

The following 22 species complete the hypothetical list of 39:

Red-throated Loon, Wilson's Petrel, Gannet, Scarlet Ibis, Flamingo, European Widgeon, Am. Rough-legged Hawk, Long-billed Curlew, Northern Phalarope, Roseate Tern, Alder Flycatcher, Bell's Vireo, Kirtland's Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Western Meadowlark, Bullock's Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Redpoll, Am. Tree Sparrow, Harris' Sparrow, Snow Bunting.

If anyone thinks that insisting on a preserved specimen is too high a standard, let him remember that Ornithology is a science, and that 15 of the writer's own sight records are included in the 39 above. No one should be able to point his finger at us and say that our state list is padded. We will have the satisfaction of knowing that our state list has a good foundation. The information herein given will, I hope, prove the stimulus for a sharp reduction in the list of species without a specimen; already reduced by 10 birds this year alone. I want to thank the collectors and their assistants for forwarding the science of Ornithology in Alabama. I hope they received as much satisfaction as I did.

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## NOTES OF INTEREST

### Towhee Feeding Behavior

On July 1, 2 and 3, I observed a female Towhee feeding a young Field Sparrow. This was the only female Towhee I had banded to date. On July 2, the banded female was seen feeding one of her own young. These feedings were viewed in our yard, at a bird feeder, and on the ground.

The second nest of this same Towhee was discovered in a red cedar, six feet nine inches high, on July 18, 1956.—Harriet Wright.

### Barn Swallow Antics

This summer, while I was in Connecticut, a pair of Barn Swallows built a nest on a rafter in the woodshed of our house.

From then on we were constantly entertained. Our poor yellow cat was under constant attack. No sooner would he start across the yard than the birds would take turns swooping at his head like the proverbial dive bomber. Finally, we all became targets. Our heads were saved only by a hair's breadth.

One day we saw three pretty heads protruding from the top of the nest. The next day they were gone. The whole family disappeared for the next five days. On the sixth day, the parents returned without the young, apparently ready to start another brood. Never again did we see the young birds. The first day they stretched their wings, they left their nest never to return and must have also been left to their own resources by their fickle parents.—Betty D. Worley.

### Tufted Titmouse Storing Food

This past summer we placed watermelon seeds and pulp where they were available to the birds in our yard. On two separate occasions, a Tufted Titmouse was observed to make several trips to the watermelon seed supply and then to a Chinaberry tree. At the tree the bird would securely lodge the seeds under a loose end of bark, sometimes hammering them into position with his bill.—Julian L. Dusi.

## Baird's Sandpiper at Gulf Shores

Baird's Sandpiper, *Psiobia bairdi*, is an unusual migrant on the Alabama Gulf Coast. On September 15, 1956, a female was collected by the writer along the coastal strip, west of Gulf Shores.—Julian L. Dusi.

## Ruddy Turnstone's Feeding Habits

The Ruddy Turnstone is classically listed as feeding on the smaller invertebrate animals living in the intertidal zone of a beach. It was rather surprising to find a group of eight of these birds and several other shore birds feeding well back from the water along a small inlet near the beach strip at Gulf Shores. It appeared as though these birds were feeding as scavengers on a pile of dead crabs and fish which some fisherman had left. Closer observation, however, revealed that they were feeding on maggots which were very numerous on the dead animals. This probably offered a much better food supply than their usual source and explains what seemed to be rather unusual behavior on their part.—Julian L. Dusi.