

- A568899, banded at Northville, S. Dak., on July 18, 1933, by J. F. Brenckle, was killed (probably) at Flatonia, Tex., about October 15, 1934.
B622725, banded at Jamestown, N. Dak., on July 16, 1933, by Glenn L. Berner, was killed (probably) 5 miles west of Moore, Tex., on December 26, 1934.

BARRED OWL. *Strix varia*

Banded, 100. Returns, 17

- 662514, banded at Prairie du Sac, Wis., on May 24, 1931, by George Wagner, was captured at Galena, Ill., on November 28, 1931. The distance covered by this bird was about 70 miles.

LONG-EARED OWL. *Asio wilsonianus*

Banded, 255. Returns, 9

- 208816, banded at Martha's Vineyard, Mass., in 1927, by Allan Keniston, was found wounded at Englewood, N. J., on April 19, 1933.
B661987, banded at Escondido, Calif., on April 22, 1934, by Fred N. Gallup, was shot at Corbeil, Ontario, Canada, on October 9, 1934. This is one of the most unusual records thus far obtained. It has been thoroughly checked.
C616735, banded at St. Johns, Mich., on May 14, 1933, by Frank C. Bishop, was captured at Abitibi, Quebec, Canada, on September 4, 1933.
C629600, banded at Rosebud, Alberta, Canada, on July 4, 1933, by Walter R. Salt, was shot at Layton, Utah, on February 2, 1935.

SHORT-EARED OWL. *Asio flammeus*

Banded, 71. Returns, 2

- A685603, banded at Tregarva, Saskatchewan, Canada, on July 18, 1931, by Fred G. Bard, was shot at Rice Lake, Minn., on October 23, 1931.

SAW-WHET OWL. *Cryptoglaux acadica*

Banded, 69. Returns, 1

- 439545, banded at Sound Beach, Conn., on January 15, 1929, by Joseph J. Hickey, was found dead at Kittery, Maine, about February 16, 1930.

Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

GENERAL NOTES

Apparent Intelligence of the Sparrow (*Passer d. domesticus*) and Starling (*Sturnus v. vulgaris*) at the Trap.—During the autumn of 1935 I spent a fortnight with members of the Midlothian Ornithological Club at their trapping station on the Isle of May, Firth of Forth, Scotland. The trap, situated at one end of the central valley of the island, is in shape a huge funnel of wire netting with an entrance measuring some 10 by 36 feet, the side netting extending a great deal farther than this.

Excluding some vegetables in the lighthouse gardens, the only cover on the island is around the entrance to the trap. This is all artificial and is so arranged that it is thickest in the mouth and for the first 18 feet inside the trap. Migratory and resident Passerine birds seek this cover in preference to anywhere else on the island, and, when disturbed from the right direction, are easily induced to move up into the thicker cover, where they find themselves in the trap and, frightened by the human figures, attempt to escape through the apparent exit at the other end—a sheet of glass.

The breeding Passerines on the island are Sparrow, Starling, Blackbird (*Turdus m. merula*), Song Thrush (*Turdus e. ericetorum*), Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba yarrellii*), Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*) and Rock Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta petrosus*), and, except for the first two, these, with the passage-migrant species, always flew away from the disturbance into the cover and so into the trap. But I noted that the Sparrows and Starlings almost invariably flew over or around the entrance, which meant that they had to fly upwards for ten feet.

We also tried laying a trail of bait (bread and odd scraps) right into the trap, and this attracted inside many birds of various kinds. A concerted and noisy rush would then be made, and though this would be successful with most of the species—both migrant and resident—it was seldom that the Sparrows or Starlings lost their heads. Without hesitating, they would fly straight *towards* the noise and danger and, dodging our uplifted hands, would make good their escape as soon as they were out from beneath the roof of netting. Their behavior made a most marked contrast with that of the other birds in the trap, who always flew *away* from the danger or else attempted to escape through the netting at the side.

The other resident species never solved this trick. Nor, of course, did the passage-migrant species.

One or two Sparrows and Starlings would be caught most days, but these were usually the same individuals. This had nothing to do with immaturity, but it was merely that their sense of cunning (for lack of a better word) was not so keenly developed as it was in the rest of their kind and, occasionally, they would panic and fly away from the danger instead of towards it.

If killing, instead of banding, had been the object of the captures and attempted captures, this would have been a good example of the working of natural selection.

It would be interesting to hear whether results from other stations with similar traps bear out the idea that the Sparrow and Starling might have a cleverness above the average for small Passerines. Though the great success of these two species, both in their own country and in North America, is no doubt largely due to such factors as their omnivorous habits, wide choice of nesting-sites, many young per season, and perhaps general hardiness and scarcity of enemies, it would seem, from my Isle of May observations, that intelligence might also play a part.—L. S. V. VENABLES, Tilford, Surrey, England.

Additional Records of *Protocalliphora*.—Through the coöperation of a number of Ohio ornithologists the Ohio State Museum has been able to secure a good series of specimens of *Protocalliphora*, dipterous parasites of nestling birds, and at the same time has added a number of interesting host records:

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica d. discolor*), "Neotoma," Hocking County, Ohio, June 9, 1934, Louis W. Campbell and Charles F. Walker. Four nestlings left the nest when it was discovered. Thirteen fully grown maggots were found in the nest-material, from the puparia of which the flies emerged on June 22.

Worm-eating Warbler, (*Helmitheros vermivorus*) Washington Township, Lawrence County, Ohio. A nest containing four well-grown young was found on July 1, 1934, by Charles F. Long and the writer. On July 8th, after the young had left, the nest was collected by Mr. Long and six specimens of *Protocalliphora* were reared from it.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus l. ludovicianus*), Washington Township, Jackson County, Ohio. Twenty puparia were found in the nest July 28, 1935. Most of the flies had hatched at the time the nest was collected by Mr. C. F. Long, but three flies were reared from the remaining puparia; one puparium failed to hatch and four were parasitized by a minute chalcid parasite, presumably *Mormoniella*. Five wren nestlings apparently survived the attacks of the twenty maggots.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria v. virens*), Franklin County, Ohio, September 8, 1935, Floyd B. Chapman. Thirty flies emerged September 18th. The record is noteworthy in several respects: a late date for nesting Chats, a late date for the parasites, and the number of parasites. This and the three preceding records, seem to be new host records for *Protocalliphora*.

Mississippi Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia beata*), Columbus, Ohio, June 6, 1935, Mrs. Margaret Morse Nice. Four nestlings. On June 10th there were seven puparia and two larvæ in the paper sack in which the nest was placed. The last two larvæ pupated on June 10th and 11th, and the flies emerged over a period of four days, June 20th–23d.

Our observations indicate that the attacks of this parasite by no means always result in appreciable injury to the hosts. One of the nestling Prairie Warblers was captured and carefully examined. It appeared to be perfectly healthy and in good