Abnormal Egg of Western Lark Sparrow. In my collection is a set of eggs of the Western Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus strigatus*) taken on June 26, 1920, at Claremore, Oklahoma, which contains two normal eggs, one normal Cowbird egg, and one extremely large Lark Sparrow egg. This large egg is marked similarly to the other two and measures .95 by .67 inches. Reed gives the average size of eggs of this species as .80 by .60 inches.—J. R. PEMBERTON, *Tulsa, Oklahoma, April 13, 1921.*

Relative Dimensions of Aeroplanes and Hawks.—It has been the writer's experience that the majority of the hawks observed by bird students are seen in flight, usually outlined against the sky. The proportional dimensions of a bird can usually be made out, but it is often impossible even for an expert to be sure about the color or markings, especially when the bird is seen against a strong light. We say that a Cooper Hawk has a long tail or that another hawk has long wings, but these members are long or short compared with—what? It would certainly be more exact to say that in the Cooper Hawk the length (the distance from tip of bill to end of tail) is 60 percent of the spread of the wings.

It is a well-known fact that female hawks are larger than males; but measurements show that the ratio of length to spread is about the same in both sexes. This matter of proportion appears to be constant in any given species, irrespective of sex and age, in all full-feathered individuals. Using the ratio of length to spread as a basis, we find that the various species of hawks found in California may be readily separated into two groups, those that have a length *greater than one-half of their spread* and those that have a length *less than one-half of their spread.* With the exception of the falcons, we may safely say that the harmful species can all be placed in group 1 and the beneficial species in group 2. For example, the Cooper Hawk, regarded everywhere as harmful, has a length 60 percent of its spread, while the beneficial Swainson Hawk has a length that is only 40 percent of its spread. (See accompanying table for further figures.)

TABLE SHOWING RATIO OF LENGTH TO SPREAD IN VARIOUS SPECIES OF HAWKS AS SHOWN BY MEASUREMENTS OF BIRDS IN THE FLESH

Genus	Species	Average ratio, length to spread
Accipiter	Cooper Hawk	60%
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	54%
	Goshawk	52%
Falco	Sparrow Hawk	47%
	Pigeon Hawk	45%
	Duck Hawk	44%
	Prairie Falcon	43%
Circus	Marsh Hawk	42%
Buteo	Red-tailed Hawk	42%
	Swainson Hawk	40%
Archibuteo	Ferruginous Rough-leg	40%
Pandion	Osprey	39%

Regarding the relative proportions of aeroplanes and hawks, it may be stated that, in general, aeroplanes are relatively longer than hawks, the ratio of length to span in the former being, in ascertained cases, from 54 to 80 percent. In the recent four-passenger, Orenco type F, Tourister Aeroplane, as illustrated in *Aerial Age* of May 3, 1920, page 253, the over-all length is 25 feet, 10 inches, and the span 38 feet, a ratio of length to spread of 68 percent. The Cooper Hawk has nearly the same proportions as this modern aeroplane; and the harmful bird-hawks (Accipiters) might well be called aeroplane-hawks to distinguish them from the short-tailed squirrel-hawks (Buteos), which are beneficial.—JOSEPH DIXON, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, June 10, 1921.*