

trunk. The sound of hammering reached my ears. Spells of hammering were interrupted frequently, but only long enough for the bird's head to appear through the nest-hole as she inspected the net. For almost two hours the bird kept up this behavior while I watched. Then I went to the tree as quietly as possible from such a direction as to be completely hidden from the opening. There I waited until there was a pause in the hammering and the scratching sounds told me that she had climbed to her perch of inspection at the hole. I struck the trunk a resounding blow with a piece of barrel stave. There was a brief scratching inside, and the hammering began again.

A tactual survey of the tree trunk with my finger tips revealed that the bird was drilling a hole on the opposite side of the tree from the original nest-opening, a back door, so to speak. How could such a woodpecker be captured? As I went away the drum-beat of her carpentry continued as long as I was within ear-shot.

Next day I passed by that tree again. The nest was deserted. The back door had not been completed.—G. HARGOOD PARKS, 99 Warrenton Ave., Hartford, Connecticut.

Report on a sick Northern White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis carolinensis* Lath.) Adult ♀ No. 138-14509, banded December 11, 1938 at Laceyville, Pennsylvania. Trapped in a Potter single cell trap on a window feeding shelf. Was retaken in the following manner—on January 20, 1939, I noticed a feathery ball clinging to the trunk of a large maple tree, about four feet above the ground, and on examining more closely realized it was a nuthatch. I easily picked the little bird off the tree trunk, and noticed the band which, upon checking my records, revealed the banding data given above. The nuthatch was put in a gathering cage, and kept warm in the kitchen. The little visitor shivered with chills, and showed considerable weakness. It tried to eat some peanuts, but became weaker and died in the evening.

The nuthatch was immediately sent to Dr. C. Brooke Worth, who was then at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa. I received a letter from Dr. Worth dated January 28, 1939, which contained interesting data, and quote here parts from his letter: "Allow me to express my gratitude to you for submitting the nuthatch. Due to the pressure of the new semester I was unable to work on it until 24 hours after receiving it, so that decomposition had advanced rather farther than desirable. However, I was able to observe the following pathologic changes: Plumage, skeleton, and muscular development normal. Subcutaneous fat deficient. One lung markedly congested. Stomach contained gravel but no food. Intestines showed profound hemorrhages throughout. Microscopical examination of intestinal blood disclosed many small cysts. Liver grossly normal. Pancreas, spleen, and gonads liquefied (decomposed). Kidney normal."

On the basis of the observations I believe that the bird had a hemorrhagic enteritis caused by some sort of amoeba, and that the immediate cause of death was a terminal pneumonitis consequent upon malnutrition and lowered resistance."—CHARLES C. VANDERVORT, Laceyville, Pennsylvania.

A Migratory White-Breasted Nuthatch.—The White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis carolinensis* Lath.) is generally considered a permanent resident, although it is said to make some migration during the winter from its extreme northerly range to a more southerly region.

E. H. Forbush writes, in his "Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States," "They often appear in winter where they never breed," while Thomas S. Roberts states, in his "Birds of Minnesota," 1936, under General Range, "The White-breasted Nuthatch is resident where found." F. C. Lincoln, in his book on migration, 1939, makes the statement that in the coastal plane between Washington, D. C., and the ocean, the White-breasted Nuthatch is usually absent during the summer, retiring to the higher Piedmont country to breed, and late in the fall it appears in the wooded lowlands, where it remains until the following

March and April. Lincoln gives a record of a banded White-breasted Nuthatch showing a northward migration. This bird was banded at Middleboro, Massachusetts, on February 22, 1926; and two months later, April 23, 1926, it was caught by a cat at St. George, New Brunswick.

During the past six years I have banded 35 White-breasted Nuthatches at my Ardmore, Pa., station. From this number I have had seven returns, six of which I would consider permanent residents on the basis of their repeats in my traps. The seventh one may possibly be a migratory bird. This bird was banded at Ardmore June 27, 1940, and repeated once on September 19, 1940, and did not return again until October 20, 1941, and was not retaken after that date until November 29, 1942. Since there was a lapse of over a year between each return, it may indicate a possible migration.

Recently I received a recovery report from the Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington, showing an actual migration of one of my White-breasted Nuthatches. This bird, an adult female, No. 39-169253, was banded at the Ardmore, Pa., station on December 31, 1939, and about three years later, on February 14, 1943, it was found frozen to death at Barrytown, Dutchess County, New York, a distance of about 200 air miles north of the Ardmore, Pa., station, the place of banding. Due to the fact that banding records of White-breasted Nuthatches showing actual migration appear to be rare, I thought it may be of interest so report this recovery.—HORACE GROSKIN, 210 Glenn Road, Ardmore, Pennsylvania.

The Second Nesting of the Red-Wing on Cape Cod.—In the *Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States*, volume 2, page 430 (1927), Forbush states that he has "seen no conclusive evidence" that the Red-wing (*Agelaius p. phoeniceus* (Linn.)) raises two broods yearly in New England. The following observations show that some Red-wings do nest twice in one season on Cape Cod.

On May 2, 1936, while at the Austin Ornithological Research Station, North Eastham, Massachusetts, I heard a female Red-wing give an extraordinary call, quite unlike any Red-wing note I had ever heard. During the next few days I saw the bird frequently, identifying her easily by her call, and noted that she was wearing a band. On the 18th, she flew off a nest in some bushes over the pond. There was a house trap near her nest where Red-wings often were caught, and on May 21, as I approached the trap I saw this female inside and heard her sound her characteristic call. Her number was A277036, banded May 2, 1931, and caught yearly thereafter. She had been caught in the trap before, but could not be identified certainly with the bird I was watching until she called in the trap. A male, A277830, banded June 13, 1932, also frequented the trap, and was probably her mate. On June 10 two young were banded in her nest, 34-258924 and 34-258925. At that time sixteen pairs of Red-wings were breeding on the pond.

Forbush gives June 18 as the late nesting date for Red-wings in Massachusetts. On June 27, 1936, I made a second census of the Red-wing nests on the pond. All the young had flown from the nests in use on June 10, and six new nests with eggs were discovered. From one new nest, located about twenty feet from her first, A277036 flew up, calling characteristically in her alarm. There were no eggs in it then, but on July 8 she was again observed on this second nest, with four unhatched eggs. Observations terminated before the second brood could be banded.—FRED M. PACKARD, Ensign, U.S.N.R.

Heavy Flight of Purple Finches.—It has surprised me neither to hear nor to read any mention of last spring's (1943) flight of Eastern Purple Finches (*Carpodacus p. purpureus* Gmel.). My own station was visited, during February