

of the house used by B5202 and B5201, with B99354 ♀, which was banded on June 23, 1929. In the summer of 1930 these birds (B5202 and B99354) were not retaken, but in the summer of 1931 I trapped B5202 on June 22d, and B99354 was recaptured on June 20th—a mated pair. It may well be that these birds, B5202 ♂ and B99354 ♀, were mated in 1930 also, as they were in 1929 and 1931. B5202 is at least four years old.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, R. F. D. No. 1, McMillan, Luce County, Michigan.

**The Occurrence of Botulism in a Herring Gull.**—The observations and researches of competent bacteriologists during the last three years warrant the conclusion that botulism, popularly known as ptomaine poisoning, takes heavy toll from wild bird life. The specific bacilli which alone cause the disease, as well as the toxins produced by these organisms, infect the soil and are ingested with the food taken by birds. The disease was observed first in ducks. A report of an outbreak of the malady occurring in Turnstones and Sanderlings in 1930 on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, was published in *The Auk*. The following incident is narrated for the sake of listing all species found to have been victims of the disease.

On July 1st an adult Herring Gull was found on the ocean beach near the Austin Ornithological Research Station on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, unable to move. No other gulls were seen in the vicinity, but the shore was littered with dead fish. The bird exhibited an almost complete paralysis as well as other symptoms of botulism. Aided by suitable treatment the gull made a slow, typically progressive, and complete recovery, flying away July 11th. This diagnosis was not confirmed by bacteriological findings but by symptoms pathognomonic of this disease alone.—OLIVER L. AUSTIN, M. D., Tuskahoe, New York.

**Some White-throated Sparrow and Field Sparrow Returns.**—At my banding station in Fairhope, Alabama, I have had the following White-throated and Field Sparrow returns of interest, returns-1 and returns-2.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS

Band No.	Banding Date	Returns-1	Returns-2
167904	Jan. 1, 1930	Mar. 30, 1931	Jan. 11, 1932
167906	Jan. 4, 1930	Dec. 6, 1930	Nov. 27, 1931

FIELD SPARROWS

C47659	Feb. 3, 1930	Dec. 24, 1930	Feb. 5, 1932
C47676	Feb. 10, 1930	Dec. 24, 1930	Feb. 25, 1932
C47654	Mar. 1, 1930	Nov. 28, 1930	Jan. 13, 1932
C47655	Mar. 1, 1930	Jan. 5, 1931	Jan. 29, 1932
C47663	Mar. 3, 1930	Jan. 6, 1931	Feb. 5, 1932
C47671	Mar. 8, 1930	Dec. 12, 1930	Feb. 7, 1932
C47673	Mar. 9, 1930	Feb. 13, 1931	Feb. 4, 1932

—HELEN M. EDWARDS, Fairhope, Alabama.

**A Cowbird Attempts to Parasitize Barn Swallows.**—In 1931 several pairs of Barn Swallows nested successfully under the eaves of the porch of the Austin Ornithological Research Station at North Eastham,