

returns from one winter ago—a Downy Woodpecker, two Chickadees, and a Tree Sparrow. It will be seen that two Hairy Woodpeckers and a White-breasted Nuthatch were here for the fourth winter, and a Tree Sparrow for the fifth.

Certain species present a great contrast in the numbers present; the Tree Sparrows banded are as follows: January-March 1928, twenty-five; January-March 1929, twenty-six; January-March 1930, six; January-March, 1931, one; December-March, 1932, forty-one. No flock came this winter till February 6 after a heavy snow-fall. The Chickadees banded in January-March 1931, numbered twenty; in January-March 1932, one (I had, however, banded seven in November-December, 1931, some of which stayed on). Species not mentioned above that were banded this past winter, were Red-breasted Nuthatcher and Brown Creepers. At the end of March, three Song Sparrows were banded at the same spot, though never seen there before; a blizzard dammed up the migration, and presumably these birds were hard put to it and ranged about widely for food.

It is proper to state that as "returns" the status of most of the birds mentioned above is not absolutely satisfactory, because they are trapped in the winter months only. I should acknowledge considerable help from friends at my banding station, in particular from Messrs. W. L. Clark and W. L. Vaughan.—F. B. WHITE, Concord, N. H., March 31, 1932.

A Longevity Record for the Hutchins' Goose.—In the popular mind geese are among the birds that may attain "a ripe old age," a belief that is supported by data available from zoölogical parks and aviaries. To Mr. Frank W. Robl, of Ellinwood, Kansas, the Biological Survey is indebted for the details concerning a Hutchins' Goose, band No. 105728, which apply to this subject.

This bird came to Mr. Robl's sanctuary in the spring of 1907, and died on February 5, 1932, apparently from natural causes. Accordingly, it was at least twenty-five years old, and as it was fully adult in 1907, it is probable that at least two or three additional years may be added. Although full-winged, it made no attempt to migrate with the other geese that regularly visited the sanctuary; instead it seemed content to remain and rear young under Mr. Robl's protection. Broods were raised successfully each season for the last ten years.

According to Mr. Robl, she "showed her age" very much during the last year of her life, and he thinks that the loss of her mate last fall was a contributory factor in causing her death. The bird has been mounted and will be so preserved.

The accompanying photograph, supplied by Mr. Robl, shows 105728 (center front) with some of her companions on one of the sanctuary ponds.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

The Number of Eggs per Nest of the Vesper Sparrow.—The note in the January (1932) number of *Bird-Banding* by B. S. Bowdish indicates that there may be some variation in the number of eggs laid in individual nests by the Vesper Sparrow in different parts of its range. Some years ago I made a practice of noting the particulars of nests found, including the number of eggs or young. The results of these observations, as relating to the Vesper Sparrow, are tabulated below.