

came upon the bird sitting on the top wire of a fence. We watched it for 15 minutes from a distance of 50 feet. Several times it dropped into the grass and picked up insects. For a few minutes it sat on the topmost branch of a *Crataegus*, then returned to its perch on the wire.

In Northern Ohio in 1962 the first three weeks of May were unseasonably warm. We had severe electrical storms accompanied by violent winds from the southwest. Perhaps this contributed to the appearance of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher. During the afternoon of 18 May this bird was observed by at least 30 people from Findlay, Arlington, and Jenera, Ohio. By the morning following it had disappeared.—RICHARD S. PHILLIPS, 834 Liberty St., Findlay, Ohio, 5 February 1963.

**Two observations of avian predation.**—On 12 January 1963, I observed the display flight of a male Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) above a dense growth of *Baccharis* one-half mile east of Berkeley. After the flight the bird perched on a dead branch protruding above one of the bushes and began to preen. At the same time I noticed a Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), judged by its size to be a male, flying rapidly along the *Baccharis* toward the hummingbird. The hawk dashed along about one foot above the ground, apparently using the brush as a screen; when it was approximately opposite the hummingbird, it suddenly swooped up and over the bushes and seized the Anna's. In doing so, the hawk barely checked its flight and continued to a stand of Baytrees (*Umbellularia californica*), where it disappeared.

On 17 April 1961, I visited the nest of a Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) seven miles southeast of Danville, Alameda County, California. Approximately 30 feet from the nest, which held two half-grown young and was located in an oak, I found a pellet containing an entire, undigested tarsometatarsus and foot of a small owl as well as other avian and mammalian remains. Upon comparison at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, the foot proved to be that of a Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*).

I have not been able to locate in the literature other reports of avian predation on either the Anna's Hummingbird or the Burrowing Owl. Apparently the only other known capture of a hummingbird by a hawk is one reported by G. H. Lowery, Jr. (1938. *Auk*, 55:280), who found the remains of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) in the stomach of a female Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*).—HANS J. PEETERS, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, 1 February 1963.*

**Ruff observed in Missouri.**—On 28 April 1962, Walter George and I were observing shorebirds at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Mound City, Missouri. At 7:00 AM we arrived at the northern part of the refuge where mud flats were most extensive and shorebirds were numerous. While driving on a dike and stopping every few feet for observation, our attention was suddenly focused on an unusual-looking shorebird next to the dike. It was observed with 8 × 40 binoculars at 50 feet for about five minutes before it flew away from the dike to join the multitude of shorebirds on the far-out mud flats. Following both Peterson's and Pough's descriptions as given in their eastern field guides (which we had at the time), the bird was identified as a female Ruff, or Reeve (*Philomachus pugnax*).

This seems to be the first recorded observation of the Ruff in Missouri, as Widmann (1907. "Birds of Missouri," *Trans. Acad. of Sci., St. Louis*, 17:1-296) and Bennett (1932. "Check-list of the Birds of Missouri," *Univ. of Mo. Studies, Col.*, 7:1-81) fail to mention this species. A review of *The Bluebird*, quarterly publication of The Audubon Society of Missouri, also failed to reveal any records.