

An American Woodcock Recovery of Interest.—An American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*), apparently stunned, was picked up on the streets of Fairhope, Alabama, and brought to me for banding on December 16, 1932. It was recovered on October 31, 1933, at Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada, by John E. McCurdy.—HELEN M. EDWARDS, Fairhope, Alabama.

The banding of a Woodcock in Fairhope, Alabama, in December and its recovery at Sydney, Nova Scotia, during the following October is of unusual interest as it so happens that the place of banding is at the southern limit of the species' wintering-range and the place of discovery is at the northern limit of its nesting-range. If we possessed a goodly number of such records, we should be justified in concluding that the most northern-nesting Woodcocks winter along the southern edge of their wintering-range. The record, however, is of importance as it stands and it perhaps constitutes one link in a chain of evidence which it is hoped in time will show whether the birds tend to duplicate their spatial relationship in both their ranges or are indiscriminately distributed without regard to comparable latitude or longitude.

The distance northeast as the crow flies between Fairhope and Sydney is approximately 1750 miles.—EDITOR.

Two Pairs of Tree Swallows Mated During Two Successive Seasons.

—I am giving the following additional cases of Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) being permanently mated. For the earlier records of Mrs. Kenneth B. Wetherbee and Oscar McKinley Bryens, see *Bird-Banding*, 1932, April, pages 72-73 and October, pages 177-178.

The first banded pair to mate during two successive seasons nested first in Box 1 in 1931. On June 17th (when the young were half grown) the female, F41533, was trapped and banded, and on June 22d her mate was given band F41554. Their six young were banded on June 18th with numbers F41535-6-7-8-9-40, and left the next successfully. On June 11, 1932, F41554 was taken as a return-1, and previously, on May 18th, F41533 was a return-1 at Box 5, where the two birds had remated and the female had built a nest and laid a clutch of six eggs, but had disappeared during the night of the 13th only a few hours after being recorded as a return.

The details of second case are as follows: A female was trapped in Box 3 on June 22d, 1931 and given band F41555. On June 6, 1933, F41555 was a return-2 (at least four years old) and her mate (F60909) was a return-1 the same date. They nested again, but unsuccessfully, in Box 1.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, East Westmoreland, N. H.

An Eastern Fox Sparrow Return and Seven Recoveries.—We have received by the kindness of the Biological Survey, by the hand of Mr. F. C. Lincoln, the list of Fox Sparrow "returns" since 1926 (up to September 19, 1933). These taken in conjunction with data in "Returns from Banded Birds, 1920-1923," and "Returns from Banded Birds, 1922 to 1926," afford the following facts:

One return is found at station of banding, viz.:

B148825, banded at North Eastham, Massachusetts, November 25, 1931, by Dr. Oliver L. Austin, returned April 6, 1932.¹

The recoveries are as follows:

¹ B148825 is referred to in this issue by Mr. Maurice Broun. See *Ante*, page 86.—Editor.

A171006, banded by O. A. Stevens at Fargo, North Dakota, October 2, 1929; recovered at Ethelbert, Manitoba, April 11, 1930.

A218349, banded by J. T. Emlen, at Germantown, Pennsylvania, March 3, 1930; recovered at Coinjock, North Carolina, December 1, 1930.

47587, banded by B. S. Bowdish, at Demarest, New Jersey, April 2, 1924; recovered at Pinetown, North Carolina, January 26, 1926.

C44476, banded by S. H. Low, at Quincy, Massachusetts, December 8, 1929; recovered at Elmhurst, Long Island, N. Y., December 27, 1930.

132677, banded by F. H. Kennard, at Newton, Massachusetts, March 15, 1930; recovered at Little St. Lawrence, Newfoundland, April 20, 1930.

C197277, banded by F. B. White, at Concord, New Hampshire, April 17, 1933; recovered at Port aux Basques, Newfoundland, May 13, 1933.

In the *Smithsonian Annual Report* for 1932, page 349, "A Decade of Bird Banding in America (Lincoln)" it is noted that Fox Sparrow 643516, banded at Rhinebeck, New York, March 18, 1929, was found at Port au Port, Newfoundland, April 30, 1929.

The territory west of the Rocky Mountains we have excluded, as it seems to need special treatment on account of geographical reasons and the subspecies there.—F. B. WHITE, Concord, New Hampshire.

Banding Barn Swallows.—During the summer of 1933 at Shirley, Massachusetts, I found that it was possible to catch a very satisfactory number of adult Barn Swallows in barns at night without doing any harm to the young. The best record was nineteen adults in about twenty minutes. I always chose a warm night so that the young would not be harmed by lack of brooding, and in checking up there was no evidence of harm to any young birds. There was one sitting of eggs that may have become chilled, though I am not at all certain that this was the case. The best results followed when there were four in the party, two with long-handled butterfly nets and two with flash-lights; this made it possible for one net and one light to be at each end of the barn and saved a great deal of time, though we never failed to catch every bird in the building when only two worked. The nets had a diameter of about a foot and a half, and we used handles of various lengths to suit the buildings. It was necessary to shut the doors and windows, as, on moonlight nights especially, the birds often tried to fly out. After closing of the barn, which was of course done after dark and in the dark as much as possible, it was only necessary to find a swallow with the aid of one of the lights. Ordinarily the bird would immediately start fluttering about, and others would soon do likewise, most of them going slowly from one end of the barn to the other just below the ridge-pole, making it a simple matter when stationed on the scaffolds to catch them in the nets. We did not injure a single bird though we made two trips to each of four barns, and, not counting the repeats, we caught 69 birds, 14 of which were returns from last year. As the birds were caught they were transferred to gathering cages, and the banding was done after all were caught. In releasing them we watched each bird until it had found a safe refuge before we let the next one go. It is hardly necessary to say that great care must be exercised when there are any cats about.—EDWARD M. DAVIS, Winter Park, Florida.

A Return-2 Myrtle Warbler.—At my banding station in Fairhope, Alabama, I captured a Myrtle Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) on December 1, 1930. On December 7, 1931, it was retaken as a return-1, and on January 9, 1934, it was caught in the night in a butterfly-net as it fluttered against a window, apparently bewildered by the light within, making the bird a return-2, and at least four and a half years old.—HELEN M. EDWARDS, Fairhope, Alabama.