SPRING ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

Year	First Arrivals	Total Arrived		Date All Had Departed
1914	April 5			
1917	April 5			
1918	March 24		March 29—2000	
1919	March 20	March 25—2000	May 21— 500	May 27
1920				May 20
1921	March 11	March 12— 50	April 1—1500	May 10
1925			May 10— 500	

Ivers S. Adams, Hardwick, Massachusetts.

Living Young Tree Swallows Attacked by Carrion Beetle.—Several years ago I banded a brood of four young Tree Swallows. The nest was clean and the young birds healthy and nearly old enough to fly at the time of banding, but several days of cold rainy weather followed. Just seven days later when I returned to the banding station the adult Tree Swallows were still carrying food to the nesting box. A young fledgling was found dead on the ground beneath the nesting box, another dead in the nest; one fledgling, seemingly slightly injured, flew weakly when the nesting box was opened and a fourth fledgling attempted to fly but dropped to the ground. The latter bird's left wing was badly eaten so the raw area was immediately treated with mercurochrome and the patient placed on a Cape Cod feeder near the nesting box where the adults continued to feed it for a number of days. The injured portion healed but the tissues were so badly damaged that it was unable to fly and doubtless fell prey to some prowling cat.

Upon examining the nesting box a carrion beetle was found which was probably attracted by the foul odor of the dead young and wet nesting material. It proceeded to bury the contents even attacking the living young.

This may be a more common occurrence than is generally known, as I recalled previous injuries to fledgling Tree Swallows and Bluebirds at the time of banding; such as missing nails, bleeding feet and otherwise seemingly healthy young birds buried under the nesting material. Also when boxing nests for shipment to the U. S. Bureau of Entomology for determination of parasites some carrion beetles were observed, but apparently they ate their way out as none were reported as being found.—Olive P. Wetherbee, 11 Dallas Street, Worcester 4, Massachusetts.

Chickadee and Catbird Returns.—On October 31, 1944, a Chickadee bearing Band 36-31053, which had been banded at this station as a juvenile on August 21, 1936, was recaptured. Thus this bird was well over eight years old. It had returned in 1937, 1938, 1939, and on August 15, 1941, not appearing since the last named date.

On August 10, 1944, a Catbird bearing Band 38-126465, which had been banded at this station as an adult female on June 21, 1938, was recaptured. Thus this bird was at least seven years old. This bird had returned twice previously, in the years 1940 and 1941.—William P. Wharton, Groton, Massachusetts.

Banding Nomenclature.—The banding nomenclature as suggested by Harold B. Wood in the July 1944 issue of *Bird-Banding* (15: 115-116) seems to be a very logical classification for recapture records of banded birds. With two minor exceptions, it is the system I have used in my work. But I like the terms Return-1, Return-2, Return-5 to indicate the actual number of times the individual has been a return at the station since the dates that always accompany this designation indicate the number of years that have elapsed after banding. Thus my designation "White Throated Sparrow, banded Oct. 10, 1938, Return-5, Oct. 10, 1943" signifies it has been retaken each year during the five years, while "White Throated Sparrow, banded Oct. 10, 1938, Return-3, Oct. 10, 1943" shows clearly that it was retrapped at the station as a return in three out of the five years.

There is a definite need of a term for the banded bird that is trapped by another

bander. Dr. Wood suggests "Rescue" as the designation. There is one objection to the term. It is misleading for it suggests that the bird was saved from danger, a deceptive connotation. At present, many are using the term "foreign recovery." There are more suitable words that should be considered, such as "Retrieve," "Regain" which are synonyms of recovery. Since the word retrieve is suggestive of the hunter's vocabulary, my choice is "Regain," a happy-sounding definition of what is usually a momentous occasion to the cooperator who catches the bird.

It is essential that a uniform set of terms be adopted and it is equally essential that the terms be kept simple and clear; otherwise it will be difficult to translate banding results in terms understood by other workers.—AMELIA R. LASKEY, Graybar Lane, Nashville 4, Tennessee.

A Study of Bird "Pox," or "Foot Disease."—The condition known variously as "foot disease," bird "pox," *epithelioma contagiosum*, etc., is well known to many bird banders. This disease is due to a virus infection which is in some manner passed from bird to bird. It produces wart-like, nodular or fungating growths on the toes and tarsi which deform, cause bleeding and scab formation, and often auto-amputation occurs. At times, it may spread to areas about the base of the bill. It is particularly common in chipping sparrows but has also been reported in other sparrows, finches, thrashers, flickers, and others.

Much remains to be learned regarding this ailment. I am making a study of some aspects of it. Bird banders have unique opportunities to observe it and to secure material for study. I would greatly appreciate whatever assistance they can give me.

From those who have observed this condition, I would like to have answers to the following questions. Name, address, location of banding station, in what species has the condition been observed (with details if possible), how often observed in various species, has any seasonal or annual incidence been noticed, have you seen it in any other location than your present station?

If, at any time, banders can secure any of the tumor material, I would like to receive it for experimental study. The virus remains viable in the tissues for relatively long periods (several days). Bits of it, or the diseased parts, can be broken off and sent by mail. Do not put in alcohol or water.—GORDON M. MEADE, M.D., University of Rochester School of Medicine, Rochester, New York.

RECENT LITERATURE

Reviews by Donald S. Farner

BANDING

1. Recovery of Marked Birds. E. P. Leach. 1944. *British Birds*, 38(2): 28-32. Several interesting recoveries are included in the 93 reported in this paper. Among them are records of a Starling, *(Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* L.), banded in York, January 25, 1939, and recovered at Hvalpsund, Denmark, March 1943; another Starling banded at Malvern, October 28, 1936, and recovered at Heerenveen, Holland, June 19, 1943; a third Starling banded at the same locality, January 16, 1936, and recovered at Rotterdam, Holland, January 9, 1941; Swallow *(Hirundo rustica rustica* L.), banded at Sedbergh, June 26, 1942, and recovered in Cape Province, December 8, 1942; Teal *(Anas crecca crecca* L.), banded at Pembroke, October 26, 1939, and recovered at Karlshamn, Sweden, April 10, 1944; Teal, same banding locality, December 29, 1939, recovered at Nakskov, Denmark, August 27, 1940; Teal, same banding locality, December 12, 1939, recovered at Heerenveen, Holland, May 5, 1943; Widgeon *(Anas penelope* L.), banded at Pembroke, December 22, 1938, and recovered at Ovro, Denmark, February, 1943; Cormorant, *(Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* (L.)), banded at Lambay, June 13, 1939,