and Wildlife Service) for permission to publish details of his bird; to Mr. O. L. Austin, Jr., for details of the Least Tern recovery and permission to publish them; to Mr. Seth H. Low of the Banding Office of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for details of the Caspian Tern and confirmation that it was the oldest bird in his files; and to Miss Elsie P. Leach, Hon. Secretary of the Bird-Ringing Committee of the British Trust for Ornithology, for a listing of old terns and the Black-headed Gull (each of which had appeared in *British Birds*), and confirmation that no older birds were contained in her files.—E. Alexander Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford 7, Conn.

Mourning Dove in Nova Scotia.—Dr. Oliver L. Austin, Jr., in his excellent article, "The Mourning Dove on Cape Cod" (*Bird-Banding*, Vol. 22, No. 4, October, 1951), mentions one recovery of rather unusual interest. He states, "An immature not long out of the nest when banded August 25, 1950, and which never repeated, was found dead October 28, 1950, at Mabou, Inverness County, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia." The bird was reported to have been fat and probably dead only a short time.

Although in my discussion with him Dr. Austin preferred to adopt a neutral position in the matter, the history of weather conditions at the time appears worthy of recording. Examination of the daily weather maps issued as of 1.30 a.m., E. S. T., by the U. S. Department of Commerce shows that the map for September 12, 1950, carried a printed Hurricane Warning. The storm center was 85 miles east of Nantucket. Winds of 100 miles per hour prevailed at the storm-center. Hurricane winds prevailed over a radius of 100 miles and gale winds extended the radius another 100 miles. The map itself showed a Beaufort Scale reading of 10 (55 miles to 63 miles per hour) for the wind at the Nantucket lightship.

At 1.30 p.m. the storm-center was at approximately 40° North Latitude, 65° West Longitude, as shown on the small insert map on the daily map for September 13. This small map, unfortunately, does not indicate wind velocities, but does cover a wider portion of the Atlantic Ocean than appears on the major map. The storm had moved off the area covered by the major map. At 1.30 p.m. on September 13 the storm had moved easterly, the center being at about 40° North Latitude, 60° West Longitude.

Although not conclusive, this storm situation does provide a reasonable hypothesis for the occurrence of the mourning dove at Mabou. Lending support to the theory is the weather pattern which existed prior to December 13, 1949, on which date a northern clapper rail, the fifth known record for the state, was obtained near West Waldoboro, Maine. I have discussed this in detail, *Bulletin of the Maine Audubon Society*, Vol. 6, No. 2, April, 1950, Page 29. Mr. James Bond reported a sixth record, *l.c.*, Vol. 7, No. 1, January, 1951, Page 14. A bird was procured near Southwest Harbor in August, 1950, the exact date being unknown. It is at least worth mention, however, that on August 21, 1950, a hurricane was approximately 125 miles east of Nantucket with winds of 100 miles per hour extending 80 miles outward from the center.

Cumulatively over a period of years, the relation of storms to occurrences of an accidental or casual nature may become more evident than is apparent at this time when the total available information is scanty.—Wendell Taber, 3 Mercer Circle, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Chimney Swift Returns at Kent, Ohio, in 1951.—The pattern of annual returns of banded Chimney Swifts, *Chaetura pelagica* (Linnaeus), on the campus of Kent State University over a period of five years was reported in the *Bull. Ecol. Soc. Amer.* (30(4): 51. 1949). Returns in 1950 were briefly summarized in the *Inland Bird Banding News* (23(1): 4. 1951). The returns obtained in 1951 are analyzed here. A total of 45 Chimney Swifts banded in previous years were recaptured. Of these, 14 were males, 15 were females, and 16 have not yet had the sex determined. The number returning from each year's banding was as follows: 1944(6); 1945(1); 1946(1); 1947(5); 1948(9); 1949(10); 1950(13). Thirty of the returning birds nested in the air shafts of four university buildings, each of the 15 pairs residing in a separate air shaft. Three pairs had the same mates and nested in the same shaft as in 1950. Nine birds nested in the same shaft as in 1950 but with a change of mate. Seven had a change of both mate

and nesting shaft. Eight Swifts were nesting on the campus for the first time so far as known. Fourteen birds which were recaptured before the nesting season began were taken from the air shafts where they later nested, while 11 captured before nest building started later moved into other shafts for nesting. Eight Swifts returned to the campus before nesting began, but did not remain to nest on the campus. Two of these returned to the shafts in which they had nested in 1950, but soon disappeared. Three others appeared again on the campus after nesting was over for the year. Six were not found on the campus until after nesting was completed. One non-breeding bird was a fairly regular visitor with the mated pair in shaft E1 until it perished during an experiment in a respirometer, while another one was an occasional visitor throughout the nesting season with the mates in shaft S1. One bird (42-188553) banded on August 6, 1948, while roosting in shaft E1 with nine other Swifts, was not seen again for two years. It was recaptured on August 19, 1950, from shaft U1 with 13 other birds. It was never captured again on the campus, but was found dying on the sidewalk across from the campus in the early evening of July 2, 1951, by Paul Koval, a university student. —Ralph W. Dexter, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Unusual Flock Behavior of Tree Swallows.—On September 20, 1951, at about 2 p.m., in Essex, Massachusetts, at a pond about 150 yards long where I was observing other birds, I suddenly heard and saw from 75 to 150 Tree Swallows, *Iridoprocne bicolor* (Vieillot), swerve over the middle of the pond. They were calling loudly, and the rush of their wings was louder than I have ever heard it.

They descended as a group to the level of the water, and apparently scooped up water with their bills. One bird in the group was seen to make two passes before the whole group swooped up as a unit. They circled in a tight circle about 100 feet in diameter and repeated the descent and subsequent ascent. This behavior they repeated six or eight times. After the last pass at the water, the birds flew off, presumably resuming migration, and flew out of sight.

The most striking characteristic of this performance was that the birds at all times flew as an integrated flock, all engaged in the same activity. They were all moving in the same direction, much as a shorebird flock does in flight, except when the individual birds were actually making passes at the water to drink. I find no reference to this behavior in either Bent's life history of this species or Forbush's *Birds of Massachusetts and other New England States*, the only reference books I have at hand.—George G. Loring, Prides Crossing, Mass.

Intermittent Trapping of a Chickadee.—As a species, the Black-capped Chickadee, *Penthestes a. atricapillus* (Linnaeus), is rather remarkable for the problems it poses for the ornithologist and particularly the bird-bander. It is commonly regarded as sedentary and, in truth, there is but little evidence available for regular or extensive migrations except toward the limits of its range.

One bird in my files gives instructive data on the way the trapping habits of the species may mislead one. This female was banded as an immature 18 July 1948 with band 48-16208 and was color banded 18 May 1950. Its history is tabulated below.

1948—18 July - 2 Nov. Trapped 7 times; longest trapping interval 47 days. Apparent absence 103 days.
1949—13 Feb. - 17 Mar. Trapped twice; trapping interval 32 days. Apparent absence 157 days.
11 Aug. - 19 Nov. Trapped 9 times; longest trapping interval 53 days. Apparent absence 132 days.
1950—1 Apr. - 30 May. Trapped 7 times; longest trapping interval 21 days. Seen twice in the next 62 days.
2 Aug. - 10 Dec. Trapped 37 times; longest trapping interval 14 days. Seen 14 times in the next 90 days.
1951—10 Mar. - 10 June. Trapped 8 times; longest trapping interval 29 days. Seen 4 times in the next 53 days.
2 Aug. - 3 Nov. Trapped 43 times; longest trapping interval 13 days. Seen 9 times in the next 97 days.

This bird nested less than 50 yards from my traps in 1951. Without positive proof for 1948 and 1949, the evidence favors the conclusion that this bird has