

Pisobia bairdi.—BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.—This species was observed on several occasions in August at the above pond. I took a female on August 15, and another female on August 27.

Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus. LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER.—My only fall record is a male taken August 12, 1926.

Sphyrapicus varius varius.—YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER.—Rare winter resident. A female taken December 25, 1926, is of further interest in that it represents the form with a black crown. The latter had sagittate markings of ecru drab.

Astur atricapillus atricapillus. GOSHAWK.—On the morning of January 1, 1927, near the run in the Wingra woods, a fine adult Goshawk approached me and passed within 50 feet without paying the slightest heed to my presence. The Hawk's passage aroused cries of protest from a Song Sparrow that otherwise would have escaped observation.—A. W. SCHORGER, 2021 Kendall Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin.

Three New Birds for Kansas.—While working under the supervision of Mr. C. D. Bunker at the Kansas University Museum the following important records have come to my attention. All of the specimens reported here are now in the Kansas University Museum bird collection.

Pelecanus occidentalis. BROWN PELICAN.—A single specimen of this species was found dead after a severe storm June 6, 1916 near Parker, Linn County, Kansas.

Callipepla squamata pallida. ARIZONA SCALED QUAIL.—I collected three specimens of this species from a flock of six about fourteen miles north of Elkhart, Morton County, Kansas, on August 19, 1926. They were beneath some low shrubbery at the foot of a cliff and did not flush until I had approached to within about fifteen feet of them. These three specimens are to my knowledge the only ones taken in the State.

Geococcyx californianus. ROAD-RUNNER.—A fine male specimen of this species was killed three miles west and seven miles north of Caldwell, Sumner County, Kansas, September 30, 1926. This species has been reported as occurring occasionally in the extreme southwest part of the state, but as far as I know there have been no specimens taken to make the report authentic. The occurrence of a Road-runner as far north and east as Caldwell, Kansas is unusual and unless absolutely accidental it would indicate that the species was extending its range in that direction.—W. H. BURT, Kansas University Museum, Lawrence, Kas.

The Role of the Snake Skin.—It would seem that before an explanation of a phenomenon is in order it is desirable to make sure that there is something requiring explanation.

In this country at least it appears to be reasonably sure that the recurrent speculation as to why certain birds use the exuviae of snakes, is due to the fact that the Great-crested Flycatchers (*Myiarchus crinitus*) use this material on occasion not only in nest construction but as seeming "scare-crows" dangling from the openings to their nests or prominently employed