

Experiences in Banding Rose-breasted Grosbeaks.—I was fortunate enough in 1926 to band seventeen Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (*Zamelodia ludoviciana*). These were captured in a pull-string trap 13" x 8" x 7" placed on a feeding-shelf at a second-story window.

Winter birds had been feeding at the shelf for several years before I began banding. A good number of Purple Finches, Goldfinches, Pine Siskins, and Chickadees were frequent visitors when the Grosbeaks first arrived in May. Their favorite food was sunflower seeds. Before leaving the shelf they would often peck at the suet a little and then finish with a drink of water.

Of the seventeen Grosbeaks banded five were adult males, three were adult females, seven were young birds, and the last two were probably young also. On July 19 and 20 I banded a brood of five young and the father bird, which were brought to the shelf by the banded mother. Two of the young were unmistakably males and possibly also a third one. The mother bird was not seen after the first day, but the father came to feed with the young for several days, when he too disappeared, the young continuing to come until the last week of August. There were often two or three feeding at the same time, the others waiting their turn in a nearby birch tree. On the second day the father was busily eating sunflower seeds, while one of the young was enjoying peanut-hearts. Occasionally a father bird would pick up a hemp seed, crack it, and feed it to his offspring, then each would continue to feed himself. After four or five days the young were able to crack even sunflower seeds for themselves. They appeared very hungry, ate heartily like growing children, and were extremely tame.

Other young birds were banded during August. After July 24th the old birds were not seen, and August 25th was the last day the young came to the shelf. By that time they had become very nervous and their stay at the shelf was very brief. ELIZABETH M. DEXHAM, Wellesley, Mass.

Water-Thrushes (*Scirurus boreboracensis*) at Banding Stations. On occasions during the last four summers, we have captured Water-Thrushes at our stations. There have been four in all, the dates being July 7, 1923, Cohasset, Mass.; and July 2, 1923, August 1, 1924, and August 21, 1926, Peterboro, New Hampshire. All these birds were conspicuously tinged with yellow on the under parts. The tint was pale sulphur-yellow to sulphur-yellow. The superciliary line was similar in tone, but somewhat less vivid. It is an interesting question why these single birds were moving about on these dates, especially so early as July 2d and 7th. The matters of the age and sex of the birds are also of interest, but thus far undetermined. The fresh-appearing plumage, in each case, indicated a bird-of-the-year.

The first three of the Water-Thrushes taken appeared at the stations but once. Two came early in the morning, attracted, no doubt, by the presence of other birds feeding in the traps, entering themselves through curiosity or accident. The third was found entangled in a cobweb in a barn by a neighbor, and brought to the station. The fourth and last, taken August 21st this year, was captured in a water trap. Three quarters of an hour after banding, it returned to the station, and continued a frequent visitor into the fourth day, the great attraction being fine cracker-crumbs, which had been put out especially for Chipping Sparrows. The Water-Thrush was devoted to these crumbs, returning as often as twice an hour or even oftener during some of his stay. His frequent meals were usually interrupted by several trips to a nearby bath for long draughts of