

Stomachs of 17 of the Ravens and 14 of the Crows contained food. From the appended table it will be noted that about half of the food of each species consisted of grain sorghums and corn. Insects, mostly grasshoppers, were a prominent food item of the Crows but less so of Ravens. Seeds of sunflowers, melons, and citrons were numerous in most of the Crow stomachs but only occasional in those of the Ravens. Hackberries constituted more than one-third of the food of the Ravens but were not found in the stomachs of the Crows; hackberries were eaten, however, by some Oklahoma Crows taken in nearby localities.

The Crows were apparently more beneficial in their feeding habits than the White-necked Ravens since they ate many more insects and weed seeds. The melons eaten at this season were waste products left in the field. Since the Crows had obtained more insects and sunflower seeds and less hackberries, it would appear that they fed on the ground more than did the Ravens.

Table showing percentages by volume of the food of White-necked Ravens and Crows collected at the Dempsey, Oklahoma roost, December, 1937.

Birds	Beetles	Grasshoppers	Mammals	Grain sorghums	Corn	Melons and citron seeds	Hackberries	Sunflowers	Debris
Crows .....	4.6	9.4	1.2	24.7	24.9	18.9	0.	16.3	0.
White-necked Ravens..	.1	1.8	4.5	29.8	17.3	3.0	37.5	4.5	1.5

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**Long-billed Marsh Wren in Mason County, West Virginia.**—Previous records from West Virginia show that only the eastern form of the Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Telmatorhytes p. palustris*) has been found within the bounds of the State. While collecting birds near Lakin, I secured a male Long-billed Marsh Wren on September 17, 1937, in an overgrown weedy bottomland along the Ohio River. After comparing my specimen with the series in the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa., I labeled it as *T. p. iliacus*, a form not recorded in West Virginia so far as I am aware. The specimen was later examined by Dr. H. C. Oberholser, of the U.S. Biological Survey, who confirmed my identification.

According to the views of Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd (*Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, 50, 1937: 23-24), the name properly applying to the race of the interior (east to the Appalachians) is *iliacus* instead of *dissæptus*, which is inseparable from true *palustris* of the Atlantic coast region, from Virginia northward.—KARL HALLER, *Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia.*

**Notes from Mississippi.**—The following notes comprise a record of species as residents and as winter visitants in the immediate vicinity of Rosedale, Mississippi. I am greatly indebted to Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of the U.S. Bureau of Biological Survey for subspecific identifications.

Loggerhead Shrike, *Lanius ludovicianus ludovicianus*. Four specimens were collected: two males on January 2, 1938; a male on July 25, 1937; and a female on August 5, 1937. The last two being in moulting plumage proved that this is the nesting form in this section of the Mississippi Valley.

Red-eyed Towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus*. One specimen of this subspecies, a male, was taken March 13, 1937.

Alabama Towhee, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus canaster*. Two male specimens of this form were collected, one on December 28, 1929; the other February 20, 1937.

Mississippi Song Sparrow, *Melospiza melodia beata*. A small series of three males were secured on January 16, February 27, and March 3, 1937. This subspecies has never before been recorded from Mississippi.—M. GORDON VAIDEN, *Rosedale, Bolivar County, Mississippi*.

**"Territorial Song" and Non-territorial Behavior of Goldfinches in Ohio.—**

My notes on *Spinus tristis tristis* in Columbus, Ohio, are fragmentary, yet they possess two points of interest, one concerning a form of song which I have not found described elsewhere, the other concerning their method of nesting which was more colonial than territorial.

A short, unmusical song, lasting from one to 2.3 seconds, usually about 2 seconds, and given 5 to 7 times a minute, was noted from mid-April to mid-May from 1929 to 1933. These songs showed considerable variety, but the first portion was usually harsh, while the second had a slight suggestion of typical Goldfinch quality.

Goldfinches were present in large numbers in our garden at this season, attracted by the abundance of dandelion seeds; they chased one another and sang these short songs as well as the prolonged, musical, ecstatic songs lasting 6 to 8 seconds with a pause of only a second between songs. Although this short song suggested a typical "territorial" song in its form and rate of delivery, yet it flourished two months before nesting began. Only once did I record it in summer; on August 3, 1930, I noted a male singing a short song across the ditch from a nest.

Goldfinches were noted in pairs April 24, 1931, and May 27, 1933, but on May 14, 1930, some were in pairs, while others were not. Strangely enough, on May 30, 1930, I saw a pair starting to build, the male with a strand in his beak, his mate weaving material into position in the crotch of a small elder. No further work was done on this nest, and it was not until July 15 that I found a nest which was being worked on in earnest. The first egg was laid July 22.

That summer I located a dozen nests, but we left before any of the young were fledged; in the fall I found 6 more. Ten were in Canada thistles and 3 in tiny trees, the height of the nests ranging from 3 to 5.5 feet above the ground, averaging 3.5 feet. Five were in medium sized trees, placed from 8 to 12 feet from the ground. The number of eggs in 7 complete sets was 4, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5, 6. Incubation in one case lasted 12 days. Two-thirds of the nests were judged, from the excreta around the rims, to have raised young, a proportion that agrees well with Dr. Walkinshaw's results.

The 18 nests probably represented 15 pairs; of these 12 had nested in groups—4 pairs in about an acre, 3 in about two acres and 5 in about two acres. This grouping was not dependent on the availability of nesting sites, for thistles abounded everywhere. It seemed to be a sociable tendency as reported by Dr. L. H. Walkinshaw (*Life History Studies of the Eastern Goldfinch. Jack-Pine Warbler*, 16, 1938: 3-11, 14-15; 17, 1939: 3-12), and differing markedly from the territorial behavior found by Margaret Drum.—MARGARET M. NICE, 5708 Kenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.