

October. During the thirteen years between August, 1931, and August, 1944, I have banded 369 Catbirds at my home station. My earliest spring trapping records occurred on April 16 in 1941 and 1945; the latest autumn capture was made November 8, 1935, the only record after October 16.

Forty individuals, 10.8 per cent of the total number banded, returned in subsequent years, 35 as station recaptures; the other five were found dead or trapped at substations within two miles of the home station. Of the 39 banded in the nest, only one returned, 2.5 per cent of the nestlings; 115 banded in immature plumage yielded six returns, or 5.2 per cent of that number; and of 215 adults, 33 or 15.3 per cent returned. There is a possibility of a slight error in figuring adult and immature percentages since there were a few banded after the autumn molt when age was not discernible.

Comparing these Tennessee Catbird returns for a thirteen year period with those of Geoffrey Gill, New York, for a ten year period, we find a similar trend in ratios although, within a shorter period, he had banded a much greater number, 1134, with return records for 99 individuals (8.7 per cent). Of his 66 nestlings, only one (1.5 per cent) returned; his 579 immatures yielded 35 (6 per cent) returns; his 489 adults yielded 63 (12.87 per cent) returns.

Gill found that most of those banded as adults returned in spring but most of the 35 returning immatures did not appear in his traps until August or September, pointing to a breeding territory some distance from the place of banding. Among the six Tennessee immatures returning, only one was a September return, the others appearing in April, May, or June.

Among the 39 nestlings at Nashville, seven were taken in traps for a total of 19 times, indicating three were near their birthplace a month later, three for about two months, and one for three months. One, banded June 2, was found in adult plumage on September 4; one, banded July 16, when trapped September 2, was recorded as immature.

Known ages for birds banded as immatures are three of two years and one of four years. Among those banded as adults, 15-18 are known to have reached two years of age; 4 birds, three years; 7 birds, four years; 2 birds, five years; 1 bird, six years; 1 bird, seven years. The predilection of these older birds is to return in consecutive years usually in the same month each season. Among those returning annually are 3 each of the three-year-olds and four-year-olds, the 2 five-year-olds and both the six and seven-year-old individuals.

There are no recovery records to indicate the winter home or migration routes of any Nashville Catbirds.

In the Catbird papers previously mentioned, a number of longevity records have been published: New Jersey (Beecher S. Bowdish), nine years; North Carolina (Boggs), seven years (2 birds); Pennsylvania (Groskin), six years; New York (Gill) five years (2 birds). Amelia R. Laskey, Graybar Lane, Nashville 4, Tenn.

A Nine-Year-Old Mockingbird and his Mates.—A male Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), banded October 1, 1936, as a first-year bird, lived in the vicinity of my home until his disappearance about May 15, 1945. During that period, he was trapped 66 times. He and his mates were color-banded, facilitating a fairly complete biographical record. He had four successive mates and, during a four-week period in 1939, an extra mate, both females occupying nests simultaneously, assisted in nest-building and guarded by the male (1941. *Migrant* 12(4): 65-67).

Until the spring of 1939, he and his current mate occupied the ground about our house for both winter and summer territory. After that, his mates chose to nest on grounds of three different residences, 50 to 100 yards from our window feeding ledge. However, they came regularly for raisins for themselves and for the nestlings, leading the fledglings to the raisins for feedings. Thus, although nests outside the banding station could not be followed as closely as in the early

years, it was always possible to ascertain the number of successful nests each season and the number of nestlings surviving.

Each autumn, "Abe," as he was called, zealously guarded his winter territory on the front section of our property which he and his current mate would occupy until her disappearance during winter or until nesting started elsewhere. The exceptional season when Abe did not appear at our home, October, 1943, until April, 1944, is inexplicable but there is considerable evidence that he had not left the neighborhood. His mate "Bab" visited the feeding shelf occasionally but did not tarry, for the territory was occupied by another male during that winter.

Although, in the environs of Nashville, I have noted occasional pairs of Mockingbirds occupying winter territory together, Abe is the only male at my home whose mates remained with him throughout the year. During the thirteen years that I have been observing many color-banded pairs, only two other pairs were found who re-mated in consecutive years but they separated in autumn. The "B" pair re-mated for three seasons but during winter they occupied adjacent territories, keeping within their individual boundaries until his spring singing started; then pair formation took place and they occupied both territories together. In the "Y" pair, a migration of the female was indicated. She left in autumn; the male occupied the territory alone but was rejoined in April by the female. Her very clean plumage, in contrast to the dark, sooty plumage of wintering individuals proved she had spent the winter outside the environs of Nashville. (1935 *Auk* 52(4): 370-381) (1936 *Wilson Bull.* 48(4): 241-255). It seems remarkable that all of Abe's mates remained with him through the non-breeding season. I was unable to discern any behaviour traits peculiar to him that might modify the usual custom in the species of pair separation at the close of the nesting season.

During Abe's nine nesting seasons, 49 young, by three mates, were raised most of which are known to have reached independence. His first mate, AYBf, joined him on March 23, 1937. Their first brood of four, when almost ready to leave the nest on May 15, was eaten by a cat. For the rest of the season, there was no evidence of a successful nest. The female disappeared during the winter. His second mate, AYR, came to his territory on February 21, 1938. They had four successful nests, all located within an area of 9 by 36 yards on our front lawn. From 16 eggs, 13 young left the nests (Review, 1939 *Bird-Banding* 10(1): 49). AYR was his mate again in 1939 but she nested diagonally across the road in a foundation planting of evergreens. From two of her four nesting attempts, five young matured to leave the nest. That year, during the latter half of April and the first part of May, Abe acquired an extra mate. The unbanded female had her nest on our front lawn while the second attempt of AYR was in progress across the road, but both nests were robbed within a two-day period when AYR's young were a few days old and the unbanded female's eggs were ready to hatch. The latter disappeared (1941 *Migrant* 12(4): 65-67). AYR remained but was not seen again after late December, 1939.

Abe's third mate was RAB who joined him March 6, 1940. They had two successful nests, raising 4 young. She disappeared about February 26, 1941, and on April 3 of that year BAB (called Bab) became his mate.

Bab survives Abe. Her own history is of considerable interest for at his disappearance in mid-May she was incubating or had very small young. She successfully raised two of them alone, bringing them to the feeding shelf when they were nearly independent. She disappeared when her young became self sustaining but it became evident later that she acquired a mate for on August 14, 1945, she brought a large youngster to the feeding shelf which she fed a few days. This autumn (1945) she is defending Abe's old territory on our front lawn where, through October and thus far into November, she has been proclaiming ownership by loud, intermittent singing each day.

In 1941, Bab's first year as Abe's mate, they had three successful nests and nine fledglings. During the four successive seasons, eight fledged from three nests in

1942; four from two nests in 1943; three from two nests in 1944, and three from two nests in the first part of the 1945 season. Because Bab chose to nest on private property, it was not always possible to follow each attempt, hence these data include only the successful nests and in some cases, are based solely on the number of young brought to the feeding shelf (a regular habit of the pair). Abe took charge of the young when his mate proceeded with another nesting but, with the last brood of a season, Bab assumed all or a good share of the feeding of the young after they left the nest. Abe was, throughout his life, a solicitous parent and zealous in care of the young.—Amelia R. Laskey, Graybar Lane, Nashville 4, Tennessee.

One-Eyed Robin Returns Three Seasons.—Banded No. 217184 on October 6, 1941, at my home in Nashville, Tennessee, a male Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) made an unusual survival record despite the handicap of losing his right eye. He appeared normal when banded but when retrapped two years later as a return —1 on April 27, 1943, it was obvious that vision in the right eye was impaired or entirely lost, the eyeball showing signs of injury. He returned February 3, 1944, remaining through the nesting season. His third return occurred February 14, 1945, and he was here daily until late July. This male Robin was at least four years old and for more than two years, he has lived the normal life of his species, with seasonal migrations, with the handicap of one eye, the injured eyeball being shrunken and deeply imbedded in the socket.

In 1944 and 1945, he occupied territory adjacent to our house, coming often to the feeding ledge at a window for raisins or to the driveway when food was thrown there. He participated in territorial disputes with another Robin, fighting back when attacked. He was chased and attacked by territory-holding Mockingbirds but, in these instances, he retreated temporarily instead of fighting back. These encounters left him with noticeably disarranged plumage from feather losses where the antagonists had attacked him on the blind side.

He acquired a mate early in each of the two seasons, occupying approximately the same territory. His mate of 1945 joined him in early March and was color-banded soon afterward. She acquired the habit of coming to the feeding place also, and the slam of a casement window brought the pair as well as other species to the house as they soon connected that sound with the appearance of raisins. Here fights sometimes occurred but One-eye never participated in these. His mate sometimes fought a male Mockingbird.

During nesting, he "guarded" frequently, perching on the side of the nest while the female was off. He carried food to the young, and once was seen carrying a moth while pursuing a gray squirrel that had gone near the nest. Because the nests were built too high for examination, data on them are not available.—Amelia R. Laskey, Graybar Lane, Nashville 4, Tenn.

The Return of Robins To Their Birthplaces.—Apropos of Dr. Farner's article under the foregoing title in July, 1945, number of *Bird-Banding*, the following data on the returning of Robins to my station may be of interest. Somewhat to my surprise, they tend to confirm his statement that "there is a marked tendency among Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) to return to their birthplace or its immediate vicinity."

When Banded	Age	Year of Return
June 30, '31	Juv.	1932
Sept. 28, '32	fem. or im.	1933
Oct. 1, '32	fem. or im.	1933
June 30, '31	ad. male	1934
June 20, '33	juv.	1934
June 20, '33	ad. fem.	1934