

In a letter from Mr. George E. Donkin of Toronto, dated August 1, 1927, we received interesting information concerning this Loon. Mr. Donkin writes: "On Sunday, July 31, while walking on the beach at Brighton, Ontario, I found a Loon with a leg band of your Commission, No. 9684. The bird had evidently just arrived or was sleeping and had been killed by a skunk, as the approach and attack were all clearly indicated in the sand. Likely after a long flight it was exhausted. I am taking the liberty of keeping the clip as a novelty."

Thus had this Loon wandered for fifteen months after its liberation in Pennsylvania. It had likely visited the Gulf of Mexico during this period.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pa.*

Ruffed Grouse Captured by a Screech Owl.—It is not often that the Screech Owl (*Otus asio asio*) attempts to capture prey larger than itself. An instance of the killing of a Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus umbellus*) by this small owl has been brought to my attention recently, however. At about midnight on December 20, 1924, Mr. George Ryder, of LeRoy, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, captured a Screech Owl in a steel trap which he had set earlier in the evening on the body of a grouse which he had just found freshly killed, and from which he had frightened what he recognized as a small owl of some kind. Examination of the snow about the body of the grouse showed that no quadruped had caught the bird. Furthermore, the Screech Owl's stomach, which was examined at the writer's office, contained much of the head and neck of the grouse, as well as several sumac seeds, portions of rose-hips, and tiny twigs with buds attached, which must have been swallowed with the gizzard of the grouse. The owl was caught by both feet only a few minutes after the setting of the trap, so it is fair to assume that the eating had been done prior to the setting of the trap, probably just after the owl had killed its prey. There is a bare possibility that the grouse had killed itself by flying into a tree. It is not likely that this could have been the case, however, unless the grouse was frantically trying to escape capture. Uneaten portions of the body of the grouse, which were also carefully examined, indicated such health of body tissue that the bird could hardly have died of disease.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pa.*

Birds Enjoy Bathing During the Winter Months.—Last winter I made the discovery that the Blue Jays enjoy their bath during the cold weather as much as during the warm days of summer. Instead of storing my bird-bath, I left it out all winter, keeping it filled with fresh water twice daily. The jays, as well as two blackbirds and dozens of sparrows, enjoyed the bath all winter, even on days when it was 8 or 10 degrees above zero. If the cake of ice was not removed from the bath by 11 A. M., the jays sat in a tree above the fountain, and called until I appeared with the tea-kettle to thaw the ice and refill the bath. They sat quietly, watching my movements; when I had finished and started toward the house, they flew down immediately to make their ablutions. One jay in particular, seemingly could never get enough of the water. I have seen him immerse sixteen times in rapid succession, before he would fly into the tree to preen himself. Often they would return in the afternoon. I always knew when to refill the bath, by their loud, raucous cries. Sometimes it was amusing to see them stand on the cake of ice or edge of the bowl, attempting to take a dip; if the water was only partly frozen they would hop in, but as quickly hop out, as much