

an early stage of development, as the vanes were just beginning to emerge from their sheaths. The moult had evidently been completed in the other wing, and careful examination of all other tracts failed to disclose any evidence of the process. The plumage elsewhere was fresh as though recently acquired.—WENDELL P. SMITH.

A Song Sparrow Return-4.—On September 25, 1930, Song Sparrow (*Melospiza m. Melodia*) No. A9211 returned for the fourth time. This bird was banded on April 4, 1925, and returned April 28, 1926; August 19, 1927; and April 21, 1929. This bird is nearly six and a half years old at least.—WENDELL P. SMITH, Wells River, Vermont, October 3, 1930.

Banding Starlings.—Owing to the rapid increase of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) particularly in the Middle West and Southwest, it is very desirable that as many as possible of this species be banded. Full knowledge of their migratory habits, which seem to be developing, will make future control effective. Perhaps the easiest way to capture these birds is when they crowd close together during the coldest weather in ventilating-towers of buildings, church steeples, and barns. By using a strong flashlight twenty-five or more may be captured at a time by hand and placed temporarily in a grain-sack, to be banded later.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Eugene Walker, Superintendent of Lakeside Hospital of the University Hospitals of Cleveland, the writer, together with Dr. John A. Brady, of Lakewood, banded more than a hundred of the Starlings roosting in the ventilating-towers of the hospital buildings during the winter of 1929-1930. The greatest number at the roost was estimated at 2100.—E. C. HOFFMAN, 1041 Forest Cliff Drive, Lakewood, Ohio.

Wing Injury.—On the last page of the July, 1929, number of the *Bulletin*, I stated in a letter to the Editor that I had had some trouble with apparent wing injury to birds while held in the hand, and that I had never known such birds to recover their power of flight. I am now glad to instance four definite cases in which, following the type of injury there described, I have retaken birds which had apparently fully recovered:

Black and White Warbler B32903, banded August 27, 1929, and apparently unable to fly when released, repeated September 12th and was then able to fly.

Towhee 582923, banded January 25, 1929, and unable to fly either when released or three days later, was retaken as a return January 18, 1930, at which time it was apparently perfectly normal.

Towhee A203971, banded January 3, 1930, went off on the ground, and was still unable to fly on January 20th. On February 18th, however, it was noted as being in good condition.

A recent example is that of a Song Sparrow banded August 16, 1930. This bird did not get its wings free in the way which I indicated in my letter of 1929 might cause the injury in question, but probably got just enough clearance to be able to press the wings back with a convulsive effort against my hand. I was conscious of the slight snap mentioned in my description of the trouble, and the bird went off on the ground. On August 18th this bird repeated and was still unable to fly. On August 23d it flew, though apparently with some effort, but on the 25th and 26th and on one or two subsequent dates it has acted perfectly normally. Thus it would appear that the injury in question is one which, at least in a substantial number of cases, is overcome, though in the meantime the bird