

were secured in a cedar post trap. Are these birds a mated pair?—KATHERINE G. HARDING, Cohasset, Mass.

Attempt to Increase Number of Eggs in Clutch of Bluebird.—The following experiment was carried out at Brooks School, North Andover, Massachusetts, in order to determine whether an Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia s. sialis*) could be induced to lay more than the number of eggs which it has been known to lay. Forbush, ("Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States", 1929, 3 : 419) gives the number as "3 to 7, usually 4 or 5."

On April 30, 1942, of two eggs in Box 14, I removed one and marked with a pencil the remaining egg. On the following day, May 1, there were three warm eggs in the box, so I removed two, again marking the egg left in the box. It should be noted here that one egg was left in the nest at all times to encourage the female to continue laying. On May 2 there was in the box only the one marked egg. However, on the following day, May 3, there were two cold eggs, so I removed the marked one. For the next two days the one lone egg remained, and there was no sign of the presence of the parents. On May 6 I removed the nest and the remaining egg from the box, for it was obvious that the nest had been abandoned. A total of five eggs was laid.—FRANCIS P. NASH, JR., Brooks School, North Andover, Massachusetts.

Repeats on Banded English Sparrows.—Between April 26 and July 24, 1941, ninety-nine English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) were trapped and banded. They were captured in an ordinary sparrow trap placed on the roof of McGilvrey Hall, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. Fifteen repeats involving eleven different birds were recorded. Eight were captured twice, two were taken three times, and one trapped five times (three repeats). The number of repeats would indicate that the English sparrow population was a local one living within a small range. An average of 3.9 individuals were trapped each time birds were found in the trap.

<i>Band No.</i>	<i>Dates of Capture</i>
120994	5/12—5/15
136157	5/12—6/1
120995	5/12—7/19
120991	5/19—6/23
39-141517	6/7 —6/9
39-193327	7/3 —7/4
39-193334	7/5 —7/11
39-193331	7/5 —7/19
39-141512	6/7 —6/9 —6/27
39-193324	7/2 —7/4 —7/5
39-199841	6/10—6/13—6/27—6/30 (at 10:30 A.M. and 5 P.M.)

Trapping operations were resumed in late September but no English Sparrows were captured before November 11. Until that time the birds ignored the trap and bait. After the eleventh the birds consumed the bait in front of the trap but for the most part would not enter it. A few entered the first compartment but managed to escape through the entrance. Two more were trapped on November 16. For some time after that no other birds were captured. They were seen around the trap but would not enter or escaped from the first compartment. The trap was discontinued in early December.—RALPH W. DEXTER, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

A Purple Finch Recovery.—On January 23, 1938 Roger Branham banded a male Purple Finch at Hingham, Mass., applying band No. 37-140424. The bird was recovered by me April 7, 1941 at Cohasset, Mass. This is the first bird ever recovered at our station from a neighboring town.—KATHERINE G. HARDING, Cohasset, Mass.

Two Records of Crippled Birds.—In trapping sparrows on the roof of

McGilvrey Hall on the campus of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, the writer captured a male English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus domesticus* L.) which had the left leg broken off at the end of the tibia. The bird was trapped on June 15, 1941, in an ordinary sparrow trap with five other English sparrows and was banded with Biol. Surv. band 136169. In the trap the crippled bird seemed to get around and feed without difficulty and to compete successfully with the other birds. The following spring this bird returned, and was found dead in the trap on May 14, 1942.

While studying marine life at Cape Ann, Massachusetts, in the summer of 1936, the writer observed a mature Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus* Coues) with a single leg. The left leg was broken off close to the body. At first the bird appeared to be simply standing on one leg, but continued observation showed the left leg to be missing. The bird was seen in a small flock on an exposed sandy-mud bar in a tidal inlet, and was later observed on this bar on several different occasions.—RALPH W. DEXTER, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Sex Ratios.—The following data have been compiled from the records of the Summerville, South Carolina, station of William P. Wharton, who presented a summary report of the results of twelve years of banding in South Carolina in the October, 1941, issue of BIRD BANDING (XII: 137-147). Sex ratio figures were easily accessible only for the years 1931-1937, and for the species here listed, during which period a total of 8,743 birds was banded, and a total of 1,564 return records made, a percentage of 17.88.

TABLE I
Sex Ratios Compiled From Birds Banded at Summerville, S. C. 1931-1937

	Male	Female
White-breasted Nuthatch.....	7	1
Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	1	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	—	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	13	5
Red-winged Blackbird.....	18	8
Cowbird.....	57	32
Cardinal.....	124	119
Red-eyed Towhee.....	190	130
White-eyed Towhee.....	58	51
TOTALS.....	468	348

TABLE II
Sex Ratios Compiled From Return Records—Summerville, S. C. 1931-1937

	Male	Female
Cardinal.....	20	19
Red-eyed Towhee.....	48	23
White-eyed Towhee.....	17	9
TOTALS.....	85	51

The above tables seem to contain a few items of significance. Ignoring those species banded in small numbers, the most striking one seems to be the more balanced sex ratios in Table I of the resident species, as compared to the migratory ones.

The difference in the two tables in the ratios for the White-eyed Towhee is interesting. The figures in Table I, from new bandings, can be assumed to represent, in a large proportion, birds of the year. Those in Table II represent birds nearing two years old and older. While the first group is in good balance, the second group, composed of older birds present on the area during the winter, shows nearly two males for each female. The Cardinal, on the other hand, maintains its remarkably balanced sex ratio in both tables.

The figures for the Red-eyed Towhee in Table II, also show a shrinkage among the older birds in the ratio of females to males.