

Red-winged Blackbirds Nesting in Treetops near Top of Hill.—

It is twenty-five years since Red-winged Blackbirds began nesting in the tops of our trees, which grow more than half way up the hillside from a brook frequented by others of their species. Since 1907, when four females built nests at heights of eighteen to twenty-two feet from the ground in separate plum trees, there has been great increase in growth of wild currant, wild gooseberry and elderberry bushes in our house yard of about an acre in extent. In these bushes more frequently than in the tops of plum trees do the Red-wings nest. None of them has ever come to the feeding place for food. The choice for nest locations of this hillside yard has gradually and almost completely superceded that of the wet ravine where they formerly built. The species is greatly reduced in numbers. Their change of habitat may have interest for ornithologists who have observed similar changes elsewhere.—ALTHEA R. SHERMAN, *National, Iowa.*

Newfoundland Crossbill at Wellesley, Mass.—

On April 1, 1932, Mr. Lester W. Smith, while banding birds at Wellesley, Mass., noticed in one of his traps, a female crossbill of such exceptional size that he immediately recognized it as one of the so-called Newfoundland Crossbills, *Loxia curvirostra perna*, and very kindly collected the specimen, and presented it to the Boston Society of Natural History.

The bird was noticeably larger than the ordinary Red Crossbill, with the bill much thicker, longer, and more markedly crossed, and with the tarsus very much thicker and heavier.

The following weight and measurements, which I took with some care, may interest the readers of 'The Auk': Weight 38 gr.; Length 155 mm.; Wing 87 mm.; Bill 20 mm. (chord of exposed culmen); Depth of bill 10 mm.; Tarsus 18.5 mm.; Tail 50 mm.—FRED H. KENNARD, *Newton Centre, Mass.*

Harris's Sparrow Again in Luce County, Michigan.—

On May 16, 1931, a Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) at McMillan, Mich., entered my trap and was banded. It was caught again the following morning but was not seen afterward. I recorded this species in the same locality on May 21, 1924 (Auk, January, 1925) but have not seen it in the interval of seven years.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, *R. F. D. 1, McMillan, Luce Co., Michigan.*

White-throated Sparrow Wintering in Cheshire County, New

Hampshire.—On February 27, 1932, and also on the 28th and 29th, I watched a lone female White-throat at a neighbor's, which I was told had been coming to the yard for food during stormy or cold weather. The throat was very pale and also the crown stripes. When first seen and until it disappeared, it seemed to be in a perfectly healthy condition and was quite tame. It was observed almost daily until March 26.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, *East Westmoreland, N. H.*