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Compiled by: W. H. Turcotte.

Notes from North Mississippi: Birding at Lakeview, Mississippi has so degenerated that a visit there by a Memphis group is hardly worth the effort. Levee and drained "bar-pits" are now pasture. Mud Lake had not receded from the trees when an unseasonable July rise in the Mississippi (within 4 feet of flood stage) and rainy weather destroyed all chance of a good heron and shorebird season there, this August - October. In listening for Whip-poor-wills, through July 6, the writer spent most of his weekends this year in the Ouachitas and eastern Ozarks, but some were in West Tennessee and Mississippi. A late Olive-backed Thrush was singing, May 17, east of Iuka. That night I tried unsuccessfully for a Whip-poor-will, Red Bay, Rara Avis, Golden, Tishomingo State Park, Booneville, Wheeler, Enterprise. The night of June 7, northwest of Winona (New Hope - New Prospect Churches) I heard two single Whips in Montgomery County and two in Carroll County. Continuing on through North Carrollton back to Winona, and Vaiden to Kosciusko, daylight found me on Highway 14, east of the latter, without further Whip records. B. B. Cooper, of Hickory Flat and Memphis, had heard Whips in the same Winona area above, in 1955 and later.

Daytime lists were good but no unusual species were noted. Near Pittsboro, May 18, I hoped for Ovenbirds, but the roadside east and southeast seemed unsuitable; better habitat west to the Fire Tower but none heard, nor were Scarlet Tanagers found. (A Scarlet nearby and Whips in June, 1957). Towhees listed: two east of Pittsboro, and, June 8, nine within 10 miles east of Kosciusko. Field Sparrows not heard in many areas. The only hawk was one Red-tailed, June 8, east of Kosciusko. On June 29, Mrs. Coffey, Alice Smith, and I dropped down from Pickwick, Tennessee, to check the Cliff Swallows on Highway 25 in Tishomingo County. The first reported colony (1956), near Cross Roads, had doubled, while a new and larger colony was found under a large, concrete culvert or bridge, 2.8 miles south of the Tennessee line. Here we counted 204 nests and saw 75 Cliff Swallows. The species seems to be on the

increase near the Tennessee River (west) and near the White River in Arkansas. A few Barn Swallows were also seen. - BEN B. COFFEY, JR.

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Barn Swallows and Wilson's Plovers: Mrs. H. A. J. Evans, 1444 Calhoun St., New Orleans, La. reports by letter: "Mr. Evans and I have enjoyed observing the pale barn swallows that nested in Gulfport on West Pier and the Wilson's Plovers that nested along the shore nearby. The nesting plovers have decreased in the three or four years we have been observing them but the barn swallows have increased. The tank squadron has upset the nesting plovers, I'm sure. As far as we can tell there were 2 pairs of plovers that nested there this summer."

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Allan Feducia, Memorial Drive, Cleveland, Miss. contributes the following notes: "July 10th, Yellow billed cuckoos nested on Lake Beulah very much this year. One nest was seen with 9 eggs in it. Pileated Woodpeckers are also seen back in the willows along with Prothonotary Warblers. Little Blue Herons and Egrets are seen flying over along with Wood Ducks that nest back in the willows. On the way back a King Rail was seen crossing the road by a rice field."

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Mrs. George R. Smith, 1102 West Beach, Pass Christian, Miss. reports as follows on a trip to Cat Island on August 23, 1958: "Saw about 200 Black Skimmers nesting on Goose Point, eggs and young in nests. Also saw 2 American Egrets, 1 Great White Heron, 1 Sandhill Crane, 1 Bald Eagle, 2 Osprey."

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Albino Bluebirds: "There have been more reports of albino bluebirds than usual this summer. The Campbells who live in Woodlawn report one at their feeder, the Armors in Hollywood and the Nelsons in Mountain Brook report one in each of their yards. The McPherson's near Mount Olive have two albino bluebirds in the same clutch. This seems the most unusual of all, as science says 'one albino in a million', does it not? Have any of you noticed an increasing number of albinos? Can you explain why?" BLANCHE E. DEAN, 1228 29th St., Birmingham, Alabama.

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Roseate Tern: "On the boat with the MOS on June 8, 1958 we landed on Chandeleur Island on the Point near the light and saw a Roseate Tern. I identified the Tern and it was seen by Miss Frances Cook, Dr. Bedford Floyd, Miss Dorothy Howerton, Miss Mary Lewis and Miss Polly Nelson." - AVA R. TABOR, 305 Canal Blvd., Thibodaux, La.

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Kites and Ospreys: "On 21 June, Miss Dorothy Howerton, Miss Mary Lewis, Sidney Gauthreaux of New Orleans and I went to Lucedale to try to find Swallow-tailed Kites. We were unsuccessful, but saw 10 Mississippi Kites in that section, and

Kites and Ospreys (Continued):

"coming in to Moss Point before we crossed the Bridge found two Osprey nests. The nest on the right side of the road contained two nestlings and an adult perched on the side of the nest. On the left side of the road, we could see nothing in the nest. An adult was perched in a nearby tree about 25 feet from the nest."

77 species were checked by the party on June 21st trip including a reddish egret at Gulfport. - AVA R. TABOR.

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MRS. MAYO TOLMAN, Rt. 1, Picayune, Miss. contributes the following notes:

Birds Summering Here: Cardinals (at least 3 pairs), Brown Thrasher (at least 5), Purple Martin (at least 18 pairs nested, probably more, Ruby-throated Hummingbird (at least 3. Absent early June but regular to date - Aug. 28 - later than usual), Chimney Swift, Carolina Wren, Blue Jay, Great-crested Flycatcher, Woodpecker (Red-bellied), Chickadee, Tufted-Titmouse, Yellow-billed Cuckoo (last seen Aug. 24; later than usual), Wood Thrush (heard regularly), Orchard Oriole, Summer Tanager, Prothonotary Warbler, Parula Warbler, Common Crow (1-7).

Occasional Visitors: Rufous-sided Towhee July 20-25, Green Heron, Common Egret, Starling, Woodpeckers (Red-headed and Pileated).

Special Visitors: Mississippi Kite- July 8; White Ibis - June 20, a.m., 2 flocks in V formation flew over to east. First flock 26; rather close behind larger flock which changed formation while flying over but we made the count at least 150; Aug. 23 - 7 flying S.E.

Seen at beach near small craft harbor, Gulfport:

	<u>Aug. 19</u>	<u>Aug. 28</u>
Black-bellied Plover	3	8
Ruddy Turnstone	1	2
Spotted Sandpiper	1	
Semipalmated Sandpiper		4
Sanderling	8	1
Gull, Laughing	8	14
Tern, Least	27	1
" , Black	2	
Heron, Black-crowned		
Night (Immature)	1	
Pelican, Brown	1	
Egret, Common	1	1
Egret, Snowy		1
Willet		1

August 6: 175-200 Black Terns seen on beach at Bay St. Louis, with few Least Terns and Sanderlings. July 3: 7 Pelicans seen off Gulfport. Ripe figs on tree attracted Cardinals, Orchard Orioles, Summer Tanagers and Red-bellied Woodpeckers which feasted on them for at least a week.

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Sam Ross Danna, Jr., Rosedale, Miss. contributes the following: "August 23rd, a pair of white throated sparrows has spent the summer with my (pet) white wing dove. They roosted with the dove until they decided to nest. On July 25 and 26 I saw the female carrying straws and have not seen her since. The male bird still shows up at meal time, though. Every night about 10 o'clock the

(continued):

"male will start whistling. July 23rd I also had a painted bunting nesting in the yard which reared three young." SRD, JR. Editor's Note: Were the white throats held in captivity for any time which would account for their spending the summer here? W.H.T.

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Ovenbird Nesting - Newton F. Hanson, Box 127, Bruce, Miss. reports ovenbirds nesting in June 1958 and June 1954 in Calhoun County, Mississippi. He also reports two short eared owl records for Yalobusha County in February, 1958. A woodcock nest with eggs in May, 1957. Mr. Hanson observes increasing numbers of the following species in the Calhoun County Area: Wood-duck, bob-white Accipiters, Red-headed woodpecker and brown headed nuthatch.

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Bird Notes by the Editor:

July 6 - 2 lark sparrows in pasture South of Brownsville, Hinds County.

July 10 - 20 black terns on Bluff Lake, Noxubee County during shad control operations by Game and Fish Commission employees.

July 12 - Chotard and Eagle Lake Area - 10 Miss. Kites, warbling vireos numerous in willows and cottonwoods around lake edges.

July 13 - Purple martins in congregation numbering 50 or more on wires near Eagle Lake.

September 14 - Several hundred cliff swallows and a few barn swallows in flocks feeding over soybean fields in Sunflower County near Doddsville.

September 27 - On a trip to Albemarle Lake with H. L. Tackett a large number of American Egrets and Little Blues were observed along sloughs and wet pastures on the Slick-Moorman Plantation just north of Albemarle Lake in Issaquena County. Also, several dozen Wood Ibis perched in cypress and willow trees. Three immature white ibis were observed feeding in a wet swag in pasture with little blues.

There is a large roost on an old brake at the upper end of Albemarle where hundreds of herons and wood ibis have been using for several weeks past. Pastures were checked closely for the cattle egret but none was sighted.

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A partial albino female mourning dove was killed September 11 on the Henneberry Game Management Area by Ed Givens, Barlow, Mississippi. The bird was a yellowish-buff color above and much lighter than usual on underparts. The bird was noticeably lighter-colored in flight and had been observed on several occasions on the area before it was shot. - W. H. TURCOTTE.

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