

of 1930 were less affected than those taken earlier. The reason for this may lie in the fact that much of the trapping during that time was done over recently burned areas. Ticks were noticed to be very much less abundant, and sometimes almost wholly wanting, on flocks taken in those sections.—
WM. P. WHARTON.

A Banded Little Blue Heron in New Jersey.—We are advised by Mr. Charles A. Urner that among the numerous Little Blue Herons on the Newark Meadows, New Jersey, this summer (1930) one adult was seen to be banded on the right leg.

In view of the extensive banding operations carried on near Charleston, South Carolina, of which Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr., has told us, the presumption is that this individual was banded there two or more years ago as a young bird. Sight records of the percentage of banded birds in the northern flight each summer, combined with observed percentages at the southern banding locality, would furnish interesting evidence bearing on the nature of the flight.—J. T. N.

Foot Disease on Birds at Summerville, South Carolina.—Further record of the prevalence of the foot disease which so commonly effects the Chipping Sparrow was kept during the winter seasons of 1929 and 1930 at Summerville, South Carolina. In 1929, 44 birds of this species out of the 323 banded were found to be affected with this trouble in its active form (13.62%), while 31 showed unmistakable evidence of having had it and recovered from it. In 1930, 13 of the 255 birds banded were found to have the disease in active form at one time or another during the season (5.09%), while 24 showed evidence of having suffered from it previously.

Field Sparrows were diseased to the extent of 3 out of the 17 banded in 1929 (17.6%), and 11 out of the 57 banded in 1930 (19.3%).

Out of 21 Juncos banded in 1929, 2 (9.50%) were affected with an active foot disease which heretofore I have assumed was the same as that found on Chipping and Field Sparrows. (Owing to the different appearance of the swelling on the feet of Juncos, and the apparent lack of inflammation severe enough to cause maturation and subsequent loss of portions of the toes, as happens with Chipping and Field Sparrows, I have recently felt doubts of the identity of the disease found on this species.) Out of 49 Juncos banded in 1930, 3 were affected with active disease, and one had a sort of a canker on the foot which may have been related to it. Assuming that 4 birds had the disease, the percentage was 8.16%.

One Meadowlark out of the 29 which were banded in 1930, was recorded as having the "left middle toe swollen to next to last joint; beyond that atrophied and dried up." This case, in appearance at least, resembled the foot disease as it frequently manifests itself on Chipping Sparrows.—
WM. P. WHARTON.

Irregular Molting of a Savannah Sparrow.—On September 4, 1930, we noted a Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*) with an apparently injured wing. The bird was able to rise only twelve or fifteen inches above the ground and flutter quickly to earth again. Deciding to investigate, we gave pursuit, when, after several failures of this kind, the bird abandoned attempts to fly and began to run through the grass. We were soon able to capture it and found eight primaries and three secondaries missing. As these were in consecutive order beginning with the second primary, quite a gap was made in the wing. All the upper coverts were also involved. The new primaries and secondaries were in

an early stage of development, as the vanes were just beginning to emerge from their sheaths. The moult had evidently been completed in the other wing, and careful examination of all other tracts failed to disclose any evidence of the process. The plumage elsewhere was fresh as though recently acquired.—WENDELL P. SMITH.

A Song Sparrow Return-4.—On September 25, 1930, Song Sparrow (*Melospiza m. Melodia*) No. A9211 returned for the fourth time. This bird was banded on April 4, 1925, and returned April 28, 1926; August 19, 1927; and April 21, 1929. This bird is nearly six and a half years old at least.—WENDELL P. SMITH, Wells River, Vermont, October 3, 1930.

Banding Starlings.—Owing to the rapid increase of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) particularly in the Middle West and Southwest, it is very desirable that as many as possible of this species be banded. Full knowledge of their migratory habits, which seem to be developing, will make future control effective. Perhaps the easiest way to capture these birds is when they crowd close together during the coldest weather in ventilating-towers of buildings, church steeples, and barns. By using a strong flashlight twenty-five or more may be captured at a time by hand and placed temporarily in a grain-sack, to be banded later.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Eugene Walker, Superintendent of Lakeside Hospital of the University Hospitals of Cleveland, the writer, together with Dr. John A. Brady, of Lakewood, banded more than a hundred of the Starlings roosting in the ventilating-towers of the hospital buildings during the winter of 1929-1930. The greatest number at the roost was estimated at 2100.—E. C. HOFFMAN, 1041 Forest Cliff Drive, Lakewood, Ohio.

Wing Injury.—On the last page of the July, 1929, number of the *Bulletin*, I stated in a letter to the Editor that I had had some trouble with apparent wing injury to birds while held in the hand, and that I had never known such birds to recover their power of flight. I am now glad to instance four definite cases in which, following the type of injury there described, I have retaken birds which had apparently fully recovered:

Black and White Warbler B32903, banded August 27, 1929, and apparently unable to fly when released, repeated September 12th and was then able to fly.

Towhee 582923, banded January 25, 1929, and unable to fly either when released or three days later, was retaken as a return January 18, 1930, at which time it was apparently perfectly normal.

Towhee A203971, banded January 3, 1930, went off on the ground, and was still unable to fly on January 20th. On February 18th, however, it was noted as being in good condition.

A recent example is that of a Song Sparrow banded August 16, 1930. This bird did not get its wings free in the way which I indicated in my letter of 1929 might cause the injury in question, but probably got just enough clearance to be able to press the wings back with a convulsive effort against my hand. I was conscious of the slight snap mentioned in my description of the trouble, and the bird went off on the ground. On August 18th this bird repeated and was still unable to fly. On August 23d it flew, though apparently with some effort, but on the 25th and 26th and on one or two subsequent dates it has acted perfectly normally. Thus it would appear that the injury in question is one which, at least in a substantial number of cases, is overcome, though in the meantime the bird