

When Banded	Age	Year of Return
June 25, '33	juv.	1934
Aug. 8, '33	ad. fem.	1934
Oct. 11, '33	ad. fem.	1934
July 28, '33	ad. fem.	1935
July 6, '34	juv.	1935
July 10, '32	juv.	1936
June 18, '34	juv.	1936
July 10, '34	juv.	1936
May 15, '35	Nestling	1936
June 5, '35	Nestling	1936
Aug. 2, '35	juv.	1936
Aug. 11, '34	ad. male	1937
May 6, '36	ad. fem.	1937
July 22, '35	ad. male	1938
May 22, '37	ad. male	1938
June 23, '37	juv.	1938
June 24, '37	juv.	1938
July 29, '37	juv.	1938
June 22, '35	juv.	1939
Sept. 16, '35	juv.	1939
June 24, '37	juv.	1939
June 28, '37	juv.	1939
July 7, '36	juv.	1939
July 6, '37	juv.	1939
July 8, '38	juv.	1939
May 13, '37	ad. fem.	1940
July 3, '39	juv.	1940
July 11, '35	juv.	1941
July 3, '40	juv.	1941
July 4, '39	juv.	1942
June 1, '41	ad. male	1942
Aug. 29, '41	ad. male	1942
Sept. 7, '41	juv.	1942
June 25, '41	ad. fem.	1943
Aug. 16, '42	juv.	1943

Summary: 24 juveniles, 2 nestlings, 9 females, 6 males: Total, 41
Wm. P. Wharton, Groton, Mass.

Chickadee Over Nine Years Old.—In the January, 1945, number of *Bird-Banding* I reported Chickadee No. 36-31053, banded at this station August 21, 1936, as a juvenile, as having been recaptured at the same place on October 31, 1944. Now I am able to report the same bird was taken by me on October 4, 1945. Thus this bird is now in his tenth year.

I might add that 36-31053 had gray feathers surrounding its eyes. It seemed in good condition.—William P. Wharton, Groton, Mass.

A Ten-Year-Old Cardinal.—A postcard recently received from Summer-ville, S. C., contains the interesting information that the male Cardinal reported on page 160 of the October, 1944, number of *Bird-Banding* is still frequenting the feeding shelf of my former neighbor there. On July 30 of this year, "Grandfather," as he is now called, was feeding two young birds on that shelf, and seemed to be in good health and spirits.—William P. Wharton, Groton, Mass.

Return of White-throated Sparrow to Groton, Mass.—Returns of White-throated Sparrows to my Groton Station have never been recorded but once, and

this record may be of interest to the readers of *Bird-Banding*. White-throat 36-118397, banded September 15, 1936, and taken as a repeat several times up to October 7, staged a return on May 1, 1937, at the same trap site where it had been banded. No repeats were taken that year, nor was this bird trapped in any subsequent year. Although it is possible that 36-118397 may have nested in this region, such nestings are so rare as to make it appear not improbable that the bird was a migrant.

It would be interesting to know if other banders outside of the summer and winter ranges of the White-throat have secured returns of this species.—William P. Wharton, Groton, Mass.

RECENT LITERATURE

Reviews by Donald S. Farner and others

BANDING AND MIGRATION

1. Report of the Bird-Ringing Committee: Progress for 1944. A. Landsborough Thomson. 1945. *British Birds*, 38: 290-294. A total of 6,496 birds were ringed in 1944 in Great Britain, of which 5,313 were nestlings. "Among the recoveries are two of Rooks ringed eleven years before, one as an adult and one as a nestling. A Sandwich Tern over thirteen years old was recovered in northern Spain, and another was found after eleven years in the ternery where it was hatched. A Tufted Duck ringed in St. James's Park in February, 1942, was shot in Novaya Zemlya in the following May: this is by far the highest latitude from which a recovery has ever been reported." Species ringed in the largest numbers since 1909 are: Starling, Song-Thrush, Blackbird, Barn Swallow, Lapwing, Chaffinch, Robin, Manx Shearwater, and Common Tern.—M. M. NICE.

2. Do Birds Cross the Gulf of Mexico in Spring? George G. Williams. 1945. *Auk*, 62(1): 98-111. Very frequently in science a theory proposed by a dynamic leader is accepted without question and remains unchallenged and largely uninvestigated for many years. The author believes that the theory of trans-Gulf migration should be challenged. The late W. W. Cooke, who first proposed the theory, based it on three lines of evidence, none of which, according to the author, stand up under critical scrutiny. First, the author can find no really reliable reports of large numbers of land birds actually seen migrating or on ships more than fifty miles off shore; birds seen closer might have been blown off shore by storms, especially since resident birds are often included. Secondly, recent study of migration on the Texas coast indicates that the same species occur there in spring as on the Louisiana coast. Finally, the reputed simultaneous arrival of birds along the Gulf Coast is not considered sufficiently proven. While the author thus shows that direct evidence for trans-Gulf migration is much weaker than generally supposed and that many individuals of species supposed to cross the Gulf apparently migrate around the Gulf (or at least touch at points around the periphery), it should be noted that the evidence presented is not sufficient to cause an immediate or complete abandonment of the trans-Gulf theory. In many ways the author seems too dogmatic in some of his statements. Someone needs to park astride the supposed route over the Gulf and see if birds actually fly over in large numbers. Contrary evidence, such as presented by Lowery and Van Tyne, needs to be further amplified. It seems not unreasonable to suppose that large numbers of individuals may take both routes, or some individuals may cross the Gulf in one hop under favorable conditions, and others land on the periphery to continue their journey *via* land. This paper will indeed stimulate discussions and observations.—E. P. ODUM.