

tremendous amount of food in its stomach and crop. Dr. Fisher (U. S. Dept. Agric., Div. Orn. and Mamm., Bull. no. 3, 1893, p. 23) records a solitary meadow mouse in the one stomach of the species examined by him and quotes Audubon to the effect that its food is made up of reptiles, frogs and insects. My own impression had always been of the kite as a rather effeminate bird. My interest, therefore, merged into surprise on discovering that both its appetite and its table manners are far from dainty. Remains of four meadow mice (*Microtus*) and an entire shrew (*Sorex ornatus*) were identified in the contents of stomach and crop. The shrew was absolutely entire. The largest mouse had been torn apart in the lower thoracic region and the hinder portion bolted entire with skin and fur in place. Two mouse heads had been swallowed hair and all. The fore quarters of the mice seemed to have been stripped of skin, but great masses of skin and fur had been swallowed after stripping them off. Viscera and small bones indicated that most of both mice had been eaten, and there is no reason to believe that any part had been discarded. Well cleaned bones from two other *Microtus* skulls were still retained in the stomach. Neither insects nor lower vertebrates were present. I have seen the Prairie Falcon feed with the most fastidious care, leaving even the ribs intact but picked clean. This kite, however, seems to bolt its food with almost owl-like ruthlessness.

Synopsis of food items in stomach of *Elanus leucurus*: 1 shrew (*Sorex ornatus*), entire; 2 complete heads of *Microtus* with hair on, unbroken; 2 well digested *Microtus* jaws plus one skull; 1 entire hind quarters including lumbar and some thoracic vertebrae and tail, all with hair on; 4 front legs (skinned) including scapulae; sections of spinal column with ribs, great masses of skin with long hair, and visceral parts, miscellaneous. Estimated volume, 130 cubic centimeters.—LOYE MILLER, *Los Angeles, California, March 9, 1926.*

**Late Nesting of Cedar Waxwing.**—While looking over my hunting grounds, on August 23, 1924, I was surprised to come upon a Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) sitting on two incubated and two infertile eggs. The nest was seven feet up in a myrtle tree. It was composed of coarse grass and weeds and was lined with fine dry grass and hair that hung in a slovenly manner over the edge of the nest. A few dry leaves had apparently fallen into the nest.

The eggs were bluish-gray, marked with spots of sepia and dark purple. A further search disclosed two more nests, both with young. All three were in myrtle trees within the limits of this city.—J. THOMAS FRASER, *Eureka, California, February 15, 1926.*

**The Voice of the Old-squaw.**—The call of the Old-squaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) has probably been rendered by observers in more different ways than that of any other duck, and with a little help from the imagination, all of them are more or less recognizable by anyone who has heard the call. It is a difficult matter to reproduce sounds of most bird voices on paper. However, in my opinion the voice of the Old-squaw does not belong in the difficult class. It is one of the few that can be set down almost exactly in writing. It has been my experience that in order to get a correct idea of many bird notes it is necessary for the observer to be quite close to the bird. I believe most of the written renderings of the call of the Old-squaw have been obtained by observers who heard the call from a considerable distance; otherwise there could not be such a variety of renderings.

The Old-squaw is a regular spring migrant here and for a period of about ten days in the first half of May the musical call of the birds can be heard from far out on the lake. On May 11, 1920, the ice on Lac La Nonne shifted about half a mile off-shore, an unusually late date for this occurrence. In the evening I paddled out in my canoe to observe the different waterfowl. There were numbers of Old-squaws sitting on the edge of the ice and swimming in the water beside it, and I had no difficulty in approaching to about thirty-five yards in several instances without alarming the birds. There was not a breath of wind and I had an excellent opportunity to listen to their call, which I had never heard previously, except from far out in the lake. The call was *unk-on-alik*, the second syllable pronounced like the French "on". *Unk-on-alik* is almost exactly the call as near as any bird call can be set down on paper. On becoming aware of my presence they also uttered a low conversational *uk, uk*, as they took to the water and swam away.—A. D. HENDERSON, *Belvedere, Alberta, February 25, 1926.*