

riparia) she recalled her former disagreeable experience in banding these birds when she found the birds "with fat maggots protruding from their nostrils." This year the birds that she banded (426) were found to be remarkably free from parasites of all kinds.

These flies are destructive to fledgling birds, and bird-banding coöperators should carefully remove all that are noted. "As the Bureau of Entomology is actively interested in the insects which attack birds, it is suggested that when maggots are found they be dropped into a vial containing alcohol, a tag attached bearing the date, locality, name of the host, and the name and address of the collector, and then forwarded to the Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C., for record and identification of the parasite involved."—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, U. S. Biological Survey.

First Banding of the Little Blue Heron in New England.—During the summer of 1930, the Pleasant Valley Bird and Wild Flower Sanctuary, at Lenox, Massachusetts, had various opportunities to fulfill its mission in behalf of birds that were in need of hospital treatment. Our most notable patient was an immature Little Blue Heron (*Florida c. cærulea*), received on August 8th. Of the hundreds of these birds that were seen throughout southern New England this fall, the distinction fell to this heron of being the first of its kind ever banded in this region. The bird was captured at Pontoosuc Lake, Lanesboro, by some small boys who claimed to have watched it struggling to arise from the water. On being notified of the event, the writer lost no time in securing the bird. Its plumage was snowy white, and it seemed to be in excellent condition, except for the toes of the right foot being mangled. Apparently a snapping turtle was the cause of its struggles. During the next five days it showed a hearty appetite by consuming a liberal quantity of minnows, and on August 13th, seeming to be perfectly able to care for itself, it was given a band numbered A519951, and freedom. Situated about a third of a mile west of the Sanctuary is the little reservoir of the Hotel Aspinwall. It was here that we found the bird until August 21st, evidently well off and none the worse for its adventures.—NAURICE BROUN, Lenox, Massachusetts.

Parasites on Birds taken at Summerville, South Carolina.—A noteworthy feature of the banding season of 1930 at Summerville, South Carolina, was the marked prevalence of ectoparasites, especially of ticks. I stated in an article published in the *Bulletin* of January, 1929, that in 1928 twelve birds out of a total of 704 banded were recorded as having ticks. In 1929, out of a total of 658 birds banded, 38 were afflicted with ticks. In 1930, out of a total of 944 birds banded, 83 were recorded as having ticks. The increase as expressed in percentages is as follows: in 1928 1.7% of the birds banded were affected, in 1929 5.77%, in 1930 8.80%. Undoubtedly a considerable number of small ticks escaped observation, so that the actual percentages were probably larger than indicated. In view of the fact that the thicket-inhabiting birds are unquestionably more likely to be attacked by ticks than those which frequent open areas, the figures just given do not convey an adequate idea of the large proportion of such species as the White-throated Sparrow and Towhee which were acting as hosts of ticks. Thus, in 1929, 13% of the White-throats were noted as being tick-infested, and in 1930, 11.7%. With the Towhees the percentage was much larger than with any other bird, 20% being infested in 1929 and 47.12% in 1930. Final determinations have not been made yet of some of the ticks which were saved, but apparently *Ixodes brunneus* largely predominated. Birds taken in the later part of the winter