

ests contained two eggs and one artificial egg. We found the artificial egg pushed deep into the bottom of the nest and a new floor of dead rushes laid over it. This egg was again placed in with the others, but it was out of the nest a week later.

In one of the nests, in which a piped egg lay, a pure white artificial egg was placed. After a few minutes a hovering bird came down, stood beside the white egg viewing it with one eye and then the other, and finally attempted to pick it up with her bill as if to carry it away in the manner of carrying eggshells. The egg would always slip or roll away, whereupon she began to peck at it as if to break it. Finally she gave up, sat down on the nest, and drew the white egg under her.

Many nests are very poor at the time of the laying of the first egg. When the second and third is laid, the nests are much improved, showing at least some effort in nest-building, for the best Black Tern nest, which is only a handful of decaying vegetable matter, is nothing to marvel at. They are usually kept in good condition until the young are about nine days old, when no more material is brought to the nest, and it appears to be deserted, as the young are probably brooded elsewhere. When not in use the nests soon deteriorate, and a few rains will soon wash them away so that they become unrecognizable.—PAUL WILLIAM HOFFMANN, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Eastern Warbling Vireo Returns and Repeats.**—At my banding station in South Dakota I have banded forty-one Eastern Warbling Vireos (*Vireo g. gilvus*), all taken in a water trap. The following table gives the bandings by months for four years:

	May	June	Aug.	Sept.
1932.....	6	2	1	0
1933.....	2	4	2	0
1934.....	18	3	0	1
1935.....	1	1	0	0

The earliest date of banding was May 13, 1932; the latest date was September 15, 1934. Of these bandings there were four returns and eight repeats. The returns were F97319, banded June 11, 1932, recaptured in the same place August 4, 1933; F97305, banded May 30, 1932, recaptured in the same trap June 6, 1934, after a two-year interval. This bird also repeated June 12, 1934; L3694, banded May 17, 1933 recaptured in the same place May 20, 1934; H93914, banded August 20, 1933, recaptured May 21, 1934. The repeats came back in from one- to twelve-day intervals. One bird repeated twice at two-day intervals. It is interesting to note that three of the four returns came with the largest number of bandings in May and June of 1934.—J. F. BRECKLE, M.D., Northville, South Dakota.

**Two Interesting Red-Eyed Towhee Returns-W.**—In my article "Survival as Indicated by Returns to Summerville, South Carolina" in the October, 1935, number of *Bird-Banding*, pages 125 to 130, it was indicated that returns of Red-eyed Towhees did not point to a very long life-span. Therefore it is of interest to record the taking, during my sojourn in Summerville this winter, of two birds, each presumably at least six and one-half years old. These are A203980, ♂, banded January 4, 1930, and retaken on January 12, 1936, and A234731, ♀, banded February 2, 1930, and retaken this season on December 24, 1935. The latter bird had also been recorded in January, 1931; January, 1934; and January, 1935. The bands on both birds had worn so thin that it was thought best to change them, and they accordingly now carry the numbers 34-246189 and 34-246161, respectively.—WILLIAM P. WHARTON, Summerville, South Carolina.

**Notes on the Wandering of Immature Catbirds.**—For several years the writer has wanted to learn if the scores of immature Catbirds (*Dumetella carolinensis*) banded each season were the young of near-by-nesting summer residents. An opinion based on the inconsistency of single-seasonal matings in which the first nesting was successful has been in the negative.

During the nesting season of 1935 it was decided to secure data bearing on this matter. A diligent search was made for nests of this species in an area extending five hundred feet in all directions from my banding station in Huntington, Long Island, New York, and ten nests were found. In eight of these nests, the young were successfully reared. These fledglings, twenty-seven in all, were banded a few days before they left their nests, and the traps were carefully watched for their appearance. During the post-nesting period, eighty immature Catbirds were taken in the two dozen automatic traps we have at our banding station. Only two of the twenty-seven banded fledglings appeared in the traps. One repeated thirty-one days after leaving the nest, and the other repeated thirty-three days afterward. Each bird only appeared once.

As a means of comparison two nests of Eastern Robins (*Turdus m. migratorius*) and two nests of Wood Thrushes (*Hylocichla mustelina*), containing in all eleven fledglings, were banded, but none appeared in our traps, although other individuals of these species were taken.

Eighteen young Eastern House Wrens (*Troglodytes a. edon*) from four nests on the station grounds gave only two trap repeats. One bird repeated ten days after leaving its nest, and another within eighteen days. Twelve other House Wrens were taken in late July and August.

In the case of a family of Eastern Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella p. passerina*) consisting<sup>1</sup> of three young birds hatched just five hundred feet west of the station, one appeared on June 19th, ten days after leaving the nest. All three young stayed around the banding station for three weeks. One repeated for the last time that season on September 13.

Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta c. cristata*), like the Chipping Sparrows, also appear to confine their immature wanderings to the neighborhood of their nesting area. A family of five young banded in this area, which left the nest on June 11, all appeared in our traps. On July 10th the first one was trapped, and on July 15th three more were caught, the fifth member of this family being taken on the following day. It is probable that they were all together during this time as a family group. One bird never repeated again. One was taken once more in July. Two repeated twice in July, and two repeated through July and August. One of these Blue Jays was again trapped on September 14th.

It would appear from our records that immature Catbirds soon wander away from the neighborhood of their birthplace. It has been noted in many instances that after a successful nesting the male of the pair stays on the territory and mates again with a different female, as proved by colored banding of over one hundred resident adults. It is thought that the female wanders away with her brood at this time, possibly to nest again during the same season at some distance, when her brood has found out how to take care of themselves.—GEOFFREY GILL, 24 Overlook Drive, Huntington, L. I. N. Y.

**Bat-Banding—A Request for Coöperation.**—The example set by bird-banding has led mammalogists to try various methods of marking bats to study their movements and migrations. Over seven thousand bats have been banded to date by various workers in the United States and in Germany and many interesting returns have been recorded.\* However, the lack of popular interest in bats has made it very difficult to secure returns.

Field ornithologists could render extremely valuable coöperation if they would watch for banded bats whenever they have an opportunity. Most of the bats

<sup>1</sup>It is often assumed that the little groups of any species of young birds one observes at the close of the nesting season are of the family order. These observations of Mr. Gill, however, appear to afford the first proof that a brood of Chipping Sparrows and a brood of Blue Jays maintained their integrity at least for several weeks.—THE EDITOR.

\*Eisentraut, M.—*Zeitschrift für Morphologie und Ökologie der Tiere*, 28 Band, 5 Heft; and *Ornithologische Monatsberichte*, 43, 1 and 43, 5; Mohr, C. E.—*Proceedings of the Pennsylvania Academy of Sciences*, Vol. 8, pp. 26-30; Griffin, D. R.—*Journal of Mammalogy*, Vol. 15, No. 3.