

- 1 shot December 26, 1929 at Giddings, Texas.
- 1 shot January 19, 1930 at Abbeville, Louisiana.
- 1 captured January 31, 1930 at Jeanerette, Louisiana.

Abbeville and Jeanerette are only about twenty-five miles apart. One of my Robin recoveries from Louisiana was January 3, 1928, at St. Martinsville a little further north but not over twenty miles distant from either of the above-mentioned places.

As to age, my returns show:

- A Purple Finch to at least 10 years of age.
- An Evening Grosbeak to at least 7 years.
- A Chipping Sparrow, a Robin, a Yellow Warbler, and two Song Sparrows to be at least 5 years old.

	1931	Total to Date
English Sparrows destroyed	261	3,377
Cats trapped	48	197

All but one of the 48 trapped in 1931 were taken right on my front porch.

—M. J. MAGEE.

Eastern Red-winged Blackbird Returns.—At my station in Gary, Indiana, I have banded two hundred and thirty-eight Eastern Red-winged Blackbirds, as follows: 1926, sixty-two; 1927, one hundred and thirty-eight; 1928, twenty-three; 1929, fifteen. All of these birds were banded in my own yard, which is 125 feet by 300 feet, located here in the city. There is a swale, or swamp, surrounding the lower end of the yard, which, up to 1930, had not been drained. During the year 1930 a sewer was put through it, and it is now dry, and Blackbirds, while they come to my feeding station, do not breed here as formerly.

My returns of Red-wings are as follows:

- 42736, ad. male, banded May 22, 1926, returned to the same place April 17, 1928.
- 397925, ad. male, banded May 10, 1926, returned to the same place April 11, 1927.
- 397929, ad. female, banded May 11, 1926, returned to the same place May 8, 1927.
- 397933, ad. male, banded May 11, 1926, returned to the same place April 22, 1927.
- 397934, ad. male, banded May 11, 1926, returned to the same place April 21, 1927.
- 397941, ad. female, banded May 12, 1926, returned to the same place May 30, 1927.
- 397961, ad. male, banded May 15, 1926, returned to the same place April 10, 1927.
- 427364, ad. female, banded May 23, 1926, returned to the same place May 1, 1927.
- 437380, ad. male, banded May 13, 1927, returned to the same place April 20, 1929.
- 437376, ad. female, banded June 9, 1927, returned to the same place May 18, 1929.
- 357427, ad. male, banded June 26, 1927, returned to the same place April 20, 1929.
- 357432, ad. female, banded July 8, 1927, returned to the same place April 20, 1929.
- 440368, immature female, banded August 4, 1927, returned to the same place April 20, 1929.
- 580546, immature male, banded September 10, 1927, returned to the same place April 20, 1929.
- 580566, immature male, banded February 18, 1927, returned to the same place April 20, 1929.
- 592019, ad. male, banded April 22, 1929, returned to the same place May 13, 1929.

—CLARENCE BRETSCH, Gary, Indiana.

Winter Banding at Concord, New Hampshire.—At my woodland station I have taken only the usual species in this winter of 1931-1932, but certain returns and certain contrasts in numbers may be of interest to note here.

As to returns: a male Hairy Woodpecker (480636) was banded February 23, 1929, returned February 15, 1930, and January 14, 1932; a female (689961) was banded February 8, 1929, returned February 4, 1932. A female Downy Woodpecker (A423826) was banded February 28, 1930, returned January 14, 1931, and November 5, 1931, repeating in February. A White-breasted Nuthatch (B53062) was banded February 8, 1929, returned January 26, 1930, January 11, 1931, and November 12, 1931. A Tree Sparrow (B22148) was banded February 12, 1928, returned February 7, 1929, and February 18, 1932. There were also other

returns from one winter ago—a Downy Woodpecker, two Chickadees, and a Tree Sparrow. It will be seen that two Hairy Woodpeckers and a White-breasted Nuthatch were here for the fourth winter, and a Tree Sparrow for the fifth.

Certain species present a great contrast in the numbers present; the Tree Sparrows banded are as follows: January-March 1928, twenty-five; January-March 1929, twenty-six; January-March 1930, six; January-March, 1931, one; December-March, 1932, forty-one. No flock came this winter till February 6 after a heavy snow-fall. The Chickadees banded in January-March 1931, numbered twenty; in January-March 1932, one (I had, however, banded seven in November-December, 1931, some of which stayed on). Species not mentioned above that were banded this past winter, were Red-breasted Nuthatcher and Brown Creepers. At the end of March, three Song Sparrows were banded at the same spot, though never seen there before; a blizzard dammed up the migration, and presumably these birds were hard put to it and ranged about widely for food.

It is proper to state that as "returns" the status of most of the birds mentioned above is not absolutely satisfactory, because they are trapped in the winter months only. I should acknowledge considerable help from friends at my banding station, in particular from Messrs. W. L. Clark and W. L. Vaughan.—F. B. WHITE, Concord, N. H., March 31, 1932.

A Longevity Record for the Hutchins' Goose.—In the popular mind geese are among the birds that may attain "a ripe old age," a belief that is supported by data available from zoölogical parks and aviaries. To Mr. Frank W. Robl, of Ellinwood, Kansas, the Biological Survey is indebted for the details concerning a Hutchins' Goose, band No. 105728, which apply to this subject.

This bird came to Mr. Robl's sanctuary in the spring of 1907, and died on February 5, 1932, apparently from natural causes. Accordingly, it was at least twenty-five years old, and as it was fully adult in 1907, it is probable that at least two or three additional years may be added. Although full-winged, it made no attempt to migrate with the other geese that regularly visited the sanctuary; instead it seemed content to remain and rear young under Mr. Robl's protection. Broods were raised successfully each season for the last ten years.

According to Mr. Robl, she "showed her age" very much during the last year of her life, and he thinks that the loss of her mate last fall was a contributory factor in causing her death. The bird has been mounted and will be so preserved.

The accompanying photograph, supplied by Mr. Robl, shows 105728 (center front) with some of her companions on one of the sanctuary ponds.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

The Number of Eggs per Nest of the Vesper Sparrow.—The note in the January (1932) number of *Bird-Banding* by B. S. Bowdish indicates that there may be some variation in the number of eggs laid in individual nests by the Vesper Sparrow in different parts of its range. Some years ago I made a practice of noting the particulars of nests found, including the number of eggs or young. The results of these observations, as relating to the Vesper Sparrow, are tabulated below.