**The Roosting and Rising Habits of the Hungarian Partridge.**—The data here reported were secured during October and early November of 1935 at the Washington State College farm. The area studied is part of the well known "Palouse Hills" of Whitman County in eastern Washington.

At about the time the first signs of daylight appear in the eastern skies the call of a single Hungarian Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) can be heard announcing the awakening of a covey of partridges. A short period of silence follows, then perhaps another call may be uttered by the same covey, or within 2 to 5 minutes other coveys may announce their awakening. The coveys answer each other for a period of from 4 to 6 minutes, when suddenly one covey may break into a vocal commotion and instantly boom into the air. They continue the chorus as they fly to some nearby cover. After this morning journey the coveys soon cease to call.

Observations on the time of awakening were taken on three occasions. The first awakening call on October 6, November 2 and November 10 respectively was uttered at 47, 53, and 52 minutes before the expected time of sunrise at the local meridian. An extremely dense fog hung over the area on October 6, thereby delaying the appearance of daylight. This delay in the appearance of daylight, however, apparently did not cause the birds to delay their awakening call by more than 5 or 6 minutes.

All but one of the morning flights from the roosting sites took place before sunrise, the average lapse of time being 19, 34, and 18 minutes before sunrise on October 6, November 2 and November 10, respectively.

On November 2, a cold clear morning, five coveys completed the performance of awakening, calling, and morning flights in a period of 47 minutes. On November 10, a single covey vocalized, and made its morning flight in a period of 35 minutes.

The evening period of activity is ushered in with a loud *chrrit,* which is shortly, sometimes immediately, answered by another covey. As the birds carry on this vocalization they usually move uphill toward a summit from which they start their evening flight. Most of the flights occurred from 16 to 18 minutes after the expected time of sunset, the extremes being 8 and 31 minutes (Table 1). Cloudiness did not affect the time or amount of evening activity. On an average, 36 minutes encompassed the entire evening performance. All the birds became quiet before a degree of darkness which would have prevented the observer with his back to the west from reading a newspaper.

TABLE 1

TIME OF EVENING FLIGHTS BY COVEYS OF HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE

| Date | Expected time of sunset at local meridian | Average time for evening flight by coveys | Interval between sunset and evening flights | Weather |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| October 2 | 5:50 | 6:06 | 16 min. | Clear |
| 5 | 5:46 | 6:02 | 16 min. | Clear |
| 6 | 5:44 | 6:02 | 18 min. | Clear |
| 7 | 5:42 | 5:59 | 17 min. | Clear |
| 20 | 5:21 | 5:42 | 21 min. | Cloudy |
| 26 | 5:11 | 5:38 | 27 min. | Clear |
| 27 | 5:10 | 5:28 | 18 min. | Clear |
| November 3 | 4:59 | 5:07 | 8 min. | Clear |
| 10 | 4:49 | 5:20 | 31 min. | Partly cloudy |

Of eight roosts found, four were in wheat stubble, one in oats stubble, two in alfalfa, and one in a slight depression on the bare ground of a cleanly cultivated

orchard. From the arrangement of the fecal droppings at the roosts I judge that the birds of a covey may roost either singly or as small groups of 4 or 5 individuals along a slight depression in the ground.—ARNOLD O. HAUGEN, *Michigan Department of Conservation, Lansing, Michigan.*

**Blue Goose in Tioga County, New York.**—Mr. Lee J. Loomis of Endicott, New York recently brought to my office for identification a fine specimen of Blue Goose, *Chen caerulescens,* mounted about a year ago by himself. The bird, an immature female in gray plumage, was found dead by the caretaker at Spencer Lake, near the town of Spencer, northwestern Tioga County, New York, on October 21, 1940. Its measurements are: wing, 388 mm., tail, 118; culmen, 53, tarsus, 86. The specimen is now in Mr. Loomis' private collection in Endicott.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.*

**Records of the Nevada Nuthatch in Utah.**—A specimen of the Nevada Pigmy Nuthatch, *Sitta pygmaea canescens* (No. 1512 Hardy Collection), was taken from the aspen-cottonwood grove in the east part of the Pine Valley Forest Campground, Washington County, Utah, by the writer on June 1, 1939. The specimen was so damaged that accurate sex determination was impossible, but it is thought to be a female. At that time young birds were heard in the nest which was located about twenty feet from the ground in a dead cottonwood tree. A Red-shafted Flicker, *Colaptes cafer canescens,* and a Mountain Bluebird, *Sialia currucoides,* were nesting in other cavities of the same tree.

May 11, 1940, a nuthatch nest with seven eggs was taken from a cavity in this same tree. The nest was about twelve feet above the ground.

August 23, 1941, a female (No. 2225 Hardy Collection) was taken from a foxtail pine near the summit of Lookout Peak (10,200 feet), Pine Valley Mountains, about eight miles southwest of the campground site.

These seem to be the first records of this race for Utah. This provides an 180 mile northeastward extension of the range from the Charleston and nearby mountains of Nevada, the only previous known habitat of this subspecies.

I wish to thank Dr. H. C. Oberholser and Dr. Clarence Cottam of the Fish and Wildlife Service at Washington, D.C. for their determination of specimen No. 1512.—ROSS HARDY, *Dixie Junior College, Saint George, Utah.*

**Another Case of String-eating.**—In the *Wilson Bulletin* for September, 1941, Kenyon and Uttal report the death of a young Bronzed Grackle resulting from obstruction of the digestive tract by a long piece of string. This reminded me at once of a similar case that came to my attention two years ago.

On May 21, 1939, Dr. Harold B. Wood, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, picked up a young Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) which he found "standing normally in the grass." Although it showed no symptoms of disease, it died in his hand within a minute. He promptly forwarded it to me for post mortem study.

The bird was a fledgling, apparently only a few days out of the nest. There were no signs of external injury. Nutrition was moderately impaired.

Internal examination revealed that a piece of heavy wrapping twine, seven inches long and a quarter of an inch in diameter, filled the crop, proventriculus and gizzard. The twine was just the size, shape and general color of a large earthworm, though it may have become somewhat swollen within the bird. The proventriculus was greatly distended and thinned out, while the constriction between proventriculus and gizzard was fully obliterated. No part of the twine had passed farther than the gizzard. A complete impaction and obstruction was apparent. The liver, pancreas and spleen were normal. The gall bladder was fully distended.