

EARLY FALL RECORD OF SNOWY OWL. — On August 23, 1958, a Snowy Owl was observed along with myriads of waterfowl on the east shore of Goose Lake about seven miles east of Harris, Saskatchewan. The owl was sitting in a patch of sedge, making a striking contrast against the green background. Apparently it was an immature bird as patches of down were still visible especially about the head. Flushed, the owl flew off toward the lake and later was seen perched on an overturned stump several yards from shore. Perhaps this early arrival foretells a hard winter ahead, maybe the lemming population has tumbled, or more likely it is just a wandering young owl,—Bob Folker, Wildlife Ecologist, D.N.R.



Photo by F. W. Lahrman
 "Thor" (Pigeon Hawk) diving at the lure swung by Howard Erickson, member of the Sask. Falconry Association.

Resolutions Passed Urging Protection of Birds of Prey

MOOSE JAW NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY—On September 12, 1958, an open meeting of the society was held to arouse interest in the birds of prey. Visitors included members of the Moose Jaw Fish and Game League, the South Saskatchewan Wildlife Association, Wildlife Branch D.N.R., Regina Natural History Society, and the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History. At the Saskatchewan Training School

grounds Richard Fyfe and members of the Saskatchewan Falconry Association gave an exhibition of falconry. The group then gathered in the hall for a short talk by Mr. Fyfe on the history of falconry and the main address of the evening on the "Role of Hawks and Owls" by John A. Livingston of Toronto, executive director of the Audubon Society of Canada. Mr. Livingston's remarks gave rise to numerous questions and a discussion followed on the advisability of introducing legislation in Saskatchewan to protect birds of prey. A motion was made by W. J. Beamish, president of the Moose Jaw Fish and Game League and also a member of our society that "**All hawks, owls, eagles and ospreys be protected, except that the owner of poultry or other domestic animals (including game farms) and the members of his immediate household and his bona fide employee, may destroy by shooting, any of these birds which is in the act of doing real damage to the said poultry or other domestic animals.**" The motion was passed with no dissenting vote.—Mrs. F. B. Taylor, Secretary, Moose Jaw Natural History Society.

SASKATCHEWAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY — At the annual meeting of the society in Saskatoon, October 18, 1958, a significant part of the programme was devoted to the question of the protection of hawks and owls. The main address of the evening was given by John A. Livingston, who restated the strong case he had made for the birds of prey at the Moose Jaw meeting. He defined the term "balance of nature," showing the interdependence of all animal and plant life and explaining how predators play a role in this "swinging" balance. In conservation education, he said, lies the only hope of removing the age-old stigma attached to birds of prey. The Audubon Society of Canada is therefore making every effort to promote education about the role of the hawk and owl in nature's balance, as well as legislation to protect them. Following Mr. Livingston's address, the aesthetic value of the birds of prey was convincingly shown in the kodachrome shots of C. Hampson and the movies of E. Jones who came from Edmonton at their own expense to speak for the hawks and owls. Richard Fyfe and members of the Saskatchewan