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Some information from Barn Owl pellets.—This note represents excerpts from a longer manuscript left unpublished by the late Laurence M. Huey, and is presented in this form with Mrs. Huey's permission.

In May, 1937, Mr. Lewis W. Walker flushed a Barn Owl, *Tyto alba*, from a small cave on the northernmost of the Islas Los Coronados, Baja California, and gathered a number of pellets from the site. Among the contents of the pellets, as listed by Huey, were remains of the following kinds of animals: unidentified bats, 3 articulated wings; pocket gopher, *Thomomys bottae*, 2; San Diego pocket mouse, *Perognathus fallax*, 2; Black Petrel, *Loomelania melania*, 1; Leach's Petrel, *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, 1; and Xantus' Murrelet, *Endomychura hypoleuca*, 1.

Neither the pocket mouse nor the gopher listed above occurs on the Islas Los Coronados. The only land mammal ever reported from any island in that group is the white-footed mouse, *Peromyscus maniculatus*, which was also well represented in the pellets. The islands have been visited by biologists more or less regularly for nearly a century, and it is unlikely that either of these forms would have been consistently overlooked. North Island of this group is more than nine miles from the coast of Baja California; the somewhat larger South Island is approximately seven miles from shore. Assuming some cruising inland in search of prey, forays to the mainland for food would involve flights of approximately ten miles each way.

In addition to bones, both contour and flight feathers of the petrels and murrelet were found in almost uninjured condition. Pelagic birds may represent an important part of the diet of Barn Owls living on islands. Bonnot (*Condor*, 30: 320, 1928) records the destruction of a large number of Leach's Petrels by Barn Owls on Castle Rock, off the coast of northern California. The remains of Craveri's Murrelets, *Endomychura craveri*, were found at a Barn Owl roost on San Francisco Island, Baja California (Banks, *Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist.*, 13: 56, 1963).

In February and again in July, 1960, Major Chapman Grant brought Mr. Huey series of Barn Owl pellets from near Escondido, San Diego County, California. One pellet from the February sample contained the skull of a long-tailed weasel, *Mustela frenata*. This is an unexpected prey item, although the recovery of weasel skulls from Barn Owl pellets has been reported by Phillips (*J. Mammalogy*, 28: 189-190, 1947) in Ohio.

One pellet from the July sample contained the remains of a little pocket mouse, *Perognathus longimembris*. This species is not known to occur in the vicinity of Escondido. In the western part of the county it has been reported only from a few coastal localities, and is apparently restricted to a narrow coastal habitat. Escondido is approximately 14 miles from the nearest part of the coast, and 18 miles from the nearest reported locality for mice of this species, Oceanside. Whether the skull in this pellet represents an unknown inland population or distant foraging by the owl cannot presently be determined.

Another pellet from the July lot contained the remains of a Killdeer, *Charadrius vociferus*. This pellet was heavily stained with egg yolk color, and the undigested soft shell of the egg was found when the pellet was dissected. Apparently both the yolk and shell were impervious to the action of the bird's digestive fluids.—RICHARD C. BANKS, *Natural History Museum, San Diego, California*.