

of Port Tobacco, Charles County, Maryland. More than one hundred of these noisy inquisitive creatures were encountered in a single flock and more than half their number were concentrated in one tree. That this large concentration is unusual is evidenced by the fact that in this same area, when spring and summer censuses were taken, only two Blue Jays were counted during an entire day in May, and three during a similar period in July. This would seem to give added support to the belief that large mass movements and migration occur among this species.—CLARENCE COTTAM, Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

A California Shrike Kills Trapped Nuttall's Sparrow.—During the morning of January 21, 1937, I caught a California Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus gambeli*) in my Western Bird-Banding Association two-compartment trap at Benicia, California. A freshly-killed Nuttall's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*) was in the other compartment.

Twice before I have caught Shrikes in this trap, but on each of the other two occasions the birds serving as "bait" in the other compartment were very much alive and excited when the trap was visited. This time, however, the Shrike had killed its victim before getting caught in the other section of the trap.

The victim's throat had been torn open and the body pulled forward against the bars in the front of the cage. The Nuttall's Sparrow was an adult with beautiful white crown-bands and bore an aluminum band which I had placed upon its leg three months before—on October 20, 1936.

It was suggested to me that I kill the villain in this tragedy. However, my bird-killing tendencies being very dormant, I banded and released him.—EMERSON A. STONER, Benicia, California.

Further Tree Swallow Notes.—Several elements of the 1936 Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) breeding season at my station in East Westmoreland, New Hampshire, seem to be of sufficient interest to be recorded. It is concluded that adverse weather conditions during the breeding season were mainly responsible for a rather unsuccessful year. The following table of the 1935 and 1936 seasons are given for a comparison:

1935

79 eggs laid in eighteen nests.
4 eggs addled.
6 young flew, unbanded.
3 young died before banding.
1 young died after banding.
3 adult females were banded.
66 young banded.

RETURNS

34-24337, female, banded on June 16, 1934, a first-year breeder at substation C, returned on July 15, 1935, to the main station.
F60913, male, banded on June 11, 1932, as an immature, a return-3 on April 27, 1935, at box of birth.

1936

105 eggs laid in nineteen nests.
17 eggs addled or destroyed.
4 broods, or part of, flew, unbanded.
25 young died unbanded.
11 young died after banding.
9 adult females were banded.
51 young banded.

RETURNS

L34878, female, banded on May 24, 1934, a return-1 on June 7, 1936.
34-51591, female, banded on June 3, 1935, a return-1 on June 9, 1936.
34-24346, banded as an immature on June 20, 1934, was a recovery on June 18, 1936, at Loudon New Hampshire.
35-56006, banded as an immature on June 16, 1935, returned on May 21, 1936, at Park Hill, Westmoreland, about four miles from the banding station; a female, since she started nesting in a metal mailbox standing on a four-foot post close to the road in front of the house. The nest-material was cleaned out, and, the following day, this bird persisted in another attempt to nest, leaving after her consequent capture.
35-56023, an immature banded on June 16, 1935, was a first-year breeding female to return on June 26, 1936.