

1620 Tennessee St., Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas

June 21, 1965

measured and weighed the screech owl no 650522-3 as follows: Total length 210 mm, length wing 140 mm, weight 143 gms, wing spread 490 mm. made the following observations of behaviorism this date.

Reactions to first dead mouse (*mus musculus*) placed in cage: From its perch 140 mm above the floor of the cage it watched the mouse for 10 seconds, moving its head from side to side and up and down, and then pounced down directly upon the mouse, clowing it lightly with left foot. For the next 8 seconds it looked directly forward and then turning its head to the side focused beyond the cage, perhaps to see if there was interference from other sources, after which it directed its attention to the mouse by probing at all parts including tail and feet, not with the vigorous tearing action of pulling an animal apart but an action of testing the condition of its prey by gentle manipulation of the bill. It can turn the mouse from one side to the other by turning its foot (the owl) and leg. After 1 minute it flapped its wings in full extent for approx 5 seconds as if exercising flying but remaining on the ground. The first flesh was taken from the side and represented fat which it rejected. The second was intestine which it rejected part of it but ate the remaining. The liver, heart and lungs were eaten. The rest of the animal was eaten by the next day (over night) but the manner in which it was consumed (head, legs etc) was not observed. After a meal it is nervous and chomps wire of cage and moves about as if to escape cage but in about 2 minutes frequently billing of wire of cage or perch is performed at this time. settles down. When owl has eaten all it needs it will not accept other food but will close eyes and ignore any meat that is placed or moved directly in front of bill or head, food that at other times when the owl is hungry, will be readily taken and consumed. When the owl is hungry and one enters the room, the owl will call in a mechanical rasping call and if not fed will drop down onto floor of cage and go thru a feeding action of clowing floor and pecking floor with bill. No pellet formed with first mouse or if formed and rejected was eaten. When 6 or 7 small pieces of liver are placed on floor of cage the owl