

These recoveries were made on the morning after one of this winter's infrequent snow-falls, and the flock of which they are a part has been wintering in the Highlands section of Milford, where the birds have been feeding on the seeds of maples.—H. P. MELZAR, Milford, New Hampshire.

An Immature House Wren, a Return-1.—During 1935 we banded sixty-eight House Wrens (*Troglodytes aëdon aëdon*) at the college Bird Sanctuary. Most of these, sixty-four in all, were immature birds. In 1936, two of our three House Wren returns were birds of the previous year.

House Wren L39497 is of special interest because it is one of seven fledglings banded on June 19, 1935. We removed it on July 10, 1936, from a bird-house about one-fifth of a mile from its birthplace. At the time of recovery, four of the Wren's seven eggs had just hatched.—EUGENE J. GOELLNER, St. Anselm's College Ornithological Society, Manchester, New Hampshire.

Nesting Hummingbirds.—A line of eight large rock maples, approximately one hundred years old and about twenty-five feet apart, borders our driveway close to our banding station in Peterboro, New Hampshire. Each season during a period of at least three years a pair of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) has nested near our home, and three of their nests have been found. The first one was found on the ground in October, 1934, beneath a tree in which an occupied nest was found in 1936. This nest was placed forty feet from the ground. Still another occupied nest was discovered in 1935 built in an adjoining maple and placed fifteen feet from the ground. These three nests were built of the hairy wool from near-by cinnamon ferns, and the outsides were studded with a pale green lichen which grows in abundance on the boles of all the maples. The nests were built, one each year, during 1934, 1935, and 1936. It should be stated that the branches of the two maples containing the nests were deeply interlocked so as to appear as a single tree, at least to the birds.

The above facts seem to justify the conclusion that these three nestings are not placed close together accidentally, but are due rather to a habit this species possesses of returning and nesting, if not actually in the same tree year after year, then in an adjoining one.

No information is available as to the individuals composing the three nesting pairs. The presumption is, however, that one or both the pairs composing the 1934 pair, or their descendants, built the 1935 and 1936 nests also, rather than that the locations of the three nests were fortuitous.

The line of the interlocking maples extends unbroken in both directions from those containing the nests, but the others contained no nests during the three years, and in the surrounding territory of some fifteen acres no Nesting Hummingbirds were observed. The two occupied nests were found by seeing the birds fly to them, the presence of the birds in the maples first having been discovered by hearing the whir of their wings.—CHARLES L. WHITTLE and HELEN G. WHITTLE, Peterboro, New Hampshire.

A Hepburn's Rosy Finch Wintering in Maine.—As the occurrence of a Hepburn's Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotia littoralis*) in Maine this winter is the first authentic record of any one of the six species or subspecies of *Leucosticte* occurring east of the Mississippi River, it is appropriate to give the record wide publicity, especially as the bird was trapped and banded. Dr. Alfred O. Gross, using an old "return" band, number 1276, supplied by Arthur H. Norton, trapped and banded the bird on March 7, 1937. The bird was first seen on the feeding shelf of Mr. and Mrs. Vardell Waterman, at Gorham, Maine, on December 15, 1936. Later, it was identified as being a Rosy Finch by Miss Jessie L. Keene; and still later, from detailed description, measurements, etc., it was definitely

identified by Dr. Gross as a Hepburn's Rosy Finch. This race is found in nesting time above timber-line on the mountains of the Alaskan peninsula, east and south to central Oregon, wintering on the Pacific Coast from Kodiak Island to Vancouver Island, southeast to the mountains of Oregon, Nevada, Montana, Wyoming, Utah and Colorado.

Dr. Gross has happily refrained from "collecting" the bird, and up to March 20, 1937, he states the bird "is still alive to be enjoyed and studied by numerous ornithologists and bird lovers who continue to journey to Gorham to see this finch."—CHARLES L. WHITTLE.

RECENT LITERATURE

(Reviews by Margaret M. Nice and Thomas T. McCabe)

The articles have been selected and arranged under subjects of importance to students of the living bird, and also for the purpose of suggesting problems, or aspects of problems, to those banders who wish to make the most of their unique opportunities.

Headings in quotation-marks are the exact titles of articles or literal translations of such titles. Except in the case of books, which are always reviewed under their titles, headings not in quotation marks refer to general subjects, or are abbreviated from titles in foreign languages. References to periodicals are given in italics. Reviews by Mr. McCabe are signed with his initials.

BANDING AND MIGRATION

"On Changes in Numbers of *Regulus r. regulus* (L.)".—¹"Linear counts"—all birds noted within a strip forty meters wide—showed an abundance of Golden-crested Wrens in November and December, 1934, but only one tenth as many in February. In April and May the number was doubled or tripled through the return of migrating birds, but by October, 1935, only a few were left. The fall of 1934 was mild and the birds failed to migrate; that of 1935 was cold and they were stimulated to leave. "The Golden-crested Wren is a typical representative of those birds in which the migratory instinct functions in only a part of the population. . . . At the period when migration may take place, low temperature stimulates the migratory impulse and sets the greater part of the population in motion. If cold comes after the waning of the migratory impulse, migration is no longer possible. Those birds that have remained have little prospect of surviving the winter." (See No. 20.)

"The Average Direction; Terminology and Theory in Regard to Bird Migration."²—After discussing Baron von Geyr's ideas as to the "normal direction" of migration, particularly in respect to the White Stork (*Ciconia c. ciconia*) with its eastern and western routes, Dr. Rüppell concludes that the migration route of this bird is conditioned by two factors: "inborn normal direction" and "guiding ecological factors." The young follow the experienced adults.

"The Dependence of the Start of Migration-Restlessness on Latitude in Birds Removed from their Homes."³—In the spring of 1936 a number of male White-throats (*Sylvia communis*) were captured on Helgoland; ten of these were taken to Australia and back. The "migration-restlessness" of the controls that remained in Helgoland (as shown by recording cages) started on August 6th with two birds, August 16th with another, and September 3d and 8th with two others. No restlessness was shown by the experimental birds until September 21st, when the ship reached latitude 20° N., the latitude of the winter home of this species; all six began simultaneously. With the control birds the migratory impulse appeared after the molt was fairly well completed; no data are given as to the molt of the experimentals.