

HAWKS SERVE FARMER WELL

Kill Crop-Eating Rodents and Prairie Dogs.

THE INJURIOUS SPECIES

Foray Hen Roosts Secretly While Those in Plain View Are Inoffensive. Takes its Own Photograph.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

(Associate Member American Ornithologists' Union.)

MAN'S hand is raised constantly against the hawk. The hawk's approach to a farmyard is the signal for the taking down of the shotgun. Man is slow to learn, and nine times out of ten the hawk-killing husbandman slays one of his best friends.

Of seventy-three species and subspecies of hawks occurring in America, only six are injurious, and yet in the popular horizon is a "hen-hawk" and deserving of death. Of the half-dozen injurious species only three are common. They are the goshawk (accipiter atricapillus), the Cooper hawk (accipiter cooperii) and the sharp-shinned hawk (accipiter velox).

These birds are the bold buccanniers of the field. Their flight is of an arrow's swiftness. They will turn and double, stop short, thread the interlocking branches of trees, and seize the quarry, which they have started, with unerring precision.

The sharp-shinned and the Cooper hawk will carry a poultry yard and kill half the chickens within the inclosure, and do it



IMMATURE RED-TAILED HAWK. IT PREYS ON CROP-EATING RODENTS BUT IS SHOT ON SIGHT AS ITS THOUGHT TO HAVE DESIGNS ON THE POULTRY YARD.

lacking in that landscape which does not have living interest added by the sight of a soaring bird waiting its opportunity to strike down some cowering quarry. The sharp-shinned hawk when hungry will abandon his habit of stealthy approach from behind a cover of trees and will attack in the open, even though the human enemy be in plain view and armed. One of these birds recently came into the city and struck down a valuable carrier pigeon, which was within a few yards of its home cote after a flight of three hundred miles. Scores of persons were awaiting the return of the pigeon and some of its fellows, but with a bold disregard of their presence the pirate "sharp-shin" came like a bullet and struck its prey.

While riding on an electric car in the very heart of the city one day at noon I saw a Cooper hawk descend into a flock of English sparrows feeding in the street. The car was moving so rapidly that it was impossible to tell whether the hawk secured the dinner that he deserved for his boldness.

A CHASE THAT FAILED. The accipiters rarely miss their intended victim. I have seen other species try and try again only to be disappointed of



COOPER HAWKS, MALE AND FEMALE. THE FEMALE HAWK (ON THE LEFT) IS MUCH LARGER AND FEWER THAN THE MALE, A CONDITION THAT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF MOST BIRDS OF PREY. THE BIRDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MOST OF THE CHICKEN STEALING SINS THAT ARE CHARGED UP AGAINST THE HAWK FAMILY.

unless. In the meantime some red-tailed or red-shouldered hawk will come into sight on soaring wing on the outlook for crop-eating rodents, and down comes the shotgun. There is a report, followed by a chuckle, as the farmer holds up a stricken hawk and declares his lost fowls avenged.

Somewhere at the wood's edge sits the real marauder, finishing his latest meal of spring chicken and planning new forays. The next day and the next more poultry is stolen, while the owner wonders.

It took a long time and much patient research on the part of Uncle Sam's officials of the biological survey to separate the hawks into the classes of injurious and non-injurious species. The birds were killed by the hundreds, and the contents of their stomachs were examined. Nine nestling Cooper hawks were found to have been fed within a few hours, a nutbatch, a flicker, a brown thrasher—all birds beneficial to man—a ruffed grouse and a young chicken. Digestion with the birds in a rapid process, and the destruction wrought among song, game and domestic birds by a single pair of either species of "accipiter" with young to feed may be estimated with this one instance of nestling feeding as a basis.

BOLD FREEBOOTERS. A young Cooper hawk was taken from a nest by H. Justin Roddy. It ate its own weight in food every day. When just able to fly it escaped from its cage and before it had gone two hundred yards it struck down and killed a domestic pigeon in full flight. The bird student, even though his life



FISHHAWK OR OSPERY. THE THEIVING BALD EAGLE WATCHES THE OSPERY AT ITS TASK OF FISH CATCHING AND EATS UP ITS PREY.

is devoted to the protection of the songsters does not fail to have a sort of "neaking admiration" for the race of hawks. Freebooters and murderers that they are, their lives are typical of the freedom of the fields and the wildness of the woodlands. There is a charm about their very boldness, and there is something

check. I finally put both birds to flight in the back yard, but the goshawk, thereby, for corpus followed and but-feted him in midair. I once found the body of a small hawk which had met a similar fate. The bird was hanging by the tendons of its wing from the barb of a wire fence. Undoubtedly he had been pursuing its quarry and had struck the wire strand in full flight. The impetus acquired had been such that the hawk had been swung across the wire with its wing fastened to the barb. It had perished miserably, while some bird or mouse lived to contemplate itself on its narrow escape from the enemy.

PHOTOGRAPHED ITSELF. It is the red-tailed hawk (buteo borealis) which perhaps is the only bird that has taken its own photograph. Robert W. Hegner, a bird photographer and field scientist, filmed the hawk in a pen and, training his camera on a red-tailed nest, fastened a thread to the shutter and then passed the other end of the thread to the hawk. The hawk returned and in getting into the nest, pulled the thread, snapped the shutter and took a picture of himself.

The fishhawk, or osprey (pandion haliaetus carolinensis) eats little except fish and strangely enough, the fish are not always the small ones which prey it shuns. It is said "strangely enough" because inland fishermen kill the kingfisher on sight because it preys on the fishhawk. It is the kingfisher which is the fishhawk's natural enemy, and the fishhawk is the kingfisher's natural enemy.

THE GERMANS ARE THRIFTY

Success of New Settlers in Lunenburg—A New Registration.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) MEHERRIN, VA., August 15.—A question that is often asked by the average stranger, who chances to pass through this section, and comes in contact with so many German people, is what kind of citizens do they make, and what success do they have at farming?

Something over ten years ago these people began slowly to emigrate and settle around this place on small tracts of land, and through the influence of several real estate agencies, and one settler after another writing his friends in other parts, large numbers of this class were induced to come here and buy property.

A large majority of these people have only a limited amount of capital to start with, and in many instances they are forced to draw a deed of trust against their real estate in order to take possession. Generally these settlers buy small parcels of land that are improved very little, and in many cases they will purchase a parcel that is standing in heavy timber, with no dwelling upon it, and will bring their families down and live with their neighbors until they can erect a place suitable to protect them from the elements, and in some instances they have erected an entire dwelling from goods boxes.

Those who have settled here are all good, honest law-abiding citizens, and while unrefined somewhat in their manner, they are industrious and thrifty as a rule, work closely together for the benefit of each. They settle as closely together as possible, and as a result each one knows what the others do.

On Sundays large numbers will gather at one of the homes where they will discuss the various subjects of interest that confronts them and various books pertaining to farming are read by them, and in this way they get the better part of their knowledge of what a farmer should do to be successful.

It is a notable fact that none of them use any more tobacco than they themselves use, but their whole attention is given to the raising of corn, wheat, oats, rice, cabbage, potatoes and grass, and each year these crops, among them, steadily increase.

They are greatly interested in the producing of manure in order that they may improve their land, as very few of them use any fertilizer whatever, and cannot be induced to do so by the various agents which cover this territory.

These people work from early morn until late evening, and it is a very rare thing to find one idle. They are small contractors of debts, and they have gained the confidence of the people at large, and they always make it a point to meet their obligations promptly.

They have opened up a large scope of country through here, and lands that a few years ago were standing in large trees have been opened up and are now under cultivation, and as a result the amount of land has increased from four to eight dollars per acre.

The women are also hard workers, as they do all of the housework, and when this is completed they can be found in the fields with their husbands, plowing, digging up brush and doing all kinds of work.

Their religion is about divided between the Catholic and Lutheran, and while they have no Catholic church in their midst, they attend occasionally to some of the religious services for them. An effort is being made by them to erect such a church, and it is expected that the required amount will be very soon subscribed.

They care nothing for dress, and as a general thing are easy-going people, who attend only to their own affairs. A few of them are making some money by raising corn and grain, and the majority of them are contented to make their own effort available to succeed.

The supervisors of Lunenburg have decided to replace all wooden bridges over the most important streams with iron bridges. Several bridges in Lunenburg, Ohio, was here this week visiting his people. He is a very popular Presbyterian minister.

Messrs. W. V. Fowles, W. C. Winn and J. A. Shackleton, registrars for this district, have posted notices of registration here on the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th of September. Only about half of the citizens of this district have registered, and among them only three negroes have registered. It is expected that the number of names will be added to the list in order to vote in the county election in November.

People in Bristol. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BRISTOL, TENN., Aug. 15.—Mr. W. A. Tillis, of Emory, Va., has joined his family on a visit to the family of Hon. D. F. Bailey on East State Street. Mr. Vernon Hamer, a popular young man of Washington, D. C., who was raised in Bristol, is here on a visit to relatives and friends.

Mr. W. O. Gaffney, who came here to attend the funeral of his mother, Mrs. W. F. Williams, has returned to his home in Charlotte, N. C. Gaffney's husband is manager for the Postal Telegraph Company at Charlotte. Mr. S. G. Plunkett and daughter, Miss Jennie C. Tinsley, of Lynchburg, Va., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Newman here.

SPOTS MORE PLENTIFUL

Appeared in Large Numbers After a Long Absence.

SEA FOOD AT ST. LOUIS

Candidates for the Legislature Are Active—York County Oystermen Well Satisfied With Extension of Opening of Oyster Season.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) YORKTOWN, VA., August 15.—Spots are decidedly more plentiful this year than ever before for years back. For the past five years, at least, these little fish have been missing from the surrounding waters, and in their place the hardhead, or croaker, has had full sway. There is not the slightest affinity or likeness between these two members of the finny tribe except that they are both fish. The spot is as far above the croaker as an edible variety of fish as a piece of cheese compared with a piece of pinhead.

Why, because of these little fish during their absence is a matter of much conjecture. One is only laughed at for attempting to solve this marine riddle. They are counted the peer of any of the edible varieties of fish, only excelled in popularity and enterprise by the very renowned hogfish, very much akin to the spot, but of a flavor peculiarly its own. The novice is very easily fooled when set down to a dinner of either of these varieties, for nine times out of ten he gets his palate satisfied with the spot, while his pocket-book meets the expensive price of a meal of hogfish.

SEA FOOD AT ST. LOUIS

Secretary of Agriculture Keiser and Mr. A. C. Mauer, member of the board from this district, intend to make a big effort to have a representative exhibit of oyster products at the St. Louis World's Fair. Agricultural products, articles of sea food, specimens of timber and minerals were well represented, rather than matters of historic interest or antique lore. No other section is more bountifully blessed than Tidewater, and no other portion of the Commonwealth is so well supplied with oysters. Mr. Mauer has decided to make determined efforts to accumulate a collection worthy of the cause, a glowing tribute to the grand old Commonwealth.

Mr. A. J. Barnes and Hon. E. C. Madison, both candidates for nomination for the legislative primary at the election to be held on August 27th, have been through the county during the past week, making "their peace, calling and election" sure. The principal issue between the two candidates is the oyster question as it relates to the Jordan bill, the famous measure which was before the past Assembly for consideration. This bill provides for the breaking of the Embargo against oysters, which every oysterman is opposed, tooth and toenail. Before having any promise of support both candidates have been compelled to submit to the test of all possible opposition to the measure before receiving the support of the oyster business. Both parties have made active canvasses of the county, and both claim to have everything their own way.

NEW OYSTER SEASON. The extension of the opening of the oyster season from the 1st to the 15th of September meets with general and pronounced approval. Most of the oystermen are farmers as well, and these fifteen days give them just about enough time to harvest their fodder and make that secure. The tongmen claim that these two weeks will greatly enhance the value of the seed oyster, and consequently make the crop more plentiful.

Sidney A. Wheat, of Chicago, the owner of Temple Farm, was expected here during the week, but was detained at home by sickness. Mrs. V. Cary Taylor, who resides near Lee Hall, with Dr. W. W. Curtis, was unfortunate enough to fall out of a door and break both the bones of her forearm at the wrist. The bones were set immediately, and the lady is considerably better.

The protracted meetings at Providence Church commenced to-morrow, and will continue for two weeks. Rev. Dr. Peters, of Hampton, will assist the pastor, Rev. J. W. Baker.

Mr. S. R. Curtis and Dr. H. W. Curtis, who were visited by a severe cold a few days ago, losing an immense barn containing a large lot of farming machinery, as well as fifty-five or sixty tons of hay. The hay was of the fire was of local origin, as the other cause could be explained.

NEW CLUB HOUSE. Mr. W. C. Lawson, Dr. J. Wilton Hope and Mr. Segar Whiting, with a number of other prominent gentlemen of Hampton, are endeavoring to erect a club house on the James River, on what is known as Marsh Point, near the mouth of the river. The site is excellent fishing ground, and affords very good sport during the summer season, and is well adapted to the business man of the county, was here during the week on a visit of a day or two. He has just returned from a cruise on the James River, and he had the unique distinction of making snowballs on the fourth of July at Tennessee Pass, in Colorado. Snow fell at that time to the depth of two inches, and the temperature was below zero.

Mr. Whiting is engaged in speculation in timber lands, and has made several immense deals during the trip. He left this morning for Tallahassee, Fla.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Keefe and two children left this morning for their home in Chicago, after a trip of fifteen days spent here.

Mr. Will Lear and Robert Wortham, of Richmond, have been visitors here for the past week, occupying.

SOCIETY AT ASHEVILLE

Golf and Bowling the Two Events of the Week. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) ASHEVILLE, N. C., August 15.—A tennis tournament began on the Battery Park Hotel course Wednesday afternoon. Good players made an interesting event of the tourney, and it was won by G. T. Tennent and Frank S. Smith, Roy Rankin and Ralph Millard, Harvey Ray and Lewis C. Swope and P. Morehead, G. Stikeleather and Fitzpatrick, Deacons and Penniman, Wright and Winston.

The greatest interest of this week is the bowling tournament at the Asheville Clubhouse. The excitement is being kept up by the nightly scene of the gathering of the society folk of the town and many guests.

Mr. S. G. Plunkett, of Savannah, and Mrs. Arthur B. M. Plunkett, are among the best bowlers from the women. C. D. Ruland, of Asheville, and W. H. Plunkett, of Savannah, are the probable winners in the men's tourney.

INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACES

Are you coming to New York City on the Regatta? The Regatta Hotel, 34th Street, between 5th Ave. and Herald Square. Fire-proof. Delightfully appointed. Cool.

What we Advertise We Sell. What We Sell Advertises us.

E. T. FAULKNER CO., The Daylight Cash Store. WE ARE AGENTS FOR STANDARD PATTERNS.

Your Money Cheerfully Refunded on Any Purchase not Entirely Satisfactory.

An August Clearance Sale. GREATER BARGAINS FOR MONDAY.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST CLEARANCE SALE. REMNANT PRICE. Items include Colored Lawns, Simpson Blank Prints, Light Calicoes, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST CLEARANCE SALE. CUT PRICES. Items include 50 Lawns and Batiste, 10 and 12 1/2 Batiste, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST BARGAINS. Items include 50 and 60 Lace, narrow and wide, 100 Embroideries, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST NAPKIN SALE. CLEARANCE PRICE. Items include Dinner Napkins, three-quarter size, bleached, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST DAMASK SALE. CLEARANCE PRICES. Items include Table Damask, bleached, 60 inches wide, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST CLEARANCE SALE. Second Floor Bargains. Items include Ladies' Muslin Drawers, with wide ruffle and small tucks, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST TOWEL SALE. Items include Turkish Towels, 18 by 50 inches, regularly sold at 12 1/2c, etc.

Table with 2 columns: WHITE GOODS SALE. Items include Fine Lawn, 40 inches wide, a 5c genuine bargain at, etc.

Table with 2 columns: AUGUST CLEARANCE SALE. Items include Ladies' Extra Quality Percale and Madras Shirt-Waist Suits, etc.

BUILDERS OF KEARSARGE

Greatest of Shipyards Monument to Name of Huntin'g'n

FOREMOST SHIPBUILDER

Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company and President Calvin B. Orcutt—Development of a Great Enterprise.

her exact counterpart, and on her official trial trip proved herself faster, if anything. Captain Joseph N. Hemphill paid to the constructors and builders the finest possible compliment when he stated that the efficiency of his ship was not impaired by the severe test made of her machinery, and that she could start right off and repeat the trial after filling the coal bunkers.

That vessels like the Kearsarge can be built in private yards is a matter of congratulation. The Kearsarge and Ken-



Calvin B. Orcutt.

The return of the United States battleship Kearsarge to American waters was an incident of profound interest to the American people. Her reception abroad was gratifying to national pride. At Kiel she was inspected by Emperor William and his staff, by admirals of the German navy, and by expert constructors and builders. She was acknowledged to be a fine product of scientific construction and superb workmanship. The Emperor was so delighted with the ship and the appearance of her gallant crew that he sent a congratulatory cablegram to President Roosevelt. At Portsmouth she was inspected by the Prince of Wales, General Lord Roberts, members of the Admiralty and admirals in the navy, as well as by the leading shipbuilders of England. The period of honors concluded, she steamed out of Portsmouth, England, July 17th, pointed her prow toward her native land and began the homeward record-breaking run.

The Kearsarge arrived off Mount Desert Island, on Sunday, July 26th, having run from the Needles, a distance of 2,885 nautical miles (3,265.59 land miles) in nine days, four hours and fifteen minutes. This was done at an average speed of 13.10 knots an hour, a remarkable average to maintain under natural draught.



Henry E. Huntington.

for so long a distance. The official report further says: "The Kearsarge experienced variable winds, force three to eight ('three' means a gentle breeze and 'eight' half a gale); slowed four hours on account of taking seas over turrets; slowed ten knots for ten and a half hours on account of fog and icebergs; consumed 1,148 tons of coal; average daily consumption, 126.5 tons for all purposes; average speed by engine, 13.5."

These facts prove the Kearsarge the fastest of all vessels of her class, and justify the predictions of President Calvin B. Orcutt, of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, her builders, as to the result of the test for coal endurance, engine capacity and speed. In fact, the voyage of the Kearsarge has been equaled by no ship of any foreign fleet, and proves that our battleships are not built for show, but are capable of doing the work for which they are designed. Her sister ship, the Kentucky, is

active in the affairs of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry-Dock Company. He desires the fulfillment of his great uncle's hopes and aspirations. His many years of association with Collis P. Huntington, his great and varied experience as a man of business, and his many successes, indicate that the nephew of the great railroad builder and organizer is well qualified to take up and perfect the cherished ambitions of the late Mr. Huntington. In making the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry-Dock Company a monument to the name of Huntington.

No private yard in the world has built so many of the great marine engines of war as the one at Newport News. There are always two or three on the stocks. In April last the United States armored cruiser West Virginia was launched in the presence of a great representative company. Launchings at these yards are always grand events. On her trial trip she closed with a distance and a superlative sister ship, the Maryland, will be launched in September, and work has begun on the Minnesota, a battleship of the first class, of 16,000 tons. Owing to the great prestige of the yard, gained by its splendid record, and the untiring energy of President Orcutt, there is always work for its 7,000 workmen.

Two years ago this company delivered the battleship Illinois to the government. She proved to be the fastest ship of her class in the world. On her trial trip she made a remarkable speed of 17.75 knots an hour, exceeding the records of her sister ships Alabama, and Wisconsin, constructed in other yards. This company is also building the protected cruiser Charleston, the monitor Arkansas, and the battleship Missouri, Virginia and Louisiana. Recently the company built and delivered to the owners for the Pacific trade the splendid steamships Korea and Siberia.

In addition to the enormous tonnage built each year in the yards, an important factor of the work done by the company is the repairing of vessels. Whenever a ship gets into trouble anywhere on the Atlantic coast from Jersey to the Gulf, she manages to get to Hampton Roads, where the company has facilities for docking two battleships in one dock at the same time, as well as machinery and facilities for doing repairs in the most expeditious and efficient manner. The yards boast of the largest dry-docks on the American Continent, and one of the largest in the world. Its cost was considerably over a million dollars.

Elegant House Party.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BOYDTON, VA., Aug. 15.—Mr. and Mrs. Faulkner's house party in honor of their daughter, Miss Alice Faulkner, and their niece, Miss Lella Skipwith Blair, is at its length. The guests are: Misses Alice Old, of Norfolk; Annie Carter Beale, of Danville; Mary Stuart Buford, of Lawrenceville; Mary Douglas Burwell, of Chase City; and Ethel Kennon Williams, of Boydton; Messrs. Bolling Wilcox, of Petersburg; James Winn, of Staunton; Harrison Berkeley, of Danville; Edward Harrington, of Warrenton, Va.; Robert Harrison, of Danville; John Williams, of University of Virginia; Donald Blair, of Richmond; Harrison Blair, of Richmond; Charles J. Faulkner, Jr., of Boydton; Rev. Thos. G. Faulkner, of Clifton Forge, and Christopher Garnett, of Matthews Courthouse.

We handle Lumber, Lime, Hardware, Glass, etc., and maintain a full stock of supplies, hence can carry at the right price.

SITTERING-CARNEAL-DAVIS CO., Dealers and Builders.