

for the night because of the noisy contesting for perches which the birds exhibit before settling down.

After dark the roosts were revisited and spots where sparrows had been seen going to roost, or spots which looked as if they might harbor sparrows, were located by flashlight. The flashlight was then turned off. The sectional handle was adjusted to the appropriate length and the net hoisted quietly and pressed gently against the side of the building and then jiggled slightly. Whereupon the bird or birds within the area covered by the mouth of the net would awaken, fly out and flutter down into the tail of the net. The net was then lowered to the ground, and the birds transferred to a holding cage. In this way approximately 300 English Sparrows, and incidentally a number of starlings and pigeons, were captured.—George A. Bartholomew, Jr., University of California at Los Angeles, California.

Use of Wood Duck Nesting Boxes by Screech Owls.—The continued use of desirable territory by the Screech Owl, *Otus asio* (Linnaeus), is indicated by the following banding and return records. On May 8, 1946, three Screech Owl adults were found and banded when a routine examination of the Wood Duck nesting boxes at Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Northampton, Massachusetts was made by personnel of the Massachusetts Conservation Department, under the immediate direction of Robert H. Johnson. No. 42-515191 was an adult female in the gray phase, found hovering six nestlings. No. 42-515192 was an adult female in the red phase, found to be hovering five nestlings. No. 42-515193 was an adult male found in a box by himself, and in the gray plumage phase. The nestlings present were too small to band, and, unfortunately, press of other projects resulted in the lost opportunity to band them when they reached the proper size.

The pre-nesting examination of the Wood Duck nest boxes in the spring of 1947 was made on March 26. On that date, red phase female 42-515192 was taken as a return with 42-515193, grey phase male. Both were in nest box no. 20 at this time.

A subsequent examination made on May 12, 1947, gave another record for the female with band 42-515192. At this time she was hovering five small young in box no. 16. No other Screech Owls were found during this examination.

Apparently the large nest boxes with four inch entrance holes installed for Wood Ducks, made very acceptable nesting and roosting sites for Screech Owls. This factor, coupled with the nearby presence of several grassy areas and a rather extensive area of land lying in fallow, both of which were heavily populated with meadow mice, (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*), provided ideal territory for these small owls.

The more obvious remains of birds that had entered into the diet of the Screech Owls were found, the following species being represented: Flicker, *Colaptes auratus luteus* Bangs, Brown Thrasher, *Toxostoma rufum* (Linnaeus), Eastern Robin, *Turdus m. migratorius* (Linnaeus) and Eastern Song Sparrow, *Melospiza m. melodia* (Wilson). The effect of the owl's depredations on the song bird population was not superficially noticeable. Edwin A. Mason, Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Northampton, Massachusetts.

Maryland Piping Plover Recovered in the Bahamas.—Word has just been received that Piping Plover *Charadrius melodus melodus* Ord, No. 46-120304, which we banded as a juvenal on July 12, 1947, at Ocean City, Maryland, was recovered on October 22, 1947, at Sword Fish Creek on the Island of Grand Bahama. Although more than 1600 Piping Plovers have been banded, this is the first recovery from south of South Carolina, and the first between the months of August and April. Not only are there relatively few records for this species in the Bahamas, but until the present time it has not been known whether the