrughii* by a series of mountain ranges, and since grassland areas suitable for *Turnix* in New Guinea are discontinuous, it is not surprising that this specimen proved to be most like *saturata* of New Britain, directly across the Dampier Straits from Finschhafen. As there are to my knowledge no female specimens of *T. m. saturata* in any museum in North America, I borrowed such a specimen from the British Museum through the courtesy of Mr. J. D. Macdonald of that institution. The Finschhafen specimen proves to be neither *horsbrughii* nor *saturata*, but an apparently undescribed race, which I propose to name as follows:

Turnix maculosa furva, new subspecies

TYPE: Female, Louis Agassiz Fuertes Memorial Collection (no. 21393), Cornell University; Gusika, ten miles north of Finschhafen, New Guinea, one-eighth mile from coast, altitude 150 feet (estimated); July 9, 1944; J. Frank Cassel, collector, original number NG 5.

DESCRIPTION: Darkest of the races of *Turnix maculosa*. Closest in size to *T. m. horsbrughii* of southern New Guinea, agreeing exactly in this respect with one specimen from the Fly River, but very different in color from that race. Closest in color to *T. m. saturata* of New Britain, but differs in being smaller and everywhere darker; throat, breast, belly and flanks are deeper rufous than in *saturata*, being almost chestnut in color; ochraceous color of the outer edges of the wing-coverts and tertials is deeper, and the buffy edges of the scapulars narrower than in *saturata*. A broad rufous nuchal collar is typical of *horsbrughii* and is present in the type of *salmonis* from Guadalcanal; this collar is absent in *saturata*. In the type of *furva*, there is a faint indication of a rufous wash on three or four of the nuchal feathers. The light