

more distant stations will also be gladly received, for, though one of the best repeaters, returning year after year to the same locality, this species is taken only rarely at other stations, and information concerning its routes of migration is almost nil.—A. MARGUERITE HEYDWEILLER, Cornell University, McGraw Hall, Ithaca, New York.

A Semipalmated Sandpiper Recovery.—A Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Ereunetes pusillus*) banded at this Station in the early evening of August 29, 1933, was "captured" twenty-six days later, September 24th, at Carupano, Venezuela, by A. A. Sentelli. If we assume that the bird took an airline flight, the journey of 2100 miles would have been accomplished at the rate of eighty miles a day. However, if we adopt the more probable belief that the bird followed the coastal route to southern Florida, and then reached Venezuela by way of the Islands of the Caribbean Sea, the bird travelled approximately 2800 miles—an average daily journey of 107.7 miles.—MAURICE BROWN, Austin Ornithological Research Station, North Eastham, Massachusetts.

A Female House Wren Recovery.—The following record of a House Wren (*Troglodytes a ædon*), C-8008, has just been completed. The bird was one of five nestlings banded on July 15, 1931 by Mr. Jerome Foxman at the Boy Scout Camp, Stambough Reservation, five miles south of Youngstown, Ohio. On the morning of October 13, 1933, this bird was found dead in a yard near a bird-bath in West Newton, Massachusetts and it had apparently died a natural death. The weather was pleasant, there had been no storms worth recording for several days, and there was at the time a migration movement of Juncos, Goldfinches, and Myrtle Warblers which were present in some numbers.

The status of this bird is problematical. It may have summered at or near the place of banding and then wandered east, or it may have summered near its place of recovery.—CHARLES B. FLOYD, Auburndale, Massachusetts

Three Returning Mated Pairs of Chickadees.—Up to the present twelve Chickadee returns¹ have appeared at my station, including three known mated pairs. Of these the history of F23150 and F23152 is most interesting. These two birds were banded within ten minutes of each other on January 29, 1932, and have kept constantly in each other's company ever since. Although I have not succeeded in tracing them to their nesting territory, their close intimacy seems to leave no reasonable doubt that they are mates. Last fall they returned together on October 8th, this year on October 14th. Their attachment is still as strong as ever, one rarely being seen without the other.

Another returning Chickadee, F23149, mated in 1932 with F23154, the pair returning together in October of that year. F23154 met with some misfortune and was not seen after October 11th. Two new birds were accompanying these birds early in the fall. F23149 mated in the spring with one of these, F31792. This pair were seen together on October 22d of this year and have repeatedly come to the feeding-shelves together since.

¹"Return," in these notes, indicates three months absence from the station, but not necessarily from this region, since these Chickadees are all permanent residents in the locality.

The third pair to return have been seen together only once, but the visits of both individuals have been few so far as known. In this case, too, one bird, F23148, lost its mate of last year after their return in the fall and chose another, also a new bird of the year, which was banded in December, 1932.

Only two of the twelve returns were banded prior to 1932. Of these one was banded in February, 1931, and the other, A87173, was banded December 19, 1927. The latter, whose return record was given in *Bird-Banding* for January, 1933, is therefore at least six and one half years of age. Apparently age commands no respect among Chickadees for our six-year-old, who appears now to have no intimate, is repeatedly driven from the shelves by the other birds, even by the upstarts of the new generation.—DOROTHY A. BALDWIN, Hardwick, Massachusetts.

A Towhee Recovery.—On July 25, 1932, Towhee A239521, an immature male, was banded at our summer station at East Chop, Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts. On November 4, 1932, it was trapped by Mrs. Marie V. Beals at her station at Elmhurst, Long Island, New York, and repeated that day and each of the five succeeding days. The few instances already on record are quite inadequate to prove that certain land birds tend to migrate by land when possible, even when the route involves digression in an east-to-west direction, rather than to start on an extended overseas journey, such as that from Martha's Vineyard to Cape May, New Jersey, for instance. Nevertheless each new recorded instance of this kind tends to strengthen the theory.—MABEL GILLESPIE, Glenolden, Pennsylvania.

Some Unusual Barn Swallow Nesting-Sites.—While there has been no reduction in the number of barns that would cause Barn Swallows (*Hirundo erythrogaster*) to change their normal nesting-habits, as noted in the following instances, I am adding three more New Hampshire cases of their doing so, supplementing those recorded by Charles B. Floyd in *Bird-Banding* for April, 1932, page 74.

At Hampton, at the home of Mr. Thomas Caugher, for several years a pair of Barn Swallows have nested on a timber directly beneath the upper floor and over the open barn floor, where several automobiles often pass within eighteen inches of the nest day and night. For three seasons young from this nest have been banded.

At Raymond, in 1932, a pair built on the right side of the window-sill of the window to the right of the main entrance to the church, five feet above the ground. No protection was afforded the nest from three directions.

At East Westmoreland, where a barn had in 1932 apparently become quite crowded, one pair repaired to a level board nailed beneath the north eaves of the building, and reared their brood outdoors; but as all the twenty-one inside nests were not used in 1933, this nesting-site was abandoned.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, East Westmoreland, New Hampshire.

Three Great Blue Heron Recoveries.—On an island in the Illinois River at Depue, Illinois, I banded twenty-three Great Blue Herons (*Ardea h. herodias*) during the month of July, 1933. All the birds were young and nearly ready to leave the nest when banded. They were captured by first frightening them from their nests by making a loud noise. After they had clumsily flown to the ground, they were readily caught.

During July and August three of the birds were recovered, all in Illinois. C632806 was found dead on August 3, 1933, at LaSalle, some twenty-five