

winter small groups suggesting family units occupy very definite and limited areas, never overlapping. Early in March they become restless and wander considerably, prior to mating and nesting. Change in diet effects their habits still further, keeping them in the treetops in spring and summer, but bringing them nearer the ground for seeds and about feeding stations in winter.

A study of the nesting and summer activities of Titmice offers a fascinating challenge for the future.

Glenolden, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1930.

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A LIST OF THE ACTIVE BANDING STATIONS  
IN THE TERRITORY OF THE  
NORTHEASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION

By CHARLES B. FLOYD

THE object of this paper is to acquaint the readers of *Bird-Banding* with the locations of the active banding stations in the territory covered by the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association; to enumerate any special or general work that coöperators are undertaking, and to list the species that are most abundant about each station.

It is obviously impossible to record everything of interest concerning each station, and it is hoped that no readers will feel slighted because only occasional comments on their work are made.

A glance at the accompanying map shows at once the need for more banders in all parts of the territory of this Association, and particularly in the probable migratory highways where there are now almost none. If the valleys of the Connecticut and Merrimack Rivers, for instance, were dotted with banding stations, it is believed that much information regarding migration could be gathered. The writer particularly wishes to impress upon those who are interested in the work but who hesitate to undertake it because they feel that what limited time they can devote to it would not be sufficient to accomplish things worth while, that more collaborators are needed, however little or much they can do. It often develops that a bander becomes so interested in the operation of a station that his affairs can be rearranged so as to permit giving more time to this work than at first seemed possible.

Notes regarding the stations in each State or Province making up our territory follow, the arrangement being alphabetically by towns:

#### MASSACHUSETTS

*Amherst:* Mrs. Hildegard C. Thorp maintains an active banding station and handles principally White-throated, Tree, Song, and Fox Sparrows and Juncos. The past winter she banded a Sparrow Hawk and a Sharp-shinned Hawk, which were captured in her traps.

S. P. Hayes, Jr., is an active bander, taking chiefly White-throated and Tree Sparrows and Catbirds.

Mrs. J. S. Chamberlain is doing fine work with Chickadees, Tree and White-throated Sparrows, and Juncos. She is now to be away for a year, and Mrs. L. M. Cutler will operate her station.

*Athol:* Robert Allison is an active bander, working largely with Purple Finches, Tree Sparrows, and Juncos.

*Auburndale:* Dr. Eugene U. Ufford maintains an active station, trapping a variety of birds throughout the season. He has taken Tree Sparrows in numbers.

Charles B. Floyd also has a station here where Blue Jays and Bronzed Grackles are banded. His summer banding operations are at Chatham, Massachusetts.

*Belchertown:* Dr. George E. McPherson conducts a fine station, taking many Juncos. Among his interesting bandings are one Prairie Horned Lark and four Snow Buntings.

*Brockton:* George H. Priest is an active collaborator and was one of the first to trap Evening Grosbeaks.

*Cambridge:* Prof. F. A. Saunders has a winter station at Cambridge and a summer station at Kittery, Maine.

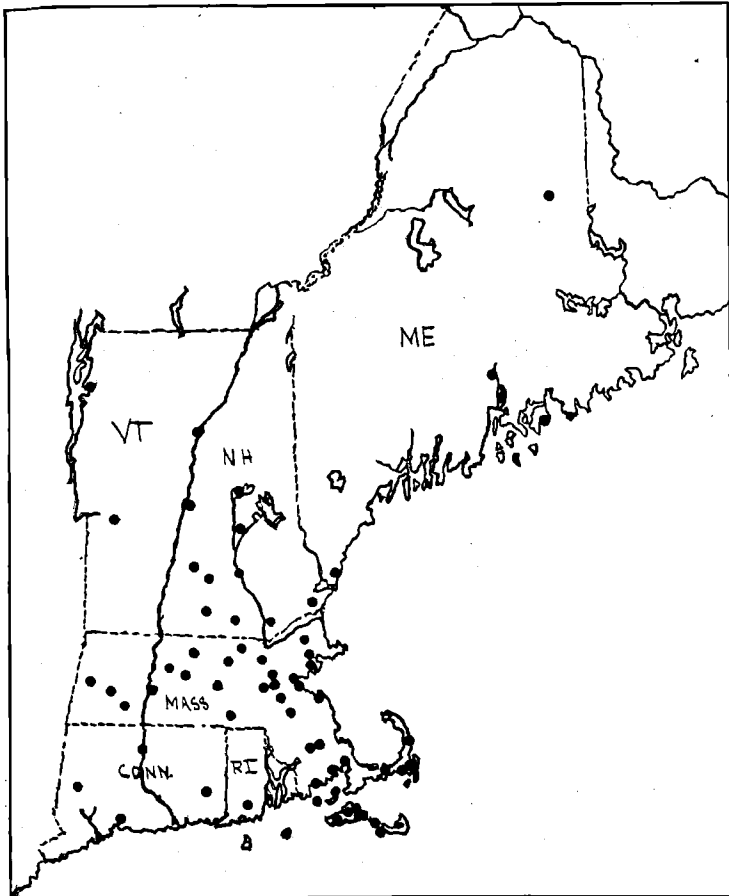
*Chatham:* Everett Eldridge, Jr., opened an interesting station a few months ago, and, in addition to song and insectivorous species, he has banded Loons and American Eiders and assisted Charles B. Floyd in the work with Roseate and Common Terns on Tern Island.

William P. Smith is active whenever possible.

*Chilmark* (Martha's Vineyard): George D. Eustis has a station of great interest, with Juncos and Song Sparrows the predominating species.

*Cohasset:* A town that has made ornithological history.

Laurence B. Fletcher's well-known station is here, where the first banding in a systematic way was begun in the region included in the area of the Northeastern Association. Among



OUTLINE MAP OF NEW ENGLAND  
DOTS SHOW LOCATIONS OF BANDING STATIONS

the hundreds of birds banded each year interesting captures have been made of groups of Juncos and White-throated Sparrows.

Richard B. and Katharine Harding have a most active and remarkably situated station. Among their records are the following that are of particular interest: two Wood Pewees, three Red-eyed Vireos, nine Oven-birds, six Chestnut-sided Warblers, and one Saw-whet Owl.

Charles L. and Helen G. Whittle's activities while they were operating their station were principally with Catbirds, Purple Finches, and Goldfinches, and their excellent studies of these species do not need to be commented upon.

Dr. John B. May has been active when possible, taking Chickadees, several Screech Owls, and one Barred Owl.

*Cuttyhunk:* H. S. Turner is the State Superintendent at this reservation and has banded many Laughing Gulls and Common and Roseate Terns. During the winter many Black Ducks and Canada Geese remain in the open water on the island and are banded, and the Commonwealth is coöperating with the Northeastern Association in this work.

*Danvers:* Charles H. Preston and Willis H. Ropes are both banding, but are not able to be as active as they were.

*Dennis:* Miss J. Olivia Crowell is a fine collaborator, trapping chiefly Song Sparrows.

*Dover:* Mrs. Louisa H. Emmons was an early active bander who took many birds of interest, especially Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Juncos, and Goldfinches.

*Eastham:* Oliver L. Austin, Jr., and Joseph Dallavalle have banded many species of both land and water birds. They made a fine study of the Common, Roseate, and Arctic Terns that nest on Cape Cod and banded the first Blue Grosbeak, Ipswich Sparrow, and Pectoral Sandpiper, as well as the first Canvas-back, American Eider, Lesser Scaup, and Old Squaw Ducks banded by members of this Association. Mr. Dallavalle is operating the station at the present time, and Dr. Oliver L. Austin has established a permanent sanctuary and banding station here to continue the studies begun by his son.

*Edgartown:* Mrs. A. W. Coffin operates a summer station.

*Groton:* William P. Wharton bands hundred of birds at this his home station, and as many more in winter at Summer-ville, South Carolina. The predominating species here are White-throated, Chipping, Song, and Savannah Sparrows, and Juncos. He has taken twelve Golden-crowned and nine Ruby-crowned Kinglets, eight Blackpoll Warblers, and one female Dickcissel.

*Hardwick:* Miss Dorothy A. Baldwin is a new operator.

*Huntington:* Albert A. Cross, who might well be called "the hawk-bander," has handled Duck, Broad-winged, Sparrow, Red-tailed, and Red-shouldered Hawks. Some of his interesting records are:

Duck Hawk banded in the nest early in 1925. Shot near Orange, New Jersey, September, 1925.

Red-tailed Hawk banded May 22, 1926. Shot at Brandywine Summit, Pennsylvania, November 12, 1927.

Sparrow Hawk banded June 25, 1927. Found dead at Newport News, Virginia, December 6, 1927.

Sparrow Hawk banded June 21, 1925. Caught in a trap at New Market, Pennsylvania, March 19, 1927.

Duck Hawk banded June 23, 1928. Killed at Northumberland, Pennsylvania, October 20, 1928.

Don V. Messer is an active bander of Hawks and Sapsuckers.

Harry E. Woods might well have the title of "Phœbe-bander" for in 1925 he handled one hundred and ten Phœbes. He and Albert Cross banded the only Pileated Woodpecker on our records. He has about his traps principally Juncos and Chickadees.

*Lancaster:* Herbert Parker maintains a banding station in connection with his fine aviary.

*Lenox:* Maurice Broun is warden at the Pleasant Valley Flower and Bird Sanctuary. He traps many Song and Tree Sparrows and has taken several Lincoln Sparrows.

*Lynn:* Mrs. Edward M. Barney is inactive at the present time because of poor health.

*Middleboro and Marion:* Mrs. Alice B. Pratt has a fine station where Purple Finches, Goldfinches, and Evening Grosbeaks are taken in numbers.

*Muskeget:* Mrs. John A. Gillespie and others have banded on this island during the summer, taking immature Laughing and Herring Gulls, Common and Roseate Terns, Brown Thrashers, and Chewinks.

*Rock:* A W. Higgins is a bander of ability who took up the work in the early days of the movement in this country.

*Sandwich:* Mrs. George E. Burbank, beginning with the banding of Song Sparrows in March, 1922, has banded continuously since that time. The first year for returns, 1923, she took twenty-one. Among the rarer birds banded she has the only records in our association for the American Coot, the Clapper Rail, and the Florida Gallinule.

*South Hadley:* L. B. Smith now operates the former station of Professor F. A. Saunders. An interesting record of his is a Purple Finch banded here on March 6, 1928, which was killed in North Carolina on December 15, 1928.

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<sup>1</sup>Since Hawks are banded in Pennsylvania as an established and not as an incidental sport, many meet their death there.

*Topsfield:* Mrs. Elsie V. Perkins is well known for her work with Evening Grosbeaks.

*Vineyard Haven:* Allan Keniston, Superintendent of the Heath Hen Reservation, situated on the island of Marthas Vineyard, has been active with the native birds, since the formation of the Northeastern Association and in particular he has handled an unusual number of Towhees. He has banded Herring and Laughing Gulls on Muskeget and outlying islands, also Common and Roseate Terns.

Miss Grace C. Meleney bands here during the summer vacation, handling both land and water birds.

*Waltham:* Mrs. Alice B. Harrington is banding when possible.

*Wareham:* Walter B. Savery is active during the summer and in the winter operates a station in Texas.

*Wayland:* A. C. K. Hallock has recently begun the operation of a station, banding numbers of Purple Finches and Song Sparrows, and has taken photographs of birds worthy of mention.

*Wellesley:* Mrs. Horace C. Dunham has one of the very few active stations operated on the second story of a house. The traps are placed on window-shelves. Since she began in March, 1926, over eleven hundred birds have been banded. In 1928-29 she banded seventeen species, including ninety-five Goldfinches, one hundred and six Purple Finches, fifty-three Pine Siskins, forty-eight Juncos, seventy-seven Tree Sparrows (see note in this number of *Bird-Banding* regarding this species), and twenty-seven Rose-breasted Grosbecks. It is thus demonstrated that ground-feeding birds will patronize a second-story feeding-shelf.

Lester W. Smith is operating at the Stone Bird Sanctuary of Roger W. Babson, where he is the resident superintendent. He has a wonderful opportunity to band literally thousands of birds if he could give the necessary time to the work.

C. A. Barry is a new bander.

*Westfield:* Miss Antonie Borek has taken charge of the active station formerly operated by Dr. Chadwick at the State Sanitarium. Many tubercular children there have become interested in birds through observing Miss Borek handle them. One boy watches and operates a pull-string trap from his bed. He became so interested that his father purchased a camera for him and he has secured some worthwhile photographs. Catbirds, Chipping Sparrows, and Robins are taken in numbers, and ten Pine Warblers have been banded.

Mrs. Annie S. Wilder is active and is handling birds in numbers. She took sixty-eight Tree Sparrow returns during the winter season of 1929-30, which was more than the number of new Tree Sparrows banded during the same season.

Mrs. Sadie B. Knox maintains a successful station, banding principally Tree and Song Sparrows. She banded one hundred and thirty Tree Sparrows in 1926 between January 29th and April 28th.

*Weepecket Island:* Mrs. Prince T. Crowell, of Franklin, Massachusetts, has banded many Common and Roseate Terns on this island.

*Whitinsville:* Rev. George E. Allen handles White-throated Sparrows in numbers and participated in the banding of Black-crowned Night Herons, at Barnstable Massachusetts.

*Worcester:* Mrs. L. C. Hamill has an active station, banding Juncos in numbers.

Mrs. Kenneth Wetherbee, in addition to the commoner species, which she takes in numbers, has taken three Louisiana Water-Thrushes.

#### CONNECTICUT

*Hartford:* Mrs. Lucy S. Chapin, a former president of the Hartford Bird Study Club, has handled many Purple Finches, numerous Pine Siskins, and one American Crossbill.

Miss Lucy O. Hunt, President of the Hartford Bird Study Club, has Purple Finches as the predominating bird about her traps.

Mrs. H. J. Pratt has taken Fox and Field Sparrows in numbers, with one Prairie Horned Lark.

*New Fairfield:* Mrs. A. G. Mathers is a successful bander, formerly banding in Middleboro, Massachusetts.

*New Haven:* Mrs. Frank D. Hubbard ranks as a successful bander. Numbers of Purple Finches and White-throated Sparrows come to her station, where the first open-top trap for Warblers was used. A Bronzed Grackle, banded December 28, 1928, was shot in Gaspé County, Quebec, October 7, 1929, at almost the extreme limit of its breeding-range. She has banded one Short-billed Marsh Wren, one Grey-cheeked Thrush, and two Cape May Warblers.

Miss Cora M. Teot is also a very active and particularly successful bander with Juncos, Purple Finches, and Song Sparrows. Her list of rare captures include one Yellow Palm Warbler, one Orange-crowned Warbler, seven Golden-crowned Kinglets, one Ruby-crowned Kinglet and one each Wilson and Canada Warblers.

*Norwich:* Dr. Edward S. Rowland is a constant and active member. He formerly operated a station at Belchertown, Massachusetts.

## MAINE

*Bangor:* Miss Bertha L. Brown is one of the most experienced banders in point of service.

*Kittery:* Prof. F. A. Saunders's summer station is here. Several species of warblers were taken by him in a water trap. Two Yellow Warblers, three Chestnut-sided Warblers and one Black and White Warbler, twelve Redstarts, and one Indigo Bunting. The following year he took as returns two Redstarts one Indigo Bunting, and one Yellow-Warbler.

*Patten and Northern Maine:* E. O. Grant, a forester, is an active bander. In 1925 he specialized on Chimney Swifts and banded nine hundred and ninety-nine, with seventy-one Redpolls, as well as many local birds.

*Southwest Harbor:* Mrs. Morris Morgan is an early bander whose accomplishments in banding Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on a shelf from the window of a summer hotel are well known.

F. J. Lurvey bands in summer.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

*Antrim:* Mrs. Rachel E. Coughy is fortunate in her location. Many Juncos, Chickadees, Song and Tree Sparrows, Purple Finches, and one Red-headed Woodpecker wear her bands.

*Belmont:* Carl W. Buchheister has a boys' camp during the summer with an active station. Last year he captured five Green Herons. His winter station is at Howlett, Long Island, where during October and December of last year he banded one hundred and fifty-six White-throated Sparrows.

*Concord:* Francis Beach White is an active and enthusiastic worker.

*Exeter:* Henry S. Shaw has a station here but is not active at present.

*Greenland:* The Sarah A. McCarthy Bird Sanctuary is located here and in summer a station is operated by Prof. Daniel A. Shea of Washington, D. C. Many Purple Finches, Song Sparrows, and Tree Sparrows are taken.

*Hanover:* Prof. R. R. Marsden traps a wide variety of species, particularly warblers. His records show the following: eleven Canada Warblers, six Redstarts, and Myrtle,



Black and White, Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue, Yellow, Pine, Magnolia, and Black-throated Green Warblers in some numbers.

Mrs. R. D. Kilbourne also maintains a fine station.

*Holderness:* Mrs. Katharine B. Harding has her summer activities here, where she made her fine studies of the nesting of Black-throated Blue Warblers.

*Milford:* James P. Melzer has an excellent opportunity to work with Purple Finches, Goldfinches, Tree Sparrows, and Chickadees. During March, April, and May, 1928, he banded between two hundred and fifty and three hundred Purple Finches.

*Peterboro:* Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Whittle each operate a fine station which has produced excellent results. They have made special studies of the plumages of Purple Finches and Goldfinches, and the mating of Chipping Sparrows and White-breasted Nuthatches.

*Sanbornton:* E. C. Weeks has had notable results with Juncos, Chipping Sparrows, and Song Sparrows. Fifty-one White-crowned Sparrows were banded during the spring and fall of 1929.

#### RHODE ISLAND

*Charlestown (Audubon Bird Sanctuary):* Mr. and Mrs. Everett Southwick are in process of organizing a station.

#### VERMONT

*Burlington:* Dr. Harry C. Fortner is taking numbers of White-throated and Song Sparrows. He banded seventy-six White-crowned Sparrows during May of last year, with six Crested Flycatchers. He is to be absent for a year.

*Rutland:* Leslie Crane is active through the entire year.

*Wells River:* Wendell P. Smith is doing splendid work with Chickadees, Song Sparrows, Tree Sparrows and Juncos. He banded the first Hoary Redpolls and White-winged Crossbills banded in New England.

#### CANADA

*Wolfville, Nova Scotia:* Robie W. Tufts has five young men working under his leadership, trapping many Robins, Tree, Song, and Chipping Sparrows, and Bank and Barn Swallows. Twenty-seven Yellow Warblers wear his bands.

*Ottawa:* Harrison F. Lewis has done wonderful banding

work in the large sea-bird colonies under his care. (See his article in this number.)

#### LABRADOR

Commander Donald B. McMillan banded Razor-billed Auks' Brünnich's Murres, Black-backed, Herring, and Glaucous Gulls, and Northern Ravens last year, and on his Arctic trips he devotes what time he can to this work.

Auburndale, Massachusetts, May, 1930.

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### SOME PURPLE FINCH NOTES, PRINCIPALLY ON THE MOULT OF THE PRIMARIES AND SECONDARIES

By M. J. MAGEE

IN some respects this year (1929) has been an unusual one so far as Purple Finches are concerned. They came in numbers the earliest and left the earliest of any year since I started putting out food regularly in 1915. Large flocks were seen around town March 1st, and I trapped the first one for this year March 6th. The last one trapped was October 17th, and there were only a few around then. I left that afternoon to attend the annual meeting of the A. O. U. in Philadelphia. On my return I was told the last Purple Finch seen at my feeding station was October 21st.

From March 6 to May 1, 1929, 924 were trapped. Last year the first one trapped was on May 1st and there were quite a few still around the middle of November; the last one banded for that year was on December 4th. On account of the early start this year, 1960 Purple Finches were banded and there were 181 returns, making 2141 individual birds trapped.

This year I have attempted to make a partial check on their moult. From July 1st, the date on which I noticed the first signs of moult, to October 17th, when the last Purple Finch for the year was trapped, I looked over 675 birds. As I could not spend all my time on the work, I confined my efforts largely to the moult of the primaries and secondaries.

#### THE MOULT FROM JUVENAL INTO FIRST WINTER PLUMAGE

One hundred and fifty-one young-of-the-year were looked over. There were probably more banded, for after moulting I doubt if the young-of-the-year can be positively separated from the adult females. I noticed the first signs of the moult-