

This pair of birds was taken as returns-1 and return-2 in 1935 and 1936 in nest boxes, feeding half-grown young. A147214 is at least eight years old.—RAYMOND J. MIDDLETON, Norristown, Pennsylvania.

An Experience with a Homing Pigeon.—A homing pigeon was released in Hagerstown, Maryland, to fly one hundred forty-seven miles northeastward to Allentown, Pennsylvania. Confused by a fog, it happened to come to my yard and was caught in a four-celled automatic bird-trap. I released the bird at once, but it remained in the yard and soon reentered the trap. The bird was given cracked corn, other seeds, water, and rest, and released. The next day it was tossed up about two hundred feet from the yard, but it at once returned and rested all day in a peach tree. I was not able to discover where it stayed each night, but a flashlight showed that it was not in my yard or the adjoining ones. Each morning it was waiting in the trap. The next day I carried it in a paper bag in an automobile across the Susquehanna River and released it five miles from our home. After resting a few minutes in a tree in the woods, it returned at once to our yard. The following day I carried it through two cities and threw it into the air behind an enormous pile of blast-furnace slag, ten miles east of our home, but without any circling to obtain the direction, it flew immediately over the slag, and two hours later I found it in the trap. The next day it was seen in our yard at 8 o'clock, and it was reported later in Allentown, eighty-two miles distant, at 5 P. M. It was always caught in the same trap and in the same quarter of it. All my efforts were directed to get it away from my yard and to get it going and keep it from getting acquainted with the neighborhood. I flew it each time on a full stomach, never when hungry. It left when ready. How was the bird able to return to my yard? Perhaps the expressions "homing instinct" and "homers" are not entirely correct.—HAROLD B. WOOD, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Winter Banding at Concord, New Hampshire.—The winter of 1935-1936 was a poor one at my station, not many birds coming and those seeming trap-shy to an unusual degree. Returns of Tree Sparrows were as follows: B79727, banded February 24, 1929, recaptured February 4, 1936; B78670 banded January 14, 1933, recaptured February 14, 1936; 34-121707, banded January 25, 1935, recaptured February 14, 1936. One repeater spanned the season from January 12th to March 21st; but, as usual, a change in the visitors occurred in February, the break this year coming the 21st. Chickadees afforded one return, 34-121704, banded November 28, 1934, recaptured November 14, 1935; this species was trapped in two distinct groups, the first six from November 14 to December 3, 1935, and the second six from February 13, 1936, to February 16th. Two out of the first group repeated during the later dates, and it was these probably that were occasionally seen between times. Brown Creepers afforded two returns, L7561, banded November 27, 1933, recaptured February 13, 1936, and L70498, banded November 25, 1934, recaptured February 6, 1936. Other birds trapped were Hairy Woodpeckers, Downy Woodpeckers, a White-breasted Nuthatch, and a Golden-crowned Kinglet. Tree Sparrow F101213, which was banded here December 19, 1933, and returned January 31 and February 18, 1935, was found dead at Derby, Connecticut, March 1, 1935.—FRANCIS B. WHITE, Concord, New Hampshire.

Maryland Yellow-throat Age Record.—At my home banding station in Nashville, there have been several returns of the Maryland Yellow-throat (*Geothlypis t. trichas*).¹ Of the 137 individuals banded in the past four years, eleven were retaken in subsequent years—nine of them as returns-1, one as a

¹Full specimens of the Yellowthroat are racially difficult to determine. I am using the above trinomial realizing that I may be in error.