

not unknown in some other species. Secondly it is worth noting how soon after the power of flight is attained migration southward occurs. The appearance of one of them in Kansas not more than fifty days after first flying is certainly unexpected.—GEORGE WAGNER, University of Wisconsin.

**Juvenile Towhees Return to Birthplace**—Recent notes in *Bird-Banding* as to whether juveniles return to the place of their birth to breed have prompted the writer to scan returns on Towhees secured during the past eight years on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. Mrs. Gillespie and I have banded sixty-nine Towhees during this period, twenty-one of which were adults and the remaining forty-eight immatures, readily separable from their parents by their streaked sides and flanks. Four adults, or about nineteen and one half per cent, have returned subsequent years. Of the immatures, seven, or about fourteen and one half per cent, have returned subsequent years to the identical spots where banded, being trapped in midsummer, often with young ones, so that no doubt existed as to their being breeding birds.

The seven instances of immature Towhees returning the following year after birth are as follows:

- 244653—banded during summer of 1925 by Miss Grace C. Meleney, was trapped by us on June 28, 1926, and July 18, 1927.  
476687—banded July 17, 1927—returned July 21, 1928.  
476696—banded Aug. 1, 1927—returned Aug. 12, 1928, and July 22, 1929.  
478671—banded Aug. 3, 1927—returned July 28, 1928.  
Found dead by Miss Meleney.  
478672—banded Aug. 3, 1927—returned July 30, 1928.  
242013—banded Aug. 7, 1928—returned Aug. 24, 1929.  
Trapped by Miss Meleney.  
A201140—banded Aug. 28, 1929—returned Aug. 21, 1930.  
Trapped by Mr. Thomas F. Power.

The trapping stations of Miss Meleney and Mr. Power are in close proximity to our station at Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts, the territories at times overlapping one another.—JOHN A. GILLESPIE, Glenolden, Pennsylvania.

**Locating Returned Song Sparrows Banded as Nestlings.**—In order to locate the Song Sparrows (*Melospiza melodia beata*) banded in the nest that survive to the beginning of the next nesting season, a great deal of searching has to be done. I cover the whole sixty acres of Interpoint repeatedly, making occasional trips one-eighth of a mile to the north and the west and three-fourths of a mile to the south. Some of the young residents are located in the fall, and others in late January or early February during the first spell of warm weather that starts this species into territory activity. The resident males should be discovered and their locations mapped before the summer residents arrive from late February to the first few days of April.

The best time to examine the females is from their arrival in late March to the middle of April. At this time the pair keep together, the female is not yet incubating, and the leaves are not out; after nesting has begun it is a tedious task to wait for the female to leave her nest (unless one wishes to find the latter). The limits of a territory can be found by following the birds: they will go ahead for a certain distance, but double back when they reach their boundary. The male can be distinguished by his tendency to keep behind and above his mate as if guarding her; she stays near the ground, and it is no easy matter to make sure whether or not she carries a band.

After I find a bird banded only on the right leg (as I band all my nestlings; all other Song Sparrows receiving the aluminum band on the left leg), I

choose a place to bait, preferably near one of the singing-posts; it must be easily found by the bird, yet more or less concealed from passers-by. I usually put some sort of old wire on the feeding spot to mark the place and also in hopes that the bird will later enter the trap more readily. I then bait every day or so for a period of a few days to several weeks, using baby-chick feed, rolled oats, cracker, and bread crumbs. Millet, hemp, and canary-seed are the best baits, but are much more expensive. I have sometimes tried these last as special attractions inside the trap, but do not know whether success is any greater with them than without. After I capture a lone male on his territory, I continue baiting, so as to get his mate when she comes.

Winter and early spring are, of course, the best times to trap, but I can catch most of the Song Sparrows on their territories even after nesting has begun. On school days and during school hours I do my trapping in the field with two forms of the government sparrow trap, and occasionally two pull-string traps. Since Song Sparrows eat for a few minutes, then leave and usually return in about twenty minutes, one does not have to watch a drop-trap constantly, but can explore the surroundings during "intermissions". I can sometimes "shoo" a bird into the trap; i.e. if I return and find my subject has not entered, I hunt it up and gently urge it towards the trap. In a number of cases it has followed my suggestion with gratifying dispatch.

Only three males banded as nestlings have been caught in our garden, and none of the females. Eleven resident males have taken up their territories from 120 to 730 yards from their birthplaces, and three summer-resident males from 250 to 300 yards from home. Six females have settled from 155 to 500 yards from the nests in which they hatched.—MARGARET M. NICE, Columbus, Ohio.

**Some Live Weights and Measurements of Small Birds.**—Early in the fall of 1932 at the Austin Ornithological Research Station an attempt was made to weigh, and in some cases to make wing measurements of, as many small passerine birds as possible. The need for a large series of weights and measurements for each species is self-evident, particularly for use as a possible basis in separating the sexes of adults or young of species that seemingly show no apparent sexual differences.

The volume of migrants passing through the Station grounds became so great, however, that in the process of trapping and banding very little time was available for the exacting and time-absorbing manipulations of scales, dividers, and rule. The following data are given for whatever interest and value they may contain. The majority of these birds were weighed during the forenoon, when full crops might be expected.

- Phoebe. *Sayornis phoebe*. Oct. 1, adult, weight 21.1 grams.  
 Acadian Flycatcher. *Empidonax virens*. Sept. 1, immature, weight 14.29 grams; wing 72 mm.; tail 52 mm.  
 Wood Pewee. *Myiochanes virens*. Sept. 2, adult, weight 13.45 grams; wing 84 mm.; tail 65 mm.  
 Black-capped Chickadee. *Parus a. atricapillus*. Sept. 21, adult, weight 10.0 grams; wing 62 mm.; tail 61 mm.  
 Brown Creeper. *Certhia f. americana*. Sept. 30, adult, weight 6.6 grams.  
 Brown Creeper. *Certhia f. americana*. Oct. 10, adult, weight 8.3 grams.  
 Eastern Winter Wren. *Tannus h. hiemalis*. Oct. 2, adult, weight 8.4 grams.  
 Eastern Mockingbird. *Mimus p. polyglottos*. Sept. 23, immature, weight 53.0 grams; wing 106 mm.; tail 114 mm.  
 Catbird. *Dumetella carolinensis*. Sept. 2, immature, weight 33.32 grams.  
 Eastern Hermit Thrush. *Hylocichla u. saxoni*. Sept. 14, adult, weight 26.67 grams.  
 Gray-checked Thrush. *Hylocichla m. aliciae*. Sept. 27, adult, weight 31.3 grams; wing 103 mm.; tail 70 mm.  
 Veery. *Hylocichla f. fuscescens*. Sept. 21, immature, weight 25.3 grams; wing 99 mm.; tail 76 mm.