

In spite of the small number of nestings observed, it may be well to give my statistics on success. Five nestings have been observed and four of these to fledging. The probabilities, following Davis (1952), are: for hatching 0.75, for fledging from eggs 0.68 and for fledging from nestlings 1.00. The other probabilities seem to have little significance for so small a sample. There is another point to be made. Davis follows the usually accepted custom for computing such probabilities. The custom ignores the possibility that clutch size may be a factor in survival. The results may be weighted for the frequency of clutch sizes and the consequences of varying size by computing the probabilities for each clutch and then averaging. If this is done we find: for hatching 0.73, for fledging from eggs 0.66 and for fledging from nestlings 1.00.

It is not strange that the two methods should, in this case, yield almost the same results. The number of eggs laid is 5 or 6 with an average of 5.6 per clutch. The average number of nestlings is 4.2, or taking only the nests in which some eggs hatched, is 5.2. The difference in the last two figures comes from the desertion, in 1948, of 5 eggs before hatching.

I have elsewhere, as cited below, discussed the notes of young and adults and the flight of this species.

The general level of nesting success would seem to point to the conclusion that the scarcity of Rough-winged Swallows north of extreme southern New England is a phenomenon of the adults and does not stem from any difficulty of raising the young. This matter would repay examination elsewhere in the northeast.

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The Rough-winged Swallow at South Windsor, Conn.—Dr. Blake's note (above) has prompted me to set down brief comments on the nesting of this species at the edge of the Connecticut River in South Windsor, Conn. My only definite record was in 1948, in the middle of the large Bank Swallow colony (see *Bird-Banding*, **22**: 54-63, April, 1951), though no intensive search has been made for this species. The hole was apparently excavated by the birds themselves, being somewhat larger than the Bank Swallow holes, but much smaller than the Belted Kingfisher holes. At South Windsor at least two pairs of Kingfishers nest annually in the Bank Swallow colony, but make no incomplete burrows (as there are no stones in the soil) and the river generally washes away each season's holes in the course of the following winter. Like the Bank Swallows, the Rough-wings dug a hole too deep for the nest to be reached without enlarging the hole. Adult 47-19563 was banded on June 6, 1948 and retaken on June 26 in the same burrow; in neither case was the other adult present, contrary to general expectation in the Bank Swallows. In each case the bird was taken with a cardboard tube and cellophane bag; one fledgling of flying age (47-19846) was taken in the same way in the burrow on July 10, at which time there were three more young in the nest, feathered but not quite ready to fly out, while two adults flew about nearby. The fledgling resembled the fledgling Bank Swallows in having conspicuous cinnamon feather edgings, but these were noticeably more prominent, particularly on the shoulders.—E. Alexander Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford 7, Conn.

Evening Grosbeak Banded in Connecticut, Recovered in Manitoba.—In March and April, 1950, we banded 110 Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) at our previous station at 233 Ridgewood Road, West Hartford, Conn. This number was trifling compared to the totals at some other stations in the northeast, such as that of Mr. G. H. Parks in Hartford, where 1286 were banded that winter (*Bird-Banding*, **23**: 145). However, from that group of 110 grosbeaks we have by chance obtained a recovery which represents, as nearly as can be

determined from the Patuxent files, (1) the greatest known distance between point of recovery and point of banding for the species—about 1525 miles; (2) the farthest west recovery for any grosbeak banded in the northeast—compared to recoveries in Wisconsin and Ontario; and (3) the second or third farthest north recovery of the species in Manitoba.

This female Evening Grosbeak, 50-100794, was banded on March 22, 1950. It was found dead, partly devoured by a cat, at The Pas, Churchill District, Manitoba, on April 14, 1952, by Mr. Sam Waller, a teacher at the Indian School there. The band was submitted and verified at the time the recovery was reported by Mr. W. Winston Mair. This area is about three hundred miles north-northwest of the area around Winnipeg where most previous Manitoba grosbeak recoveries had been reported (including a number from the big Magee station at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. The only Manitoba recovery definitely known to be north of The Pas was banded by Mr. Magee: 38-222121, banded April 2, 1938 and found February 27, 1939 at Moose Lake, some 50 miles northeast of The Pas.

When a detailed study of the Evening Grosbeak is made, it may prove to be significant that a number of the most distant recoveries are of birds banded in the northeast in 1949-50, and found in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, or in Wisconsin, thereafter. Since the 1949-50 flight in the northeast was very large, and the 1950-51 flight quite small, it may be that a sizeable proportion of the flocks which wintered here in the earlier season migrated far to the westward that summer. On the other hand, it is conceivable that the magnitude of the 1949-50 flight was due to sizeable numbers of birds from the western part of the breeding range, which merely returned westward. Despite the extensive banding of the species, its movements are still not an open book.—E. Alexander Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford 7, Conn.

A winter recovery of a banded Killdeer.—On May 9, 1950, at the University Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor, Michigan, I color-banded three Killdeers (*Charadrius vociferus*). These birds had hatched between 9:20 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. that day. I had checked this nest twice daily since finding it on May 5. The first time that I heard the young "peeping" inside the shell was at 6:35 p.m. on May 7; a fourth egg did not hatch.

On January 11, 1951, Mrs. Elsie Vinson of Brewster, Florida, found one of the banded birds (Red above 48-204992) with a broken wing eight miles southwest of Brewster, Polk County, Florida. Mrs. Vinson wrote to me that she had placed "a makeshift splint" on the bird's wing, but that the bird later escaped from the box in which it was placed. She further stated that "several weeks later" one of her children saw the banded bird with a small group of Killdeer, and that it was able to fly. The banded bird was not seen after that.—Andrew J. Berger, Department of Anatomy, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Electrocution of a Baltimore Oriole.—Birds commonly perch on bare electric wires without harm because they are not grounded and they have very little capacitance. On rare occasions, however, accidents occur which destroy birds by electrocution. A specific case was called to attention when a student, Walter Keller, found a dead male Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) on May 12, 1948, on the street adjacent to our campus. The feet and lower portion of the tarsi had been completely burned off and the bill and forehead bore a deeply grooved burn. The specimen had a strong odor of burned horn. Apparently it had perched on one wire and touched another one, or possibly a wet branch of a tree, with its bill thus short-circuiting the electric current which destroyed the bird.—Ralph W. Dexter, Department of Biology, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Longevity Record for Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*).—On September 21, 1952, I trapped the chimney swifts roosting in a sixty-three foot, free standing chimney of the Junior High School, 307 Third Avenue, Rome, Floyd County, Georgia. 6,985 birds were recovered from this chimney of which 21 were found to be already carrying bands. One of the 21 foreign re-traps, Band No. 38-87838, was originally banded at Queen's University, Kingston, Kingston City,