

tail in the pan of water and then as he fed it froze to the tray. When he flew away two tail feathers were left on the tray.

We are hoping that the bird will either remain here or return next winter.—LUCY STROCK CHAPIN, Hartford, Conn.

White-throats in Cohasset, Mass.*—Except near the coast-line the White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) is a very uncommon winter resident in Massachusetts, at least in the latitude of Cohasset, approximately 42° 15' north, and even in Cohasset the number of birds wintering is variable, never large and often they are practically absent. The winter season of 1925-26 is one of great scarcity of this species. Whether or not White-throats winter in Cohasset appears to depend on the shuffle and deal of the various factors collectively called weather affecting their southward migration. In migration periods, however, many of this species are observed. Unavoidable weather conditions during the fall migration, such as heavy and early snows, are believed to be the main reason why this species is fairly common during some winters. Conversely, a warm and stormless fall appears to make for few White-throats in Cohasset the following winter, and such, as we have just said, is the present winter season.

A study of our banding records during four winter seasons, beginning with the season of 1922-23, shows thus far no evidence that certain birds or groups of birds of this species regularly travel either north or south *via* this locality, and the same is found to be true at other Cohasset stations. We have had, however, two White-throat returns, or to be more exact, one return and one return² out of a total of 59 birds banded prior to the present winter season. White-throat No. 66584, banded February 20, 1923, returned January 8, 1924; and No. 37603, banded November 11, 1923, returned January 25, 1925, and again January 1, 1926. No. 37603 appears to have wintered during the three seasons that the bird has visited Cohasset.

The inconstancy of wintering birds of this species in Cohasset no doubt accounts in large part for the small number of returns secured. Were the station situated within their regular wintering range, more birds and more returns would be probable, and in this connection attention is called to S. Prentiss Baldwin's observations at Thomasville, Georgia, where a wintering group of White-throats occupied a particular clump of shrubbery for several successive seasons. Here a Sparrow banded in 1916 returned in '17, '20, and '21 (see *The Auk*, Vol. XXXIX, p. 216). Four Sparrows out of six banded in 1916 returned in 1917, or 66.66 per cent (see *The Auk*, Vol. XXXVIII, p. 236). —MR. AND MRS. RICHARD B. HARDING, Brookline, Mass.

Sight Repeats.—At my station in Cohasset, Massachusetts, colored enameled bands have been placed on Purple Finches, Goldfinches, Juncos, Tree Sparrows, Downy Woodpeckers, Siskins, etc. Most of these birds were banded during last fall and winter seasons.

Birds at this station are fed and trapped at an average distance of less than twenty feet from the house. A feeding-shelf beside the window, mounting a small, non-automatic trap, is much frequented by birds, and a large percentage of those banded at this station were taken in the shelf trap. Thus by concentrating the trapping and feeding places in a near-by

* This note has been somewhat elaborated by the Editor.