

GENERAL NOTES

Notes on Speed of Migration.—These banding records, which indicate rapid migration, seem of sufficient interest to warrant their publication now. Data are accumulating in the banding files that may in time make possible some definite conclusions on this subject. The Mallards and Chimney Swifts here listed were all banded during the height of fall migration and their flights perhaps represent about average rates.

MALLARD:

38-643930, banded at Lacreek Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, near Martin, South Dakota, on October 17, 1938, was shot October 19, 1938, near Pawhuska, Oklahoma, a flight of at least 550 miles

38-643971, also banded at Lacreek Refuge, on October 18, 1938, was shot October 20, 1938, 2 miles south of Carmen, Oklahoma, a distance of about 510 miles.

38-717241 was banded at White River Migratory Waterfowl Refuge, near St. Charles, Arkansas, on November 24, 1938, and was shot the following day 2 miles northeast of Holly Beach, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. This is a distance of at least 300 miles.

CHIMNEY SWIFT.

38-52486, banded September 20, 1938, at Newark, Ohio, by Dr. Lawrence E. Hicks, was retrapped September 27, 1938, at Nashville, Tennessee, by Mrs. F. C. Laskey. The airline distance is approximately 375 miles.

39-111991, banded September 22, 1938, at Glasgow, Ky., by F. Everett Frei, was retaken the following morning at Nashville by Mrs. Laskey. The bird was banded and released at 5.30 A.M., and the chimney in Nashville closed at 6.00 P.M. that evening, so the flight of 80 miles in an airline represents just one day's flight.

39-34177, banded September 23, 1938, at Lexington, Missouri, by Irvin St. J. Sturgis, was retrapped September 27, 1938, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana by George H. Lowery, Jr. The distance is about 600 miles.

In the case of Swifts the airline distance between the points of capture, of course, represents only a fraction of the distance actually traveled by the birds feeding on their way.—MAY THACHER COOKE, U. S. Biological Survey.

An Analysis of Catbird Returns Over a Ten Year Period.—Beginning with the spring of 1929, up to and including the autumn of 1938, 1,134 Catbirds (*Dumetella carolinensis*), have been banded at Huntington, Long Island, New York in a ten year period. Of this group, 489 birds were banded as adults, 579 as immatures and 66 as fledglings. It should be remarked that the number of adults may be slightly less and the number of immatures slightly more, as difficulty is experienced in September and October in exactly classifying some individuals as to age.

Up to the present date, 99 individuals have made a total of 158 returns at this station. To these station returns can be added four individuals found dead within a mile of the station, one to three years after they were banded, giving mute proof that they also returned.

Other recoveries reported to the Biological Survey consist of an adult and an immature recovered locally before migration in the same year that they were banded. Only one Catbird has been recovered at a distance, and this, less than thirty miles west of the station in June of the year following its banding. None of this group of 1,134 catbirds has been recovered during the winter months anywhere.

Of the 99 individuals to return, 63 of them were banded as adults or almost two-thirds of all the returns. Thirty-five birds to return were banded as immatures and one return was banded as a fledgling. This fledgling banded in June, 1933, returned and nested within a few hundred feet of its birthplace in both 1934 and 1935, and represents the only such record out of the 66 fledglings so marked.

Fledglings were banded in five different seasons and represent the broods from nineteen nests. All these nests were located within a few hundred feet of the banding station and the young were banded for the purpose of learning whether they would be taken in the nearby traps after they left the nest. Such captures would partially explain the great influx of immatures at this station during August and September of each year. Only three of the entire 66 fledglings appeared in the traps and these were taken only once, giving weight to the belief