mentions from Goss' "Revised Catalogue of the Birds of Kansas", I will quote no further. This is to the effect that the species was found nesting in Graham County, Kansas, in the summer of 1873 or 1874 by a Mr. Jeff Jordan. "The birds were not seen after 1875." In their handbook, "The Birds of Oklahoma" (1924), Margaret Morse Nice and Leonard Blaine Nice, in addition to citing the records of Mr. Lewis for Gate and my record for Cimarron County, go on to state that the magpies are extending their range to the east in North Dakota and Iowa.

While the flock on the Brookhart ranch contains the only members of the species that seem to be year-round residents in Cimarron County, yet it is only reasonable to suppose that in time this flock will divide and other flocks will be built up in widely scattered sections of the county. But whether or not this occurs, the flock now numbering twenty-two or twenty-three and which has occupied the same range for eight years is sufficient to give Oklahoma an authentic record of the American Magpie as a resident.

Kenton, Oklahoma, April 14, 1927.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

The Cardinal in San Diego.—From May 10 to 14, inclusive, of this year I saw a male Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis* subspecies) daily in Balboa Park, San Diego. My identification of the bird was verified by Mr. Clinton G. Abbott, of the San Diego Natural History Museum. Inquiry at the Zoo revealed that the officials there have no record of an escape of this species, nor do any of the employees know of such an escape. Rumor persists, however, in crediting the arrival of this species to that source. The bird is an adult male but lacks the rich coloring of typical *cardinalis;* it is either a faded cage bird or of the subspecies *superbus.* Several other reports of a Cardinal in this city have been received this spring; but whether there is more than the one bird has not as yet been ascertained.—FRANK F. GANDER, *East San Diego, California, May 21, 1927.*

Breeding of Immature Hawks.—The mating of an immature hawk with an adult has often been recorded. In some instances this is the result of a female being shot and its mate rounding up an immature to help him to bring up the young, or even to hatch the eggs already laid. A definite instance of an immature of the preceding year laying eggs is as follows.

On April 30 of this year I shot a female Cooper Hawk, an adult that would have laid its first egg in a week. A week later I saw the male ranging the country in quest of a new mate. On May 18, a neighbor asked me to shoot a hawk that had been killing her chickens for two weeks not far from where I shot the female on the last day of April. I soon found the nest and shot the occupant, an ordinary brown immature bird of the preceding year. On dissection this bird proved to contain three eggs; the largest egg would have been laid next day. The rest of the set were probably in the nest to which I did not climb. The male I got over a week later some two miles away.

The valley in which the nest was located had originally at least four pairs of Ruffed Grouse. All or nearly all were killed by these hawks inside of a month. The greatest asset in collecting hawks is the ability to imitate the hoot of the Great Horned Owl. At the nest this is an infallible means of bringing up the owners; in the cases of Falcons, Goshawks, Cooper and Sharp-shinned hawks the birds usually come right up with loud outcries, the males being bolder than the females. In hawks of the *Buteo* type the attraction is just as effective but the hawks are more wary.

I have records of the acquiring of an immature mate after the first adult mate had

been shot, in the following species: Peregrine, Pigeon Hawk, Sharp-shinned and Cooper hawks. In the case of the Pigeon Hawk it was the female that acquired three successive mates, the last a brown immature. As it is now recognized that all hawks (except eagles) pass into the adult plumage at their first moult, these immatures must in every case have been less than a year old.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Okanagan Landing, B. C., June 30, 1927.*

A Note on the Dietary Habits of the Barn Owl.—The abode of a pair of Barn Owls *(Tyto alba pratincola)* was discovered on October 4, 1925, the nesting and roosting place being located in a cave in the cliffs of Wildcat Canyon about three miles north of the University of California campus, Berkeley. Pellets were collected at intervals over a period of one and one-half years in an attempt to learn whether there be any significant seasonal variation in the relative numbers of the different animals taken by the owls for food. The observations were interrupted by press of other duties sooner than was expected. The results are presented in the table herewith. For the sake of brevity the several collections of pellets are condensed into two categories, those belonging to the dry season (March to November) and those of the rainy season (November to March).

A total of 571 pellets yielded 1780 individual animals, recognized from the skeletal remains found in the pellets. Of the mammals, by far the most numerous was the common California meadow mouse, which comprised 64 percent of the catch. In order of decreasing frequency were white-footed mice (mostly *Peromyscus maniculatus gambeli*, together with a few which were probably *P. truei gilberti*), harvest mice *(Reithrodontomys)*, pocket gophers *(Thomomys)*, shrews *(Sorex)*, and pocket mice *(Perognathus)*, with a few scattering individuals of wood rat *(Neotoma)*, mole *(Scapanus)*, brush rabbit *(Sylvilagus)*, house mouse *(Mus)*, house rat *(Rattus)* and one kangaroo rat *(Dipodomys)*, the last named of rather rare occurrence in this locality. In the late summer and autumn the Jerusalem cricket *(Stenopelmatus)* is represented quite numerously in the pellets.

	Actual number of individuals			Relative number of individuals (percent of catch)		
	Dry Season: March to November	Rainy Season: November to March	Total	Dry Season: March to November	Rainy Season: November to March	Total
Microtus	767	364	1131	60.00	72.00	64.00
Peromyscus	196	44	240	15.00	8.70	14.00
Reithrodontomys	116	37	153	9.10	7.30	8.60
Thomomys	51	34	85	4.00	6.70	4.80
Sorex	31	2	33	2.40	.40	1.80
Perognathus	14	2	16	1.10	.40	.90
Scapanus	2	5	7	.16	1.00	.40
Neotoma	6	2	8	.47	.40	.50
Sylvilagus	1	1	2	.08	.20	.10
Stenopelmatus	84	15	99	6.60	3.00	5.60
Mus	2	0	2	.16	.00	.10
Rattus	0	2	2	.00	.40	.10
Dipodomys	1	0	1	.08	.00	.05
Total	1272	508	1780			

In regard to seasonal variation of the dietary, nothing very striking was found. The shrews, pocket mice and Jerusalem crickets were taken mostly in the dry season but these species make up only a small part of the catch. White-footed and harvest mice were taken somewhat more frequently in the dry months, whereas the reverse is true of the pocket gophers. Finally, certain animals are conspicuous by the complete absence of their remains from the pellets. No bird remains were found. There were no ground squirrels, which is good evidence that these animals have retired to their burrows before the owls come out to hunt. Nor were there any remains of jack rabbits, though the writer has often seen these animals abroad at night on hill sides where barn owls are seen and heard.

The writer expresses his thanks to members of the staff of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, especially to Mr. Joseph Dixon, for the help received in the identification of material from the pellets.—G. L. FOSTER, *Berkeley, California, July 1, 1927.*

California Brown Pelicans Nesting at Point Lobos, Monterey County, California.—During the last two summers I had, from time to time, observed that a number of Cali-