

females began to scatter to small chimneys for nest-building and did not return to the roosting-chimney at night with the males.

It was noticeable that the adult male birds increased in weight between June 14th and August 9th. The adults appeared to be quite free from parasites. Roosting took place in both the clean and sooty compartments. When they left the chimney they dipped downward immediately and then ascended gradually, making a sort of semicircle.

Patten, Maine, August 25, 1926

#### A PARTIAL LIST OF BIRDS WHICH HAVE BEEN CAPTURED AS RETURNS ON OR NEAR THEIR OLD NESTING-PLACES

WHILE many people feel that it has been shown conclusively that birds come back to their nesting-places year after year, it should not be overlooked that the support for this belief is in general fragmentary and inadequate, although there are numerous recorded instances where individual migratory birds have been known to nest in the same spot or locality for more than one year. Bird-banding, however, is gradually accumulating definite information which in time will enable us to know what species of birds have this habit and what species have not, whether accident plays a part in our records, or if the habit is instinctive.

The following species have been taken as returns on their immediate nesting-grounds. The returns recorded range from a single bird, in case of the Indigo Bunting, Maryland Yellow throat, Redstart, etc., up to species returning in such numbers that we may be sure that accident plays little part in our records. Such species are Song and Chipping Sparrows and Purple Finches. The list includes only records made by members of this Association and within our territory, and, as stated, it is not claimed to be complete. Species which are partially migratory or are irregularly so are omitted from consideration.

- Black Guillemot (*Cephus grylle*)
- Common Murre (*Uria t. troille*)
- Ringed Murre (*Uria ringria*)
- Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*)
- Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*)

Common Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)  
 Black Duck (race not determined)  
 Nighthawk (*Chordeiles v. virginianus*)  
 Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*)  
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)  
 Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*)  
 Cowbird (*Molothrus a. ater*)  
 Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius p. phoeniceus*)  
 Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)  
 Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus q. arvensis*)  
 Purple Finch (*Carpodacus p. purpureus*)  
 Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes g. gramineus*)  
 Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*)  
 Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella p. passerina*)  
 Field Sparrow (*Spizella p. pusilla*)  
 Song Sparrow (*Melospiza m. melodia*)  
 Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*)  
 Towhee (*Pipilo e. erythrophthalmus*)  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Zamelodia ludoviciana*)  
 Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*)  
 Barn Swallow (*Hirundo erythrogastra*)  
 Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*)  
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica a. aestiva*)  
 Maryland Yellow-throat (*Geothlypis t. trichas*)  
 Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*)  
 Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)  
 Brown Thrasher (*Torostoma rufum*)  
 House Wren (*Troglodytes a. ardon*)  
 Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla ustulata*)  
 Robin (*Planesticus m. migratorius*)  
 Bluebird (*Sialia s. sialis*)

C. L. W

## GENERAL NOTES

**Notes on Tree Swallows and a Probable New Bird Parasite.**—At Patten, Maine, during 1926 I banded seven boxes of Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) made up of thirty-six fledglings and five female adults. This species raises but one brood in this vicinity. The seven nests were all included in an area 99 feet by 293 feet, having an area of 29,007 square feet, or a little more than half an acre. The boxes were placed from sixty to ninety feet apart.

Previous to 1926 I had banded eighteen fledglings of this species, and my returns this year number one adult and one fledgling banded in 1925.

One fledgling banded July 4th of this year, No. A62528, a small bird, was host to a blood-sucking larva fly which was attached to the fleshy covering of the tibia. The larva was about a quarter of an inch long and is reported by Dr. C. T. Green of Washington, D. C., to be quite unlike any larva known to him.

Tree Swallows in looking for nesting-sites search with a zeal amounting to an obsession; on two occasions, birds entered an empty box on the end of a pole, some four feet long, while I was carrying it.—E. O. GRANT, Patten, Maine, August 26, 1926.