



SPARROW HAWK

George M. Hruska, Gerald, Sask.

The photograph is that of a Sparrowhawk which my brother captured and gave to me. It had an injured wing so I put it into our hayloft and fed it on mice. In a number of weeks it could fly and became quite tame. However I had to free it because harvest came and I didn't have time to catch mice for it. Later I saw it a number of times flying around the yard.

Whether hawks drink water or not, I do not know, but this Sparrowhawk definitely refused water and wouldn't have anything to do with it.

Wilson's Snipe

Arthur Ward, Swift Current

In respect to the information sought by Chandler S. Robbins in the last issue of **The Blue Jay** about the distribution of the Wilson's Snipe, I might say that I do not happen to live in a vicinity that this bird chooses for its habitat. However, it does stay over for awhile and enables us to watch as to what purpose this workman of the wet spots applies itself. In comparison with the length of the 24 inch Mallard, the 12 inch Wilson's Snipe is a delicacy on the hunter's list. Though lacking in length it performs a greater service to mankind.

The first of this species, banded at our station, October 9, 1944, seemed to prefer travelling alone. This has also been observed by others.

The interest concerning the welfare of this valuable bird by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is well worthy of our attention and calls for an account from those better situated near its nesting grounds.

Glimpses of Nature

A neighbor recently shot a full grown skunk with a metal sealer-ring around his body. Apparently the animal had got into the ring as a youngster, for he had grown to normal size in front of, and behind it.

Madeline B. Runyan, Punnichy

On September 7th while discing at home I stopped at a Swainson Hawk's nest to see how the young were coming along. From the ground I could see a young bird in the nest, so naturally I expected to have a little fun with these brave youngsters. I was surprised to find the bird dead. It was over half grown and nearly fully feathered. At once I thought that unfavorable weather surely must have been the cause of its death. This was quite possible as the nest was in a tree comparatively free of branches and the tree itself was on the outside of the clump. One parent bird was still around although the bird must have been dead about a week. The parent was still there on September 13.

P. Laurence Beckie, Bladworth