

The possible objection is that native birds of course can be caught, as well as sparrows, and will die unless soon removed. However, in my experience, only two birds other than sparrows have entered; both were wrens, and one was released unhurt; the other, a very young bird, was dead when found. To minimize this risk, the trap may be placed in a position frequented by sparrows and therefore apt to be avoided by other birds, and examined during the nest hunting season as often as possible; or the rack can be detached during that time.

My nest-box trap was built in April, 1913, and cost only a trifle. Since its erection, or a year and six months to date, it has caught 152 sparrows, with no attention except to remove and destroy the victims. Five or six live sparrows have been taken out at one time.

I often feel that the stern necessity for constant war against the sparrow is not properly kept in mind by all of us as bird lovers. Nest boxes and martin houses are worse than useless if not carefully guarded; feeding devices for winter birds are monopolized by sparrows sooner or later in the majority of cases. It is not enough that we occasionally use the dust-shot gun or air rifle; there must be active antagonism as nearly all the time as possible. It seems to me that the nest-box trap above referred to affords a constant means of destruction, and I urge its adoption by all those interested in the preservation of our native birds.

T. H. W.

*Iowa, October, 1914.*

#### WHERE ARE THE CHICKADEES?

There are no Chickadees in the vicinity of Oberlin, Ohio. It would be interesting to know if they have gone farther south than is their custom in winter. Reports from more southern counties indicate that there is no lack of Chickadees there. The editor would be glad to receive reports on the Chickadee for this winter.