Breeding Birds Successful Despite *Protocalliphora*.—The fact that the parasitic fly *Protocalliphora* is so wide-spread, and in some localities is known to kill its hosts, prompts me to offer the following note and a method that has seemed to check its increase at my banding station in the past two years.

Tree Swallows, Bluebirds, and Chickadees are particularly parasited by this fly; more than one hundred fifty pupa-cases of the maggot having been taken from a single nest. They also occur in Phœbe, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-winged Blackbird, and Robin nests, though to a much less extent. While the common feeding-hours are at night, this parasite has been found actively blood-sucking throughout the day. As many as twelve fully grown larvæ have been taken from a single juvenile Tree Swallow's head. Attacking the tarsus, the base of the bill, and the eyes of the young birds is a common practice, and they have even been found feeding on birds in the nest that had been dead four days.

My method of effecting a check is the placing, after the birds have flown, of the complete nest and refuse in a wooden box with window-screening over the top. In this manner the *Protocalliphora* emerge, but as they cannot escape through the fine wire mesh, they die. On the other hand, their small parasite *Mormoniella vitripennis*, emerging from *Protocalliphora* cases, escape to the outside and are free to affect their parasiting. I find that second and third broods have the largest percentage of *Mormoniella* among the cases of *Protocalliphora*.—Lewis O. Shelley, East Westmoreland, New Hampshire.

Additional Plumage-Color Change of an Eastern Purple Finch, B69309.—In this journal, Volume IV, page 161, I placed on record the then known variations mainly in the rump-coloration of a female Eastern Purple Finch (*Carpodacus p. purpureus*) from year to year, and discussed a suggested view that a bronzed or golden coloration assumed by some caged birds of this race was caused by something lacking in their artificial food-supply, the conclusion being reached that, whatever the cause may be in case of caged birds, the large number of wild birds with abnormal yellowish, rosy, or brownish rumps precluded the view that they were caused by the food supplied at banding stations.

B69309, when last handled in 1933, on April 5th, had a bright yellow rump-coloration which replaced the rosy rump-coloration of 1932. On August 16, 1934, B69309, after an elapsed period of approximately fifteen months, was taken again as a return-3, now at least four years and three months old, the rump-coloration having again changed, this time from bright yellow to rich dark rosy. As was the case in 1931 and 1932, the band was distinctly polished.—Charles L. Whittle, Peterboro, New Hampshire.