

The Rose-throated Becard has been considered rare in the United States, but recently it has been observed several times. Until 1945, the only authentic record of this species for the United States was that of an adult male taken by Price (1888. *Auk*, 5: 425) in the Huachuca Mountains of Arizona. In 1945, Davis (*Auk*, 62:316-317) reported the presence of summer-resident becards in Cameron and Hidalgo counties, Texas, and in 1949, Phillips (*loc. cit.*) described six active nests, which he located during the summers of 1947 and 1948 in the Santa Cruz River drainage of central southern Arizona. The Arizona birds were identified by Phillips as *Platypsaris aglaiae richmondi*. The Texas birds, however, were assigned to *P. a. gravis* by Sutton (1949. *Auk*, 66:365-366), who collected three specimens in Hidalgo County. Those observed in the Chiricahuas may be presumed to be *richmondi*.—ROBERT H. GIBBS, JR., *Department of Conservation*, and SARAH PREBLE GIBBS, *Department of Zoology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, July 17, 1955.*

**Goshawk captures American Crow.**—On July 23, 1955, the writer observed what appears to be an unusual instance of predation by an adult Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) on an American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). At their call of alarm, my attention was focused on a flock of approximately 10 crows roosting in the tops of some large hemlocks in a heavily-wooded area in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, near Shingleton. In a moment a Goshawk was noted swiftly diving upon the crows from a southwesterly azimuth, which, in midafternoon, was directly in line with the sun. Although the flock quickly dispersed, the goshawk singled out one bird and gave pursuit. For a few short moments this crow desperately attempted maximum evasive action; however, despite its valiant flight the hawk easily matched each maneuver and the crow was quickly driven to ground. At this point both victim and raptor were lost from view due to the presence of low but dense vegetation. The remaining flock meanwhile circled overhead, frenziedly cawing and repeatedly diving to within a few feet of the hawk, which was settled on the ground. However, after several minutes of such action the crows departed silently.

During the short period of time which elapsed before it reappeared to view, the Goshawk presumably was consuming a portion of the kill. When next seen it was laboring in flight with the crow clutched tightly to its body. An eight-foot woven wire fence with a two-foot overhang obstructed its path at the end of about 200 feet of flight; however, this was cleared easily at the last moment and the hawk continued into the heavy timber beyond. Careful search did not again reveal its presence in the immediate area.

Although Goshawks are not commonly abundant in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan during summer, Wood (1951. *Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.*, no. 75:103-105) has recorded several recent instances of Goshawks nesting in this locality. Due to its large size, agility, and speed of flight, Goshawk predation on game animals, particularly the Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), has been commonly noted. There is evidence suggesting that the Ruffed Grouse may serve as a staple food item wherever these species coexist. This instance of predation on crows may be related to the relative scarcity of both the Ruffed Grouse and Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Pedioecetes phasianellus*) at the present time due to their cyclic low populations. Perhaps when natural prey species are reduced in abundance Goshawks resort to feeding on normally less preferred prey which are commonly available in large numbers.—LOUIS J. VERME, *Michigan Department of Conservation, Shingleton, Michigan, September 9, 1955.*