

This day we made our first examination of the Bluebird.

By standing on a stepladder my assistant could open the box, four young were asleep in the nest. The female Bluebird was very solicitous and re-entered the nest while we were in sight.

On the 11th all was proceeding finely, the Sparrow was sitting over her young to keep off the direct sun heat. More down was showing along the feather tracts, and they opened their mouths wide for food.

On the 16th, the little Bluebirds had their eyes partially open, and their Song Sparrow stepmother was assiduously caring for them when we heard a Crow calling from a treetop close by the bog. Fearing mischief, we later hastened down to the nest to find that the black rascal had eaten the little Bluebirds.

Nothing disturbed the other nests and their young arrived at banding age and were duly banded; the last to leave the box was a Sparrow which remained two days after his foster brother, or sister, Bluebird and the two other Sparrows had flown. The mother Bluebird was as solicitous over this remaining fledgling as though it was her own offspring.—WALTER B. SAVARY, *Wareham, Mass.*

**Status of the Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) on the Atlantic Seaboard.**—The following data were gathered upon my finding an adult female Yellow-headed Blackbird on Monhegan Island, off the Maine coast, on September 11, 1925. The material was accumulated from various sources and to the twenty-one records published by Dr. H. C. Oberholser in 'Bird-Lore' for 1921, I have added eleven others.

*Eastern Quebec* (1)—September 4, 1878.

*Maine* (2)—August 17, 1882; September 11, 1825.

*Vermont* (1)—August 27, 1916.

*Massachusetts* (5)—October 15, 1869; September 10, 1877; month (?), 1878; September 8, 1897; September 17, 1917.

*Connecticut* (3)—Late July, 1884; June, 1887; July, 1888.

*New York* (1)—September, 1899 (250 miles from coast).

*New Jersey* (2)—Month (?), 1890; September 1, 1917. (Where are two other questionable records for N. J.—See *Auk*, Vol. XXIX, pp. 102-3. But doubtless Dr. Stone rejected them after examination.)

*Pennsylvania* (7)—August, 1851 (Collected by John Krider. Apparently the earliest eastern record.); (Dr. Jackson mentions a flock seen on the western edge of the Alleghany Mts. in 1857. If the record be authentic, it represents the only instance of more than two birds being found together that I have discovered among eastern observations); May 3, 1880; September 15, 1885; March 25, 1890—a pair); April 26, 1895 (the last three 300 miles inland); August 22, 1896.

*Maryland* (3)—September 10, 1891; September 18, 1893; October 1, 1894.

*District of Columbia* (1)—August 29, 1892.

*Virginia* (2)—August 29, 1912—two birds, a pair.

*W. Virginia* (1)—Spring, 1888.

*So. Carolina* (1)—April 17, 1884.

*Georgia* (1)—September 23, 1893.

*Florida* (1)—One record mentioned by Coues, no date—but obviously earlier than 1874.

An analysis of this list may reveal an interesting point or two.

The following table, for instance, discloses the chronological frequency: (The numerals represent the number of records within the indicated periods.)

13, 1851-1889
12, 1890-1899
0, 1900-1911
5, 1912-1917
0, 1918-1924
1, 1925

The absence of records between 1900-1911 and 1918-1924, and the fact that only six birds have been reported in the last quarter century, seem worthy of note.

Of the 32 records, 7 are of the spring, 2 of July, 20 of the fall, and 3 are unplaceable. The most arresting spring occurrence is that of Mr. H. S. Kirkpatrick of Meadville, Crawford Co., Pa., who writes in a letter, "I had the good fortune to get [query, collect?] a fine pair of Yellow-headed Blackbirds on March 25, 1890." Now Meadville is almost exactly in the same latitude as Chicago, which is near the normal eastern limit of the bird, where it is due about April 25.

The fact that only 7 of the 32 records occur south of Pennsylvania has probably little significance: northern ornithologists have been more numerous and better organized.—WARNER TAYLOR, 619 N. Frances St., Madison, Wisconsin.

**Pine Siskin fifty miles out at sea.**—On November 7, 1925, a Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) flew on board the Isthmian Line Steamship "Steel Seafarer" when about fifty miles east of Nantucket. It settled on the foremast and several times when I approached it, the bird flew off, circled around the ship and then came back. It did not seem at all tired. It stayed on board until within a few miles of Boston harbor when it flew off, headed for shore. There was only a light wind blowing that day, hardly enough to blow a bird 50 miles out to sea.—HERBERT FRIEDMANN, 32 Garden Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

**Marriage Relations of A Red-eyed Towhee.**—Since the opening of a bird banding station, Towhees have become almost as familiar about the house as Catbirds and Song Sparrows and have even given some opportunity to observe their family life.

On April 17, 1924 I found a pair of Towhees feeding at our banding station, Waynesville, N. C. and on April 19 banded the female, no. 239502. The male was very wary, but was captured on May 1 and numbered