

I also have found only one albino among 312 trapped. While these facts may possibly be only a coincidence, they so closely describe the same experiences at two separate banding stations close to the Atlantic seaboard as to appear worthy of publication.—GEOFFREY GILL.

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) in Cold Weather.—Forbush in his "Birds of Massachusetts," Volume II, page 322, in referring to this bird makes the following statement: "With the first frosts of autumn hummers begin to leave us. They can stand but little cold, and now and then in late September one is picked up chilled and apparently dying."

The following observations with Hummingbirds in this connection made in the Laurentian Mountains of Canada during the last two weeks of May, 1936, are of interest. At this time the spring migration in these mountains was well under way, and warblers, sparrows, thrushes, and other species were moving to their breeding grounds in numbers. Between May 20th and June 2d several Hummingbirds were seen that had survived severe weather conditions.

On May 20th the temperature in the early morning was 22 degrees Fahrenheit above zero after a snowfall during the night of six inches. This snow did not completely melt until late in the afternoon. The temperature the following night was 28 degrees above zero. Early on the following morning the temperature was again 22 degrees. Ice formed in water-pails and a cold wind blew all day. The temperature was 28 degrees at night and the mercury did not rise above 40 degrees all day.

May 22d. At midnight the thermometer registered 12 degrees above zero. During the night ice formed, and a heavy frost covered the ground.

May 23d.	Temperature	30 degrees	at sunrise.	
May 26th.	"	25	"	"
May 29th.	"	32	"	"
May 30th.	"	38	"	"
June 1st	"	24	"	"

(snow-squalls all day)

During the morning of May 20th the ground and trees were covered with six inches of heavy, wet snow. I spent several hours paddling along the lake-shore on which our camp was located, observing the Hummingbirds and warblers that came there to feed. Myrtle and Parula Warblers were abundant with occasional Redstarts, Canada, Magnolia, and Wilson's Warblers and a number of Chebecs. All these appeared sluggish with the cold, and the Hummingbirds fluttered about on the underside of the snow-covered leaves, which were about half-developed, apparently capturing minute insects (probably aphids), on which they fed, occasionally dropping to the logs that floated along the shore to secure something so small that I could not determine what it was they were eating.

The warblers and flycatchers hopped along on the prostrate logs and appeared to capture the same kind of food as the Hummingbirds. All the birds permitted so close an approach that I could not use field-glasses during these observations. The last day of my stay the Hummingbirds were observed in their usual feeding places and apparently survived the cold weather unharmed.—CHARLES B. FLOYD, Auburndale, Mass.

An Unusual Concentration of Blue Jays.—As evidence that the Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta c. cristata*) is truly a migratory species, Dr. Dayton Stoner cites a record in the October *Bird-Banding* (Vol. 7, No. 4, pages 170-171, 1936) of a bird banded in Iowa that was subsequently collected in Arkansas. He also refers to five similar records published in Dr. Roberts's "Birds of Minnesota." More examples could have been cited from Lincoln's summary of bird migration (U. S. Dept. Agr., Circular 363, page 62, 1935).

Normally, Blue Jays are found singly or in small numbers. Their appearance in a large flock undoubtedly indicates mass movement over a considerable territory. Such evidence was recently noted on a Christmas bird census in the area

of Port Tobacco, Charles County, Maryland. More than one hundred of these noisy inquisitive creatures were encountered in a single flock and more than half their number were concentrated in one tree. That this large concentration is unusual is evidenced by the fact that in this same area, when spring and summer censuses were taken, only two Blue Jays were counted during an entire day in May, and three during a similar period in July. This would seem to give added support to the belief that large mass movements and migration occur among this species.—CLARENCE COTTAM, Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.

A California Shrike Kills Trapped Nuttall's Sparrow.—During the morning of January 21, 1937, I caught a California Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus gambeli*) in my Western Bird-Banding Association two-compartment trap at Benicia, California. A freshly-killed Nuttall's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*) was in the other compartment.

Twice before I have caught Shrikes in this trap, but on each of the other two occasions the birds serving as "bait" in the other compartment were very much alive and excited when the trap was visited. This time, however, the Shrike had killed its victim before getting caught in the other section of the trap.

The victim's throat had been torn open and the body pulled forward against the bars in the front of the cage. The Nuttall's Sparrow was an adult with beautiful white crown-bands and bore an aluminum band which I had placed upon its leg three months before—on October 20, 1936.

It was suggested to me that I kill the villain in this tragedy. However, my bird-killing tendencies being very dormant, I banded and released him.—EMERSON A. STONER, Benicia, California.

Further Tree Swallow Notes.—Several elements of the 1936 Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) breeding season at my station in East Westmoreland, New Hampshire, seem to be of sufficient interest to be recorded. It is concluded that adverse weather conditions during the breeding season were mainly responsible for a rather unsuccessful year. The following table of the 1935 and 1936 seasons are given for a comparison:

1935

79 eggs laid in eighteen nests.
4 eggs addled.
6 young flew, unbanded.
3 young died before banding.
1 young died after banding.
3 adult females were banded.
66 young banded.

RETURNS

34-24337, female, banded on June 16, 1934, a first-year breeder at substation C, returned on July 15, 1935, to the main station.
F60913, male, banded on June 11, 1932, as an immature, a return-3 on April 27, 1935, at box of birth.

1936

105 eggs laid in nineteen nests.
17 eggs addled or destroyed.
4 broods, or part of, flew, unbanded.
25 young died unbanded.
11 young died after banding.
9 adult females were banded.
51 young banded.

RETURNS

L34878, female, banded on May 24, 1934, a return-1 on June 7, 1936.
34-51591, female, banded on June 3, 1935, a return-1 on June 9, 1936.
34-24346, banded as an immature on June 20, 1934, was a recovery on June 18, 1936, at Loudon New Hampshire.
35-56006, banded as an immature on June 16, 1935, returned on May 21, 1936, at Park Hill, Westmoreland, about four miles from the banding station; a female, since she started nesting in a metal mailbox standing on a four-foot post close to the road in front of the house. The nest-material was cleaned out, and, the following day, this bird persisted in another attempt to nest, leaving after her consequent capture.
35-56023, an immature banded on June 16, 1935, was a first-year breeding female to return on June 26, 1936.