

flesh, with no visible marks of injury, an astonishing state of affairs in view of the fact that the bird and its three nest-mates had had to withstand the attack of thirteen large blood-sucking maggots. The young Worm-eating Warblers also appeared healthy and vigorous, but we did not examine them in the hand for fear of frightening them from the nest prematurely.

Mrs. Nice has full notes on the history of the young Song Sparrows, including daily weights. She reports that while slow in growth at first, the nestlings later caught up in weight, so that there was little difference between them and other unparasitized (presumably) nestlings.

I am greatly inclined to the opinion that the *Protocalliphora* larvæ normally leave the nest at maturity, dropping to the ground to pupate, unless prevented from doing so, as in the case of cavity-nesting birds or birds which use mud in the construction of the nest, like the Robin and the Barn Swallow. In the case of the Song Sparrow nest, none of the puparia or larvæ were in the nest-material, but were lying outside of it in the paper sack.

It will be noted that the parasites in the nest of the Prairie Warbler were taken before the young birds would normally have left the nest; the nest of the Worm-eating warbler was already on the ground; while the nest of the Carolina Wren was in a metal receptacle which prevented the escape of the larvæ. On the other hand, I have examined dozens of abandoned "open" nests, all with negative results. This theory, if correct, would explain the high percentage of parasitism, as shown by the records, of hole-nesting birds, and the relatively few records of *Protocalliphora* for birds nesting in the open. As a matter of fact, I strongly suspect that the latter are actually parasitized as heavily as the former.—EDWARD S. THOMAS, Ohio State Museum, Columbus, Ohio.

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**Two White-throated Sparrow Returns.**—Great was the surprise of my fire-maker one morning in November last when on opening the kitchen stove to kindle it she saw a bird fly out. The bird fluttered to a window and was easily caught, when it proved to be White-throated Sparrow 34-143765 banded in January, 1935. The bird was put into a cage and left on the porch for my inspection. When I appeared I found that a cat had knocked over the cage and was trying to get the bird, but I arrived in time and released the bird unhurt, although very sooty and, I hope, fully resolved to explore no more stove pipes.

Number A101873 made a return less dramatic but very instructive as to the danger of making assumptions about birds that fail to return to the traps. This one was found dead on November 8, 1935, near a screened porch, having probably flown against the screen. The records showed it had been banded April 21, 1929, had returned October 26, 1929, October 27, 1930, and never since. This is my longest record on this species, but the bird had not entered my traps for five years, although quite probably wintering regularly on the place. The bird was at least seven years old.—MARION A. BOGGS, Wavnesville, North Carolina.

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**Known History of Eastern Phœbe B127877.**—Since female Phœbes (*Sayornis phœbe*) are rather consistent birds in returning in successive years to their former year's nest-site, as I and others have proved by banding, among my records there stands out preeminently that of female No. B127877, banded on June 11, 1931. She was trapped in a Chardonneret trap by using the young as an enticement. In the following years she would not enter this trap or any trap and had to be taken at night while on the nest by a the use of strong light.

In 1931 she reared one brood of four at the iron-railed red bridge just below our garden, where Phœbes have nested for years on the central steel cross-stripping that supports the structure in the middle. The young were also banded, and they left the nest June 11th, after which date neither young nor adults were positively identified in the vicinity that year. But after they had gone, another unbanded pair relined their nest and reared a brood, which flew on July 29th. On June 3, 1932, B127877 was taken as a return-1 at this bridge when her second brood of five young were half feathered, and on July 14th her second brood of four were