

flower seed, peanut hearts and other nut meats have been used extensively, the nut meats with variable success.

Even if the banding project carried on during the past few years with the Evening Grosbeaks had done nothing toward increasing our knowledge of the species, it still would have been a huge success. It has renewed the spark of interest in some banders whose activities had reached a low ebb; it has stimulated co-operative studies; it has brought forth many new, young, enthusiastic banders. It is contended that this alone would have made all the effort worth while, for it ensures the future of the bird-banding method of ornithological investigation.

Evening Grosbeak Survey
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Trapping English Sparrows.—I have been very much interested in the recent notes in *Bird-Banding* about traps to catch English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*), and hope my experience will be of help to other banders and operators of feeding stations. I have had excellent results with six Dyke Potter traps, purchased at the Massachusetts Audubon Society. I have trapped 1,025 English Sparrows from October 23, 1949, to October 2, 1950, and broke all previous daily records on September 24th with a catch of 70. I place the traps on the ground (as sparrows are natural ground feeders) near some shrubbery; for bait, I use a mixture of chick scratch and yellow millet, putting bait inside of traps and sprinkle a little around the traps and when this is gone they will enter the traps for more. I felt sure there must be a suitable trap to catch English Sparrows and the answer is the Dyke traps. I had tried other makes and have not had success until I used the Dyke trap. I might add I had excellent results with the Dyke trap this summer by capturing and banding 34 Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*) and 91 Catbirds (*Dumetella carolinensis*).—Margaret A. Fitzgerald, 1 Fitzgerald Lane, Amsterdam, New York.

A Nine-year-old Cardinal.—On April 15, 1941, a female Cardinal, *Richmondia cardinalis* Linnaeus, entered a trap in my yard at Louisville, Kentucky, and received band No. 40-240104. This bird returned two years later on April 18, 1943, and evidently nested in the neighborhood as she repeated on May 8, June 29 and July 1. In 1944, she drifted into a trap on February 12. She was again present and probably nested close by in the summer of 1945, being trapped on April 18 and June 17. She was not taken during the 1946 season, but reappeared on April 19, 1947, and repeated twice more during the month (April 21 and 27). The Cardinal was absent during 1948 and was believed dead. It was an agreeable surprise when the long-lived bird returned on February 23, 1949. Her last appearance was on April 15, 1950, exactly 9 years after the time she was first taken. Since she must have been nearly 1 year old when first banded, her age must have been within 2 or 3 months of 10 years when trapped the last time.

When this Cardinal was taken in 1949, it was noted that her face around the eye was becoming gray. The band too had worn rather thin. In 1950 the graying of the face was very noticeable giving the bird a distinctly elderly appearance. She seemed strong and vigorous, however. She struggled violently when being handled and managed to bite me sharply. The band had worn paper thin and was extremely loose on the bird's leg, but the numbers were still perfectly visible. A second band, No. 45-202227, was added to the opposite leg, as a precaution against the loss of the worn band. The old band was left in place in the hope of obtaining data on how long a band of this size will last. It will be noted that the Cardinal appeared in my traps in April on 5 different years, from April 15 to 19. On the two other years she first "arrived" in February. Since the Cardinal is certainly a non-migratory bird in this locality, the regularity of appearance must be considered as a local population shifting from winter feeding areas perhaps in search of a breeding territory and a mate. Similar regularity of appearance in April has been noted with several other Cardinals over a shorter period of time.—Harvey B. Lovell, Biology Department, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky.