

locality. Watching them through binoculars for several minutes, at a short distance, I identified one as a male Allen's Hummingbird. Considering their actions, the other was probably a female of that species, but under the circumstances it could not be differentiated from a female Rufous Hummingbird.

Dendroica fusca. BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER.—An adult male of this species was observed in some small pines near my residence at the edge of Libby, August 21, 1924. It was watched, with binoculars, at times from as close as twenty feet. Within a minute after observing it I verified my identification by referring to descriptions and illustrations of the species in several standard references.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortine, Montana*.

A Record Banding Return.—What is, as far as the writer can ascertain, an absolutely unique banding return was made near Charleston, S. C., during August of this past summer. During June and July, Mr. E. Milby Burton and the writer banded several hundred birds in Charleston County, the majority of which were Louisiana Herons (*Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis*) and Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*). On June 13, 1929, a rookery was visited on Youghal Plantation, and many of the young Herons banded. On August 9, 1929, five of the bands put on birds in this rookery were taken from the stomach of an alligator which was shot some mile and a half from the rookery by Mr. E. B. Chamberlain of Charleston.

The records show that these bands, which bore the Biological Survey numbers of 502, 181-004-090, were attached to the legs of Little Blue Herons, while numbers 502, 134-167, had been placed on Louisiana Herons. The alligator was about eight feet long, and was taken in a salt creek of the vast marshes which extend from the mainland out toward the chain of barrier islands which fringe the ocean. That the saurian was killed more than a mile from the rookery seems to point to the fact that the Herons were taken as they flew out to the marsh to feed. Alligators frequented the waters of the rookery itself, and no doubt accounted for many young which fell from nests, but it is interesting to note that Herons form a part of the food supply of these reptiles to such an extent.

It has long been thought locally that Herons are sometimes taken by alligators, but the above seems to indicate that this one made it somewhat of a practice. It doubtless laid in wait along the creek, and snapped up the birds as they fed along the water. The bands were but slightly corroded, the numbers being plainly legible. Of some American Egrets (*Casmerodius egretta*) handed this past spring, two have been reported from Georgia as having been taken there, but that returns would come from an alligator's stomach was beyond the wildest dream of either Mr. Burton or the writer. It is simply another proof of how valuable and fascinating the practice of bird-banding can be.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 So. Battery, Charleston, S. C.