

certainly one, a male, was, because on its right tarsus there was a band colored "baby blue." This discovery gave me a real thrill, because I had entirely forgotten that I had ever placed such a band on a Junco. An inspection of my records showed that I had banded a single Junco with an enameled band of this color, eight months and fifteen days previously, (April 5, 1925). I expect later to check up this sight return by trapping the bird, but the record is doubtless valid since no other bander is using colored bands, at least in the territory of our Association.†

This record is of interest since it is the first one of the kind of which I have knowledge. It is of importance because of the durability shown by the enamel used, which appears to have a much greater lasting quality than was anticipated. I have felt that the greatest value of colored bands will occur during periods when the bird population is most stationary, that is during nesting-time and the three winter months. If the use of these bands be carefully safeguarded by appropriate regulations, their chief utility will perhaps lie in the added facility with which certain bird units can be studied. By these are meant, mated pairs (the sexes often having distinguishing colored bands), family groups (the parents and young having identifying colors), and groups in general. By their use a very great lessening of the handling of birds is made possible. Sight records, among other things, save the banders' time, and lessen the disturbance of the birds caused by frequent retrapping and rehandling, thereby insuring more normal bird behaviour at stations, a matter of importance.

It should be stated that to obtain the best results from the use of colored bands operators should have a lens, say a Coddington magnifying about six times, with which to read the enameled figures, and a good bird-glass of low magnification (about four times) with which to enlarge the circle within which it is possible to distinguish the colors.—C. L. WHITTLE, Cohasset, Mass.

Apparently Unusual Returns of Chipping Sparrows.—During the last four years I have banded one hundred and sixty-seven Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella p. passerina*) at my station in Cohasset, Mass. A fair proportion of these were nearby nesting birds and their young, the parent birds in part repeating throughout the nesting season. When September and October arrive, a small number of returns not previously taken are noted. Such returns may repeat once or twice, or not at all.

So, too, in April and May, at the time of the spring migration, other returns are noted which similarly may repeat once or twice, or not at all.

The following table shows at a glance all the information I possess about ten such returns, and the question arises as to what inferences, if any, are warranted by the facts.

<i>Band Number</i>	<i>Banded in 1924</i>	<i>Returned in 1925</i>	<i>Repeated in 1925</i>
CASE I			
50182	Sept. 13	Sept. 8	
50185	Sept. 15	Oct. 6	Oct. 18
A9627	Oct. 3	Oct. 1	Oct. 12
A9646	Oct. 8	Sept. 26	Oct. 1
A9648	Oct. 8	Oct. 1	

† On December 24, 1925, this bird was again seen at my station. It appears appropriate to designate a record of this kind as a "Sight return repeat."

CASE II

A9634	Oct. 5	Apr. 25	
A9636	Oct. 6	Apr. 25	May 16
A9638	Oct. 6	May 23	
A9643	Oct. 7	Apr. 26	May 2, 3, 15
A9658	Oct. 16	May 16	

Case I shows five fall returns, and Case II shows five spring returns. The ten returns agree in that the birds suddenly appear and quite suddenly disappear as far as repeating is indicative. As this type of return occurs twice annually, it appears not to be accidental. A limited number of such records have little more than a speculative value, but one is impressed with the possibility that in these instances we are dealing with stop-over birds in migration to and from their summer and winter quarters, with Cohasset as one of the points in their migration route.—LAURENCE B. FLETCHER, Cohasset, Mass.

To Members of the Association.—Please get in touch with the editorial department. Each one of you has information of importance tucked away in your notes and banding records.

Write the editor, enclosing a sketch of the layout of your banding station, as nearly drawn to scale as possible, showing positions of trees and shrubbery, gardens, water (streams or lakes), kinds of traps used and their locations. Also type of country about station, whether rolling or level, tree covered or open, rocky, sandy or alluvial, etc. At the same time let the editor know what you are doing, about your difficulties, and in particular report what you have discovered about the habits of birds that you didn't know before you took up banding.

Study your records by placing identical kinds of things together in order to find out their meaning, and then write the editor what you think the records indicate. The habit of doing so will make your work more interesting to yourselves as well as more productive, and will outline the kinds of ornithological problems your type of a banding station is likely to assist in solving.

Information for Members.—The expense of preparing the copy and the plates for each issue of the Bulletin, plus the paper, printing and mailing envelopes, and the clerical service in sending them out, is about \$125, or \$500 yearly. It is expected that our income from dues will take care of this expense for 1926, but this will leave an empty treasury to meet the many additional general expenses of the Association.

The cost of issuing the Bulletin for 1925 was met entirely by five voluntary contributions for this purpose. Such a source of funds cannot be relied upon year after year, and those who are concerned with the "office end" of the Association ought not to be burdened with matters of raising funds by personal appeal. We submit that the cause we are working for is worthy of an annual income of \$1,000, an amount sufficient to meet our expenses as they exist today. We therefore deem it warranted to ask those of our members or their friends, who are so disposed, to contribute to a fund of \$500, which, added to our income from dues, will meet our requirements for 1926.

Address, Charles B. Floyd, 95 South St., Boston, Mass.