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OGDEN, IOWA

Feb 7 1934

Phil Du Mont

Spencer, Iowa.

Dear Phil:-

Thanks for your kind letter. Hope that Junior can make some connection with this work and if you can help it sure will be appreciated. Your influence will help a lot, I know.

My old friend Bubo Virgianus has already gone to housekeeping and has three eggs in her nest and it has given me "the itch".

In other words I am getting "horny" myself and something must happen this spring.

They are in the same hollow tree that they abandoned last year after I had built a ladder up to it.

This year I am going to lay low until they hatch and then get busy. The worst part of it will be that old Bubo will get busy than too and I may be scalped before the job is finished.

Feb 6th is an early date for three eggs of the Horned Owl. Do you have any earlier Iowa record?

Also am glad to report finding another Saw Whet almost in the same spot as where Bob shot that one a year ago and sent you. It may be its mate that has been there all the time. We collected a pocket full of pellets and sent to Biological Survey as I would like some data on this little fellow.

He seemed real tame and sat in low trees and I am planning on trying for a picture of him too.

My series of Iowa Owl pictures will soon be complete as I already have the Great Horned, Barred, Screech and Burrowing.

Your mention of the Redpolls, Snow Buntings and and other Arctic visitors sounds good but we have seen none of them here. Guess they failed to get by your collecting gun.

Bob shot another Lapland Longspur and a Hoyts Horned Lark (?) a few days ago and I sent them to Kubichek. Bob thought it a Hoyts but I didn't so we will let Kubichek settle it for us. Would have sent them to you but thought he might want the skins for his museum.

If you ever come down through this way be sure to drop in and see me.

Your friend,

Walter

Have a fine specimen of Red Shouldered Hawk wintering on the river bottom between here and Boone. Have you any mid winter Iowa records of this bird?