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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

1 November 1955.

Dear Fellow-Members:

When you honored me last spring by electing me to the presidency of our society, I little thought my duties with the Air Force would take me away from Alabama as much as they have the past 5 months, and I certainly did not expect to be out of the country most of the ensuing year.

As many of you already know, I am leaving tomorrow for Panama, where I board the Navy's new icebreaker, USS Glacier, as she goes through the Canal, and sails to New Zealand, and thence to the Ross Ice Shelf in Antarctica. We expect to reach our destination early in December, and will stay there through the antarctic summer (temperatures range from 10° below zero, F., to a maximum of 37° above), and leave about March first, returning home late in April or early in May.

My official duties are to be Air Force Observer on the Navy's "Operation Deep Freeze," but I expect to have time to play with the penguins as well. I will be collecting zoological specimens of all sorts for the U. S. National Museum, and I am taking about 5,000 bird bands of various sizes with me, as well as the flipper tags used on seals in the Pribilofs, which I hope to use on the Emperor Penguins. These birds have no tarsus whatever, and the only way to mark them for future identification is with a tag on the flipper. How successful we will be remains to be seen, but as the bases we are establishing will be occupied at least until the end of the International Geophysical Year in 1957-58, marking penguins at this time should provide the groundwork for later observations on their movements.

While this one of the most interesting assignments the Air Force has given me, I realize that it will in no way help to further the conservation of bird life in Alabama nor will it contribute to the other aims of the A.O.S. I am sincerely sorry that it will prevent me from fulfilling my obligations as your president, but not even for the A.O.S. would I give up the opportunity to be a part of one of Admiral Byrd's expeditions to Little America.

I know that in my absence our able vice president will conduct the affairs of the organization and hold the spring meeting without waiting on my return. If I am here then, I will tell you about the really "deep south" where I have been, and if my return is delayed I will hope for the privilege of speaking to you at the fall meeting.

I shall write from New Zealand before we head southward for an incommunicado 4 months, and tell you of our trip across the South Pacific.

Sincerely yours,
O. L. AUSTIN, JR.

POST-BREEDING ACTIVITIES OF THE ALABAMA TOWHEE

By MAY S. LAUDEN

The Alabama Towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus canaster* Howell, a subspecies of the Eastern Towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* (Linnaeus), was observed by the writer at Auburn, Alabama, during the period from October, 1952 through June, 1953. During this time the territories of ten breeding pairs were located, determined, and studied in detail. The information obtained during this study was published in the Alabama Bird-Life during 1954.

An additional study was undertaken to determine if these breeding pairs still remained on their spring nesting territories during the autumn of 1953. A review of the literature revealed controversial evidence with regard to migration of the Alabama Towhee. Dickinson (1952) commented that the retention of Howell's original concept of the sedentary nature of the Alabama Towhee is impracticable. He agreed that a portion of the towhee population remained on the breeding grounds during the winter but that specimens taken in the winter indicated some post-breeding movement. This was supported by Burleigh (1944) who was convinced, that in part of its range, the Alabama Towhee is migratory. Williams (1945 and 1950) reported that towhees do not migrate south of the United States.

The area in which the study was made contained the ten territories identified and studied during the spring of 1953, which area was limited to that land lying within a one-half mile radius of Comer Hall of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. Trapping operations were also conducted in the areas adjacent to these territories. Since the Red-eyed Towhee migrates from the north and winters in this locality, the towhee population during the fall of the year far exceeds that found in the area during spring and summer. By retrapping each territory and by observing adjacent areas, I attempted to learn whether or not the sedentary nature of the Alabama Towhee was such that this bird remained on its breeding grounds during autumn and also if it maintained winter territories.

This article is a portion of a paper submitted to Dr. Henry G. Good, Professor of Zoology-Entomology, A.P.I., to whom I am indebted for his guidance in this work. I am deeply grateful to

Colonel Francis E. Rogan for a critical reading of the manuscript and to Dr. Julian L. Dusi for his untiring assistance and interest in this project.

POST-BREEDING PAIRS. The data of the Alabama Towhee families banded during the spring of 1953, while on their breeding territories, and the members of these families subsequently trapped during the autumn of 1953 in these same areas is discussed as follows: of the 28 members of the 10 Alabama Towhee families, there were nine male and five female parents, and 14 nestlings banded during the spring months of 1953. Since traps were removed immediately when the male was trapped, during the time the female was busy with her nesting activities, this accounts for the lower percentage of female parents banded. Although two male and two female parents were retrapped on their spring nesting territories, none of the nestlings, now immatures, were recaptured during the autumn of 1953. These captured parents were one each of four pairs, representing four different territories.

In Territory No. 1, two towhees which had been banded during the early part of 1953 by the writer, were retrapped during the following autumn. One of these was the female parent of this territory, and the other a male which was banded immediately outside the eastern boundary of the area.

The female parent of Territory No. 4, banded April 17th was retrapped at the identical trap location on November 25th.

The male parent of the towhee family of Territory No. 9 was retrapped October 30th. This male (512-07224), banded May 27th, was captured at the same time as the female who now carries No. 512-07260. This female had not been banded during the breeding season. Subsequent observations indicate that this pair were constant foraging companions.

Trapping in Territory No. 10 produced the male of the spring breeding pair on October 21st. The incubating female was not banded during her nesting activities. Repeated observations of this newly feather-marked male and the female (512-07245) trapped in another cell of the same trap at this time indicates a fixed home range for this pair.

After six days of unsuccessful trapping operations, the loss of a trap in Territory No. 2, and the inaccessibility due to the filling-in work performed at the bottom of the slope in Territory No. 3 terminated the trapping in these areas.

Territories Nos. 6 and 7 are the two areas without a thicket or vine-covered coppice. During the 20 trapping days on these territories, a number of the winter resident towhees were trapped and banded but none of the parents of the breeding pairs were captured.

While Territories No. 5 and No. 8, as well as the adjacent areas, were heavily trapped because banded towhees had been observed while foraging, the only successful captives were the winter visitant towhees.

Of the 10 nesting pairs of Alabama Towhees, 90 percent of the males and 50 percent of the females were among those banded during the spring of the year. While less than 30 percent of these spring-banded adult towhees were retrapped on their territories during the autumn of 1953, there are certain facts which must be considered. The banding of the female parents was considered of less value, when studying the size of the territories, as the foraging of the males extended to a greater distance from the nest-site than did that of the female parents. Consequently, when the male of the nesting pair was trapped and banded, traps were removed in order that the incubating and brooding female would not be kept from her nesting activities.

The feather-marking of birds in the spring was no longer effective in autumn when this portion of the study was made, and the colored-enamel bands, also used for identification of individuals, had worn off so that it necessitated the use of a hand lens to learn the color of the enameled bands when towhees were trapped. A new band of the same color was then substituted for the original worn-off enamel band. While a number of banded birds on the various territories were observed, the actual trapping was essential for definite identification. All banded towhees were not retrapped, and records of these could not be included in the final percentage of "retraps."

A factor which is worth consideration is that all of the territories which produced one retrapped parent contained a thicket which was used for roosting during the nesting season, and also had dense foliage which afforded the necessary cover during the autumn season. While predators were not included in this study, a Screech Owl and a Sharp-shinned Hawk, as well as a number of opossums, squirrels, norway rats, and cotton rats were captured in the bird traps. Not discounting the depredations of the snakes and the domestic cats in this locality, the high mortality of our song birds is well known. Considering all of the above mentioned factors, the retrapping of these (almost 30 percent) parent Alabama Towhees on their nesting territories in autumn, 1953, is significant evidence that our resident towhees have relatively fixed home ranges.

FORAGING AREAS: Scratching in the leaves and humus is the characteristic hallmark of the Alabama Towhee during autumn and winter. Since immature males and females have been repeatedly seen foraging in pairs during the summer and

fall, the pairing of towhees is probably indicative of their nature as they certainly are not a solitary bird. At no time during the fall season were the various songs of the towhee heard. With the male no longer singing in autumn, he does not advertise his whereabouts nor does he indicate to the other males of his species that he is occupying an area. During the time the male and female forage together, the typical towhee call may be heard, sometimes as an alarm note and other times as a recognition note to its mate. Both the female and male utter the call on occasion throughout the year. As previously reported (Lauden, 1954), small flocks were observed foraging, and pursuit-flying and fighting by bodily contact occurred during the fall of the year. The reason for these antics seemed that the male of the pair was definitely concerned about his mate and would not concede to the interference of another male accompanying them too closely on their foraging expeditions.

In the entire trapping operations during the fall season, as many as 20 towhees (10 males and 10 females) were captured on one of the ten territories. During the breeding season, another towhee was seldom observed within the boundaries of any of the territories studied. Winter territories are not established by these towhees.

Summary and Conclusions

The Alabama Towhee is a year-round resident in the vicinity of Auburn, Alabama. Of the 10 breeding pairs of Alabama Towhees, 14 were banded during the nesting season in spring, 1953. Four of these birds were retrapped on their spring-nesting territories during the autumn of 1953. The captured birds, two males and two females, were one each of four breeding pairs, representing four different territories. Of the 14 nestlings banded during the spring months, none were recaptured on the territories nor in any of the adjacent areas in which trapping was conducted. The recapturing of almost 30 percent of parent Alabama Towhees on their own territories in autumn, 1953, indicates that our resident towhees have relatively fixed home ranges.

Towhees are usually seen foraging in pairs, but small flocks may be observed feeding in relatively small areas. Although towhees are not a pugnacious species, fighting by bodily contact and pursuit-flying were observed during the autumn months. Life-pairing was concluded to be the reason for these skirmishes. Trapping records during the autumn season revealed that as many as 20 towhees were captured on one of the ten spring-nesting territories. Although winter territories are not established by the Alabama Towhees, they do forage in pairs and their call may be heard throughout the year.

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AN ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS OBSERVED ON THE GULF COAST

By JULIAN L. DUSI and ROSEMARY T. DUSI

A visit to the Gulf Coast of Alabama, from September 6 through September 20, 1955, permitted us to make a number of interesting ornithological observations.

The weather was typical of summer, mostly clear and hot. It rained on September 12 over most of the area with a heavy downpour at Fairhope.

Two definite migrations were noted on the Bon Secour area. The first was on September 12 and 13, after the heavy rain at Fairhope. The second was on September 20.

We stayed at a court across from the post office at Gulf Shores. This was a good central location for studying several different ecological situations.

The beach and lagoon area at Gulf Shores is an excellent situation for studying many water birds and those associated with marshes. By following highway 182 west until the pavement ended and then continuing on the unimproved road until its end, a stretch of seven or eight miles of beach is available on one side and the marshy shore of the bay on the other. We visited this area almost every day.

By following the canal road east from Gulf Shores, the Orange Beach and Bear Point areas may be visited. Much of the habitat along this road is fairly open pine and grass lands. Red Cockaded Woodpeckers are found here. There are also a few swampy places where deciduous trees are thick and tangled

with vines. At Orange Beach there are some magnolias and oaks and trees such as these are also present at Bear Point, which is rather heavily wooded. We visited these areas on September 12 and 19.

The Bon Secour area is a rather large area north and west of Gulf Shores. It extends around Bon Secour Bay and Bon Secour River flows north from it. There are several roads into the area, all of which go through interesting habitat. We particularly like the one which goes to the Bon Secour Baptist Church. The habitat is open grass and pineland or farm land until the vicinity of the water is reached. There deciduous trees, characterized by live oaks, magnolias, and gums mostly replace the pines. This is good warbler habitat and it was here that we saw the most migration activity. The edge of the bay contains many marsh plants and would undoubtedly be good habitat for marsh birds. We visited the Bon Secour area on September 12, 13 and 20.

The Fort Morgan road parallels the gulf beach area highway 182 and extends for 20 miles out to the fort. The first portion of this road was once good deciduous forest habitat, but now it is either populated, or has been cut and cleared for building, or burned over, so that it is not very good for bird study. The rest of the road extends through rather desolate dune, scrub and pineland which is populated mostly by Shrikes and Mocking-birds. At the end of the road, the beaches at Fort Morgan are good water bird habitat. We visited this area on September 15.

The Dauphin Island area is quite far from Gulf Shores, traveling by automobile, and we visited it once on September 14, because we had never before been there. It is now vegetated by many tall pine trees on the main part of the island. Along the shore east of the causeway there are a few shrubs and marsh grasses and sedges. The southern shore is beach and the northwestern shore is marshy. The northwestern part seemed to have the most birds. A great amount of real estate development is taking place on Dauphin Island. This will destroy much bird habitat and we can expect it to become less and less desirable.

Following is an annotated list of the birds with their abundance, dates and places of occurrence listed.

Pied-billed Grebe. Consistently seen each day along the beach area at Gulf Shores. Three to five could be seen in the lagoon areas along the road.

Brown Pelican. Common along the beach at Gulf Shores, Fort Morgan, and Bear Point. Many were seen also at Dauphin Island.

Man-O'-War Bird. One was seen at Dauphin Island, Sep-

tember 14, and two were seen at Gulf Shores beach area September 20.

Great Blue Heron. This was undoubtedly the Ward's subspecies. Three to five were seen each day and some were seen at all localities studied.

American Egret. One or two were seen each time the Gulf Shores beach area was visited. Two were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14, and one at Bon Secour, September 12.

Snowy Egret. Two or more were seen each time the Gulf Shores beach area was visited. Fourteen were seen at Dauphin Island, September 14, and two at Bear Point, September 19.

Louisiana Heron. Two were seen at each visit to the Gulf Shores beach area.

Little Blue Heron. One or two were seen on trips to each of the areas including Dauphin Island.

Green Heron. Two to five individuals were seen on each visit to the Gulf Shores beach area. Two were also seen at Bon Secour on September 13.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron. Three immatures were seen on each visit to the Gulf Shores beach area.

White Ibis. Two immatures were seen at the Gulf Shores beach area on September 10.

Blue-winged Teal. A group of as many as eight individuals was seen on each visit to the Gulf Shores beach area.

Turkey Vulture. Several were seen at Bon Secour, Bear Point and along the Fort Morgan road.

Black Vulture. Seen at Bon Secour on several occasions.

Red-shouldered Hawk. Seen at Bear Point on September 12 and 19.

Marsh Hawk. One was seen at the Gulf Shores beach area.

Sparrow Hawk. Two or more were seen each trip to the Gulf Shores beach area and at Bon Secour, September 13.

Bob White. One covey of seven birds was flushed at Bon Secour on September 12.

Clapper Rail. One was seen at Dauphin Island on September 14.

Virginia Rail. One was found wounded by an automobile on the Gulf Shores beach road.

Sora. Fairly common in the sedges on the bay side of the Gulf Shores beach road.

American Oystercatcher. Two were seen feeding along the causeway to Dauphin Island, September 14.

Piping Plover. Twelve were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14.

Semipalmated Plover. Ten were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14.

Black-bellied Plover. Two were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14 and two to four were seen each trip to the Gulf Shores beach area, on the bay side.

Spotted Sandpiper. Two to five were seen on trips to the Gulf Shores beach area. Seen also on Dauphin Island.

Solitary Sandpiper. One was seen on September 20 at the Gulf Shores beach area.

Willet. Fourteen were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14, and several were seen on the Gulf Shores beach area.

Greater Yellow-Legs. One was seen on Dauphin Island, September 14, and one was seen along the canal road to Bear Point, September 19.

Least Sandpiper. A group of six was seen on the Gulf Shores beach area on September 20.

Semipalmated Sandpiper. Ten were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14.

Western Sandpiper. Thirty were seen on Dauphin Island, September 14, and two were seen on the Gulf Shores beach area on September 20.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper. One was seen on the bay side of the Gulf Shores beach area on September 12.

Sanderling. Common on the beach at Gulf Shores and Dauphin Island.

Herring Gull. Common at Gulf Shores, Fort Morgan and Dauphin Island.

Ring-billed Gull. Common on Dauphin Island.

Common Tern. Common on Dauphin Island and the Gulf Shores beach area.

Least Tern. Fairly common on Dauphin Island and the Gulf Shores beach area.

Royal Tern. Common on Dauphin Island.

Black Tern. Common on Dauphin Island.

Black Skimmer. Twenty-one were seen on Dauphin Island, fourteen at Gulf Shores beach area.

Mourning Dove. Seen on all areas except Dauphin Island. At least fifteen were seen each trip on the Gulf Shores beach area road (Rt. 182).

Nighthawk. One was seen in Bon Secour on September 12, three on September 13.

Chimney Swift. Seven were seen along Fort Morgan road, September 15.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Two were seen September 12, one September 19, at Bear Point. Two were seen at Bon Secour, September 13.

Belted Kingfisher. Two to four were seen on all the areas. Flicker. One or two were seen on each trip to Bon Secour, Bear Point, and along the Fort Morgan road.

Pileated Woodpecker. Seen on the Bon Secour area and along the canal road to Bear Point.

Red-bellied Woodpecker. Seen on the Bon Secour area, at Bear Point, and along the Fort Morgan road.

Red-headed Woodpecker. Seen on the Bon Secour area and at Bear Point.

Hairy Woodpecker. Seen on the Bear Point road and along the Fort Morgan road.

Downy Woodpecker. Seen only along the Bear Point road on September 19.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Seen only along the Bear Point road.

Eastern Kingbird. Common on the Bon Secour area and along the Bear Point road.

Gray Kingbird. Three were seen in the magnolia trees along the Fort Morgan road on September 15.

Crested Flycatcher. Seen along the Gulf Shores beach road and at Bear Point.

Wood Pewee. Seen at Bon Secour and along the Fort Morgan road.

Rough-winged Swallow. Four were seen on wires along the Bear Point road on September 19.

Barn Swallow. Fifteen were seen on the road between Bon Secour and Magnolia Springs, September 13. This was the first group seen. After that date groups were seen at Gulf Shores and many migrants were seen along the road between Gulf Shores and Robertsdale.

Blue Jay. Present on all areas including Dauphin Island.

Fish Crow. Three were definitely seen at Gulf Shores.

Carolina Chickadee. Seen on the Bon Secour and Bear Point areas and along the Fort Morgan road.

Tufted Titmouse. Seen on the Bon Secour and Bear Point areas and along the Fort Morgan road.

Brown-headed Nuthatch. Seen on the Bon Secour, Bear Point and Fort Morgan areas and also on Dauphin Island.

Carolina Wren. Seen at Bon Secour, along the canal road to Bear Point, and on the Fort Morgan road.

Mockingbird. A very common bird on all areas and especially

on the desolate scrub areas on the Fort Morgan road. Seen also on the Dauphin Island trip.

Catbird. Seen only on the Bon Secour area.

Brown Thrasher. Seen on all of the areas except Dauphin Island and the Gulf Shores beach area.

Olive-backed Thrush. One collected on the Bon Secour area September 13.

Bluebird. Common on all areas except Dauphin Island and the Gulf Shores beach area.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Seen on the Bon Secour area and along the Fort Morgan road.

Golden-crowned Kinglet. One was seen on the Bon Secour area on September 12 when a group of migrant birds was being studied.

Loggerhead Shrike. Very common except on Dauphin Island. Starling. Seen only in the towns.

White-eyed Vireo. Seen at Bon Secour, Bear Point, and along the Fort Morgan road.

Red-eyed Vireo. Four to twenty were seen on visits to Bon Secour, Bear Point and along the Fort Morgan road. They were much more abundant than the white-eyed vireos.

Black and White Warbler. Seen only on the Bon Secour area. Eight were seen September 12 and 17 seen September 13.

Prothonotary Warbler. One was seen along the road to Bear Point, September 19, and one was seen at Bon Secour, September 20.

Golden-winged Warbler. One was seen during a warbler migration at Bon Secour on September 13.

Yellow Warbler. Five were seen at Bon Secour on September 20.

Magnolia Warbler. One seen September 13 on the Bon Secour area.

Blackburnian Warbler. A heavy migration was seen on September 12 when 40 individuals were observed at Bon Secour. On September 13, 8 individuals were observed on the Bon Secour area much to the north of the area studied the previous day.

Pine Warbler. Present in suitable habitat on all the areas except Dauphin Island and the Gulf Shores beach area.

Prairie Warbler. An immature female was collected on the Gulf Shores beach area, September 11. The bird was hiding in the sedges on the bay side of the beach strip and resembled a Seaside Sparrow in behavior.

Northern Water-thrush. One individual was watched from a distance of 20 feet for several minutes on September 13 on the Bon Secour area.

Yellow-throat. Six individuals were seen in a group of migrating birds at Bon Secour on September 20.

Redstart. Two were seen September 13 at Bon Secour.

English Sparrow. Seen in most communities and towns.

Meadowlark. Present on the meadows of all areas except Dauphin Island.

Red-winged Blackbird. A large flock of about 200 individuals was seen at Bon Secour on September 13. Several were seen on the Gulf Shores beach area on September 20.

Orchard Oriole. Two were seen in a migration at Bon Secour, September 20.

Baltimore Oriole. Four males were seen at Bon Secour, September 20.

Boat-tailed Grackles. Seen commonly along the Gulf Shores beach area.

Summer Tanager. Seen on the Bon Secour area and along the Fort Morgan road.

Cardinal. Common except on the beach areas.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak. A female was carefully observed on the Bon Secour area, September 12.

Blue Grosbeak. One female was seen September 20 at Bon Secour.

Towhee. Present on all bushy areas. Not found on Dauphin Island or on the beach areas.

It was interesting to note that no true sparrows were seen. While we did not exhaustively search for them inland, we carefully walked the areas of grasses and sedges at Gulf Shores. These areas are usually heavily populated in the winter and spring, so we were quite surprised when no sparrows were found.

We certainly overlooked some species that probably are not too common, especially among the waterbirds. While the list is not complete, we feel that it is representative of the species and numbers present in late summer. The migrants were ever present surprises which made the birdwatching much more exciting and lured us into spending many more hours in the field.

347 S. College St.,

Auburn, Alabama.

REPORT OF THE A.O.S. FALL MEETING, 1955

By HARRIET WRIGHT

Thirty-two attended the semi-annual meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society at Gulf State Park, September 23, 24 and 25.

Members and guests registered at park headquarters Saturday morning. Field trips were substituted for "Operation Recov-

ery." Netting operations had been in progress along the Atlantic Coast and there was a possibility of netting, at Gulf Shores, an already banded migrant from this previous event. Because of weather conditions, migration had not progressed to make "Operation Recovery" profitable and so it was abandoned. A field trip west of Gulf Shores was made Saturday morning. Another field trip, to Fort Morgan area, was made Saturday afternoon.

After a sea food dinner Saturday night at Gulf Crest restaurant, members and guests met at the Casino for the business meeting and program. President, Dr. Oliver L. Austin, Jr., presided. Montgomery was selected for the annual spring meeting with May 5 and 6 as tentative dates. The President appointed the following committee for arrangements: Gid Nelson, Jim Keeler and Mrs. Oliver L. Austin, Jr. Tom Imhof reported to the group progress made on his book, Birds of Alabama.

Dr. Henry Stevenson gave a paper, "History of the Bachman's Warbler in Alabama." Dr. Austin reported on "Tern Banding at Cape Cod."

Tom Imhof was asked to compile the bird list for the meeting.

Rt. 13, Box 194D,
Birmingham, Alabama.

FALL MEETING BIRD LIST

The following is a bird list for the fall meeting of the Alabama Ornithological Society, which met at Gulf Shores, Alabama, September 23, 24 and 25, 1955. The list is transcribed by the editor from the compilation of Thomas A. Imhof.

On September 23, Mr. Imhof and Walter Beshears visited Dauphin Island and Cochrane Bridge. They visited the Foley, Bon Secour and Gulf Shores areas with Dr. H. M. Stevenson on the morning of the 24th and during that same morning, with Dr. O. L. Austin, Jr., led a group of A.O.S. members on a trip to Alabama Point and Gulf Shores. The whole group visited the Fort Morgan area that afternoon. On the 25th, part of the group went to Bear Point.

A total of 127 species was recorded. The following abbreviations were used for the localities: Dauphin Island (D), Cochrane Bridge (C), Bon Secour (B), Alabama Point and Gulf Shores (G), Fort Morgan (F), and Bear Point (P). Other special localities are listed separately behind the species name and where no locality is listed, the birds were seen at several localities.

Loon, Common (G); Grebe, Pied-billed; Pelican, Brown; Cor-

morant, Double-crested (GF); Man-o'-war-bird (FD), Heron, Great Blue; Egret, American; Egret, Snowy; Egret, Reddish (D. Coll.); Heron, Little Blue; Heron, Green (G); Heron, Black-crowned Night (C); Heron, Yellow-crowned Night; Bittern, Least (DG); Ibis, White (Dog R.); Duck, Mottled (D. Coll.); Pintail (F); Teal, Blue-winged; Merganser, Red-breasted (G); Vulture, Turkey (B); Vulture, Black (B); Hawk, Cooper's; Eagle Bald (F); Hawk, Marsh (D); Osprey; Hawk, Duck; Hawk, Pigeon (D); Hawk, Sparrow (B); Bob-white (B); Rail, Clapper; Rail, Virginia (G); Sora (GC); Coot (C); Plover, Piping; Plover, Cuban Snowy (D); Plover, Semipalmated (D); Plover, Wilson's (D); Killdeer (B); Plover, Black-bellied; Turnstone, Ruddy (D); Curlew, Long-billed (D); Sandpiper, Spotted (B); Willet; Yellow-legs, Greater; Yellow-legs, Lesser (D); Sandpiper, Least; Dowitcher, Eastern (D); Dowitcher, Long-billed (D); Knot (D); Sandpiper, Semi-palmated (D); Sandpiper, Western; Godwit, Marbled (D); Sanderling; Gull, Herring; Gull, Ring-billed; Gull, Laughing; Tern, Gull-billed (DF); Tern, Forster's; Tern, Common; Tern, Least (D); Tern, Royal; Tern, Cabot's (DF); Tern, Caspian; Tern, Black (FG); Skimmer, Black (D); Dove, Mourning; Dove, Ground (P); Cuckoo, Yellow-billed (G); Cuckoo, Black-billed (F); Owl, Great-horned (G); Nighthawk (B); Swift, Chimney; Hummingbird, R. T.; Kingfisher, Belted; Flicker; Woodpecker, Pileated; Woodpecker, Red-bellied; Woodpecker, Red-headed (Mobile); Woodpecker, Hairy (G); Woodpecker, Downy; Kingbird, Eastern (G); Pewee, Wood; Swallow, Tree (CB); Swallow, Bank (B); Swallow, Rough-winged (B); Swallow, Barn (C); Jay, Blue; Crow, Fish; Chickadee, Carolina; Titmouse, Tufted; Nuthatch, Brown-headed (G); Wren, Carolina; Mockingbird; Catbird; Thrasher, Brown; Thrush, Wood (B); Thrush, Olive-backed (D); Veery (B); Bluebird; Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray (G); Shrike, Loggerhead; Starling; Vireo, White-eyed; Vireo, Yellow-throated (B); Vireo, Red-eyed (BP); Warbler, B. and W. (B); Warbler, Tennessee (B); Warbler, Parula (BP); Warbler, yellow (BF); Warbler, Magnolia (B); Warbler, Blackburnian (P); Warbler, Yellow-throated (P); Warbler, Chestnut-sided; Warbler, Pine; Warbler, Prairie (B); Yellow-throat; Sparrow, English; Meadowlark; Red-wing; Grackle, Boat-tailed; Grackle, Purple; Cowbird (G); Tanager, Summer; Cardinal; Towhee; Sparrow, Sharp-tail (G); and Sparrow, Seaside (D).

BOOK REVIEW

LOUISIANA BIRDS by George H. Lowery, Jr. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, 580 pages, \$5.00; published for the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

George Lowery has written a bird book of interest to everyone regardless of his experience in bird study or residence in Louisiana. The 96 pages of introductory material contain such titles as: "Louisiana as a Place to See Birds;" "How to Identify Birds;" "Migration;" "Conservation and Wildlife Management;" "Attracting Birds;" and "Ornithological Societies and Bird Clubs." The main body contains informal, well-written accounts of 377 species of birds occurring in Louisiana. Dr. Lowery, a Fellow of the A. O. U., is a nationally recognized authority on birds who knows how to present his material in a clear, very readable manner.

Robert Tucker has portrayed 380 species in 13 full-page, four-color plates; 27 two-color plates; and 135 text illustrations. Most of the 69 bird portrait photographs are by Allan D. Cruickshank and Samuel A. Grimes and there are 14 full-page habitat photographs. The author shows the seasonal distribution and abundance of 304 species by 12 bar graphs.

Subspecies, wisely omitted, had been treated adequately by Oberholser (*The Bird Life of Louisiana, 1938*), and are really too technical for the scope of this work and for the average bird student. There is a good annotated bibliography of works appearing since Oberholser (*op. cit.*). The information on field identification is from the point of view of the Gulf States bird student, and is very helpful on such birds as the tropical boobies, winter-plumaged terns, Reddish Egret, and Western Meadowlark, to name but a few. Due to the state of flux of bird knowledge in Alabama, the information on season and abundance of many species imperfectly known here, becomes very useful in knowing what to expect, especially on the Alabama Gulf Coast.

I highly recommend this attractive, well-written, profusely illustrated, yet reasonably-priced book to the bird students of Alabama.—Thomas A. Imhof, 307 38th St., Fairfield, Alabama.