

hang its head downward with its eyes evidently on prospective prey, and descend rather slowly almost to the ground. Here it would hover searching further for its prey. While descending, the extended feet and head would swing to and fro. The tail, which was held almost straight in line with the body, was spread and contracted, balancing the rather slowly falling kite. This performance reminded me of the descent of a helicopter. During several such pursuit drops the kite did not make a food capture.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California, July 27, 1953.*

**Food of the Long-eared Owl in Southern Washoe County, Nevada.**—On March 5, 1953, a pair of adult Long-eared Owls (*Asio wilsonianus*) was found roosting in a single-needle piñon at 4800 feet in the foothills of the Virginia Range, 11 miles southeast of Reno, Washoe County, Nevada. Subsequent visits to the locality were made on March 26, April 30, and May 21, 1953. Two birds, an adult and one volant young judged to be about five weeks old, were present on the latter date near an old magpie nest. On the last three trips to the area I gathered 131 pellets from the ground beneath several piñon trees in the vicinity. Because most of the pellets had been protected from the weather by thick piñon cover, the majority of the skulls they contained were well preserved. An analysis of the contents of these pellets follows. Each item listed was represented by a complete skull or by a recognizable skull fragment.

	Number of items	Per cent of total
Pocket Mouse, <i>Perognathus parvus</i>	18	15.80
Kangaroo Rat, <i>Dipodomys panamintinus</i>	18	15.80
Pocket Gopher, <i>Thomomys talpoides</i>	2	1.75
<i>Thomomys</i> sp.	3	2.64
Harvest Mouse, <i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i>	15	13.16
Deer Mouse, <i>Peromyscus (maniculatus?)</i>	21	18.40
Meadow Mouse, <i>Microtus montanus</i>	34	29.82
Jackrabbit, <i>Lepus californicus</i>	2	1.75
Western Meadowlark, <i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	1	.88
Total	114	100.00

All of the *Dipodomys* skulls and all but one of the *Perognathus* skulls were identified to species on the basis of geographic range. Rabbit remains were frequent beneath scattered piñons in the area, but I could find only two skulls, neither of which was contained in a pellet.

The locality is situated at the ecotone of the piñon-juniper-sagebrush-grass zones, and is approximately one-half mile from the nearest meadowland. Thus it is interesting to compare the percentage of prey animals of moist, grassy environments (harvest and meadow mice, pocket gophers, and meadowlarks), which totals 48.25, to that of the remaining species of normally dry habitat which totals 51.75. Although the owls roosted in the piñon, about half of the feeding was apparently done in the meadowland area one-half mile distant. Groves of large cottonwoods and willow thickets near the moist area would seem to be suitable for both roosting and nesting of these owls, although no signs of such activity have been noted there.—NED K. JOHNSON, *University of Nevada Museum of Biology, Reno, Nevada, July 19, 1953.*

**Falcated Teal at San Francisco, California.**—On May 5, 1953, I found a strange duck on Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California. Robert T. Orr, Sandy Sprunt, and I later identified it as a Falcated Teal (*Anas falcata*). It had previously been seen on Metson Lake in the park on April 5, by A. Laurence Curl. The bird remained on Stow Lake until May 20 or 21.

There have been at least three records of *Anas falcata* in North America (Hanna, Auk, 37, 1920: 250; Brooks, Condor, 44, 1942:33; Wilson, Condor, 50, 1948:127). It is native to eastern Asia. The possibility that the bird at Stow Lake was an escaped bird or a descendant of an escaped bird is good, as the species has been introduced frequently.—JOEL T. HEDGPETH, *San Francisco, California, July 21, 1953.*

**The Prothonotary Warbler in California.**—On May 25, 1953, the senior author picked up a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) on the grounds of Dial House, 505B E. Los Olivos, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County, California. The bird was an adult male with the testes enlarged to breeding size. Mr. Egmont Rett of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History confirmed our