

When these birds were banded and when they returned, their comings immediately followed a heavy snow-fall throughout southern New England. My experience has been that this species does not feed freely at traps when the ground is free from snow.

Of course nothing is known of the whereabouts of these six birds prior to their two appearances at the station, nor have I definite information of their movements after they left the station in 1925 and 1926. A study of the records, however, brings out the general fact that in 1925 their sojourn at the station after banding, as shown by repeats, ranged from one day to ten days, after which they were seen no more.

Their history in 1926, after their return, roughly parallels that of 1925, the birds this year remaining longer than in 1925. As before, one bird did not repeat at all. Three repeated for one to four days and two remained at the station for over a month. In both these cases (1925 and 1926), it should be pointed out, their departure was not brought about by disappearing snow, the surface conditions remaining unchanged in this respect.

It is fairly certain that for two seasons this group visited the station either (1) as a part of erratic wanderings, or (2) as a stopping-place in regular migration. The writer favors the latter interpretation, but final information in cases of this kind must await the time when a succession of banders, located to the south and to the north, shall complete their migration history.

Rock, Mass.

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY OF THE
NORTHEASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION
JANUARY 15, 1926

MRS. ALICE B. HARRINGTON

THE records of birds banded for the year ending December 31, 1925, are as follows:

Number of Birds Banded	11,750
Number of Species	112
Number of Returns	533
Number of Species Returning	32

The four species contributing the largest number of returns are:

Purple Finch (<i>Carpodacus p. purpureus</i>)	114
Song Sparrow (<i>Melospiza m. melodia</i>)	102
Tree Sparrow (<i>Spizella m. monticola</i>)	62
Chipping Sparrow (<i>Spizella p. passerina</i>)	39

During the year eleven new species were banded. To date 58 species have been recorded as returns, and, since our organization in 1922, 39,305 birds have been banded, and a total of 1309 returns have been recorded.

The number of birds banded by individual members ranged from 3 to over 3000. The nine members banding the largest number with their records are as follows: Mr. Charles B. Floyd, 3062; Mr. Laurence B. Fletcher, 995; Dr. Edward Gould Rowland, 550; Mr. Harry E. Woods, 574; Mr. Charles L. Whittle, 425; Mrs. Charles L. Whittle, 361; Mr. Benjamin S. Harrison, 348; Mr. A.W. Higgins, 323; Mr. Willis H. Ropes, 313. Messrs. Floyd's, Fletcher's, and Harrison's numbers were augmented by the birds banded at Heron, Gull, and Tern colonies, but the other records were made up of birds banded at home stations or in the vicinity. The four members securing the largest number of returns were: Mrs. C. L. Whittle, 105; Mr. Charles L. Whittle, 46; Dr. Edward Gould Rowland, 33; and Mr. Willis H. Ropes, 23.

SOME BIRD WEIGHTS

BY CHARLES L. WHITTLE AND HELEN GRANGER WHITTLE

ONE of the results of handling live birds for a term of years is the acquisition of the power to detect small differences in their weights, at first not perceived. In the case of Purple Finches, adult males have seemed prevalingly, heavier, as detected merely by handling, than the average of the olivaceous birds. Our records for olivaceous Purple Finches also not infrequently note "large," "heavy," or "strong." One wonders whether these especially heavy birds are young males. Or, are they perhaps adult females? It appears least likely of all that they are young females.

Birds of some other species, notably American Goldfinches and Pine Siskins, also exhibit a variation in weight which is detectable in the hand.

In the hope of getting more exact information on the subject, it was determined during the past winter actually to weigh a series of birds. A balance of German manufacture