

while twice counting them off. One parent fed the nestlings soon afterward, remained close by and was readily identified. This was at approximately 2400 feet in the Transition Zone, throughout which the species is an abundant summer resident in suitable habitat.

On July 15, 1954, another nest was located three and one-half feet up in a low mountain alder of the inner cottonwood-willow stream border on Granite Creek four miles south of Libby. It held two eggs. On July 27, thinking there was yet time to obtain a photograph of the completed set, I stopped with the camera at the nest site. Both birds were present. One was observed at length from a few feet. Unexpectedly, however, the nest contained husky young three or four days old, and there were only two of them. Comparing this with the number of nestlings noted on July 12, 1952, and assuming there had been no interference with the 1954 nesting, it is clear that variation in clutch size in this species is greater than heretofore recorded.—JOHN L. BLACKFORD, *Libby, Montana, July 29, 1954.*

**Unusual Barn Owl Nest Location.**—On May 8, 1951, in a *Salicornia* marsh at Playa del Rey, Los Angeles County, California, I flushed a Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) from its nest in the ground. Closer inspection disclosed the bird had taken over a box 2 feet wide, 3 feet long and 2 feet deep. The box, sunk into the ground and partially covered with *Salicornia*, contained five young owls almost ready to leave their nest, as shown in the accompanying figure. The nest was deserted in 1952 because heavy rains flooded the box. Another check on February 24, 1953, showed an owl again present in the box and incubating seven eggs.—RAY QUIGLEY, JR., *Whittier, California, February 1, 1953.*



Fig. 1. Nest of Barn Owl in *Salicornia* marsh.