

months (not counting young birds in May) is 229, 119 males and 110 females, 52 per cent males. The lower percentage of males here is presumably due to a disproportionately large number of males about the station already carrying bands.<sup>1</sup> Too few individuals are involved to give percentages satisfactory for comparison when analyzed, except perhaps for November (35 individuals), 63 per cent males; April (51), 53 per cent males, and May (83), 48 per cent males—74 per cent [having been banded in these three months, leaving only 26 per cent in the other four. The curve of birds banded in these three months has a May low close to that of the counts.

I am inclined to attribute the general unbalance in the above House Sparrow figures to a somewhat greater percentage of mobility of the males toward a given point (in this case a feeding and to some extent a nesting station.) This would give any other than chance concentration of birds a higher than actual percentage of males. The monthly figures for the total counts varying from 784 in February to 1489 in March are more or less correlated with the concentration of birds at the banding station, and the four months in which these counts exceed 900 give higher percentages than for the total period, the remaining three months, lower. If we were dealing with actual sex ratios, I can think of no reasonable way whereby the males could abruptly recoup their proportion between February and March. The curve of Starling percentages (Hicks) will be seen to run rather parallel to these for the House Sparrow, though higher.—J. T. NICHOLS, New York, N. Y.

**Herring Gull Recovery from Panama.**—Among the many recoveries from a total of more than twelve hundred Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*) banded at Duck Island, Isles of Shoals, on July 20 and 25, 1933, is one of outstanding interest. This gull was banded as B611058 on the 20th, by my friend Mr. James P. Melzer. On the following December 10th, when the bird was little if any more than six months old, it was shot at Bocas del Toro, Panama.

It is of great interest to record this distant, Central America, record in connection with those unusual recoveries listed in R. J. Eaton's paper "The Migratory Movements of Certain Colonies of Herring Gulls" (*Bird-Banding*, Vol. IV, No. 4, and Vol. V, Nos. 1 and 2), which gives no recovery for this species south of Alvarado, Vera Cruz, Mexico. Under date of May 24, 1934, Mr. Frederick C. Lincoln, of the Biological Survey, could give me no record of a recovery from a location so far south. The direct air-line distance from Alvarado to Bocas del Toro is about thirteen hundred miles; but the bird may have travelled by a more or less indirect route *via* the Gulf of Mexico, coming a greater distance along the coast. On the other hand, the bird may have followed the Florida Peninsular to Cuba and flown thence to Bocas del Toro, a much shorter distance. By latitude the point of recovery is approximately seven hundred miles farther south than Alvarado.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, East Westmoreland, N. H.

**A Few Herring Gull Recoveries.**—The Austin Ornithological Research Station banded 221 juvenile Herring Gulls at Penikese Island, Massachusetts, on July 27, 1933. From these the following seven recoveries have been reported:

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<sup>1</sup> Nichols, 1934, *Bird-Banding*, V (1), pp. 20-23.