

SPRING ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

Year	First Arrivals	Total Arrived	Date All Had Departed
1914	April 5		
1917	April 5		
1918	March 24	March 29—2000	
1919	March 20	March 25—2000 May 21— 500	May 27
1920			May 20
1921	March 11	March 12— 50 April 1—1500	May 10
1925		May 10— 500	

Ivers S. Adams, Hardwick, Massachusetts.

Living Young Tree Swallows Attacked by Carrion Beetle.—Several years ago I banded a brood of four young Tree Swallows. The nest was clean and the young birds healthy and nearly old enough to fly at the time of banding, but several days of cold rainy weather followed. Just seven days later when I returned to the banding station the adult Tree Swallows were still carrying food to the nesting box. A young fledgling was found dead on the ground beneath the nesting box, another dead in the nest; one fledgling, seemingly slightly injured, flew weakly when the nesting box was opened and a fourth fledgling attempted to fly but dropped to the ground. The latter bird's left wing was badly eaten so the raw area was immediately treated with mercurochrome and the patient placed on a Cape Cod feeder near the nesting box where the adults continued to feed it for a number of days. The injured portion healed but the tissues were so badly damaged that it was unable to fly and doubtless fell prey to some prowling cat.

Upon examining the nesting box a carrion beetle was found which was probably attracted by the foul odor of the dead young and wet nesting material. It proceeded to bury the contents even attacking the living young.

This may be a more common occurrence than is generally known, as I recalled previous injuries to fledgling Tree Swallows and Bluebirds at the time of banding; such as missing nails, bleeding feet and otherwise seemingly healthy young birds buried under the nesting material. Also when boxing nests for shipment to the U. S. Bureau of Entomology for determination of parasites some carrion beetles were observed, but apparently they ate their way out as none were reported as being found.—OLIVE P. WETHERBEE, 11 Dallas Street, Worcester 4, Massachusetts.

Chickadee and Catbird Returns.—On October 31, 1944, a Chickadee bearing Band 36-31053, which had been banded at this station as a juvenile on August 21, 1936, was recaptured. Thus this bird was well over eight years old. It had returned in 1937, 1938, 1939, and on August 15, 1941, not appearing since the last named date.

On August 10, 1944, a Catbird bearing Band 38-126465, which had been banded at this station as an adult female on June 21, 1938, was recaptured. Thus this bird was at least seven years old. This bird had returned twice previously, in the years 1940 and 1941.—WILLIAM P. WHARTON, Groton, Massachusetts.

Banding Nomenclature.—The banding nomenclature as suggested by Harold B. Wood in the July 1944 issue of *Bird-Banding* (15: 115-116) seems to be a very logical classification for recapture records of banded birds. With two minor exceptions, it is the system I have used in my work. But I like the terms Return-1, Return-2, Return-5 to indicate the actual number of times the individual has been a return at the station since the dates that always accompany this designation indicate the number of years that have elapsed after banding. Thus my designation "White Throated Sparrow, banded Oct. 10, 1938, Return-5, Oct. 10, 1943" signifies it has been retaken each year during the five years, while "White Throated Sparrow, banded Oct. 10, 1938, Return-3, Oct. 10, 1943" shows clearly that it was retrapped at the station as a return in three out of the five years.

There is a definite need of a term for the banded bird that is trapped by another