

GENERAL NOTES

Experiments in Transporting Birds.—Observations are needed to determine the factors which influence the return of birds to traps after they have been transported to a distance. Is it due to familiarity with surroundings, mating, nesting, availability of food, or what? To what extent will they return and what influence is exerted by geographic direction in their returns?

My banding station is three miles north of the center of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and just within the city limits. A Song Sparrow was trapped June 2, 1929, and received band A144885. It repeated that summer and returned February 27, 1930. During the following two weeks, probably before nesting or mating began, it again became familiar with the station surroundings. On March 1st it was caught and was carried south through a city and two towns by automobile and released fifteen miles south of my banding station. On April 8th it was found in the trap but may have been around the yard for some days. On April 16th it was taken south to my office in the State Capitol, Harrisburg, three miles from home, and released. Six days later it was in the trap again. On April 25th I carried the bird eight miles east for release and recaptured it five days later at my station. A month later it was again in the trap, so it was probably again a nesting bird.

Another Song Sparrow was released at my office the first day it had been trapped, May 4, 1930; it did not return. Two White-throated Sparrows which were banded April 30, 1930, and released at my office did not reappear at the traps. Another Song Sparrow, banded A153420 on March 31, 1930, after its fifth repeat on May 3d, was carried seventy-five miles northwest and released in dense woods, but it did not return to the traps. The nests of these birds were not found. The possession of a nest probably did not induce the first to return. At no time did I see it with a mate.

Three Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*)—a male, a female, and an immature male—were trapped together in the spring in my back yard on May 10, 1930. They were released in the center of the city three miles south from my banding station. Exactly twenty-four hours later I saw them together travelling northward in the trees close to my banding station. They did not return to the yard or traps.—HAROLD B. WOOD, M.D., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Immature Returning Chipping Sparrows.—Three immature Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella p. passerina*) returned to my banding station, "West Wind," in Oliverea Post-Office, New York, in 1930. No. 39007, banded September 15, 1925, returned September 12, 1927; May 7, 1929; and May 8, 1930. No. 77017, banded August 16, 1926, returned May 14, 1927; May 11, 1928; May 12, 1929; and May 8, 1930. No. 77034, banded September 16, 1926, returned August 13, 1927, August 24, 1928; May 11, 1929; and April 30, 1930, the latter two being returns-4S. Although I have no knowledge of the exact nesting places of these birds during the years they have returned, it is no doubt true that they nested close by my station, since they repeated throughout the entire season and were handled many times.—FLORENCE K. DALEY, "West Wind", Oliverea P. O. Ulster County, New York.

¹We know little regarding the manner in which this species migrates. It is, therefore very interesting to note that these three birds were manifestly on migration moving northerly and that two adults—a male and a female—and an immature bird comprised the group, suggesting the possibility that its make-up represented the surviving members of a 1929 family.—*Editor*.