which showed more individual variation (in other characters) than the adults, and believe this was more or less by broods.—J. T. Nichols, The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York 24, N. Y.

Eye Color in the Brown Thrasher.—Many bird-banders, no doubt, make careful note of the color of the "soft-parts" of birds they handle. What I have to offer will be familiar to many, likely but a fragment of what some could, and so far as I know have not, placed on record, which is regrettable.

The eye of adult Brown Trashers *(Toxostoma rufum)* is yellow, occasionally orange. The variation in color is for the most part an individual matter. I have not differentiated the sexes, but thought that one season an individual with orange, was mated to another with deep orange-yellow eye, a close approximation at the limit of color variation. The former (No. 34-237848) was captured as an adult in four successive years, dates ranging from June 20 to August 21 in the first three, eye consistently orange. In the fourth year, July 3, its eye was noted as a little yellower, deep orange yellow, possibly because it was ageing. There is also probably little if any seasonal color change from April to August. My data suggest that there is a slight difference in eye-color by localities, at Garden City, and Mastic, Long Island, New York.

At Garden City I find record of the following individuals: with dull yellow eye, 1 (August 30); with yellow eye, 4 (April 29 to August 29); deep yellow eye, 8 (April 27 to August 5); orange-yellow to yellow-orange, 4 (May 8 to August 3, molting); orange, 1 (June 20 to August 21).

Comparable figures at Mastic are as follows: with dull yellow eye, 3 individuals (August 5 and 29); with yellow, 6 (August 21 to Sept. 10); strong, deep, and bright yellow, 3 (May 19, June 1, and August 29, respectively); orange-yellow, 1 (June 12 and July 3).

Young thrashers, when fully grown and independent, have a rather pale ashen or pearl grey eye. I have a record of eleven birds-of-the-year, at Garden City, and Mastic, with grey or greyish eye, from July 3 to September 19. As our thrashers sing little, when at all, after June 30, and presumably complete their nesting cycle early, it would seem to take the young some time to acquire a yellow eye. I have had no repeats over a sufficient period to estimate how long, probably because they are drifting rather than established in a given locality, as seems to be the rule with young birds. On the other hand, the grey eye becomes quickly tinged with yellow. One individual with an ashy grey eye on July 14, had a yellowish grey one on July 18. That of another became slightly pinkish between July 28 and August 4. Three of the said eleven had a yellowish grey, two a pale greyish yellow, one a pale pinkish grey eye when banded.

A bird with pale yellowish white eye on July 22 was presumably, one with the eye pale yellow on August 3, and another with it dull pale yellow on August 12, were most likely young. There is no proof that those with dull yellow eye classed above as adults, were so, but one or more looked and behaved like such. The dull yellow eye of one August 30, was not noticeably dull when it was taken again October 2.—J. T. Nichols, The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York 24, N. Y.

The 1952 Returns of Chimney Swifts at Kent, Ohio.—During the spring and summer of 1952 a total of 40 banded Chimney Swifts *(Chaetura pelagica)* returned to the campus of Kent State University. They were present from April 20 until October 5, 1952, although they did not all arrive or depart at the same time. There were 13 males, 12 females, and 15 which have not yet had their sex determined. The number of returns from each year's banding was as follows: 1944 (4); 1945 (1); 1946 (1); 1947 (5); 1948 (2); 1949 (8); 1950 (7); 1951 (12).

Thirteen pairs nested in separate air shafts of four campus buildings. There were 86 available shafts, although nine of these were not very suitable. Those chosen were well spaced over the roof tops; no two were in juxtaposition. Six pairs returned to the same air shaft with the same mate as in the preceding year for another nesting season. Another pair from the previous year remained mated but moved into a different shaft for nesting in 1952. Four birds continued nesting in the same shaft as in 1951, but with a different mate. Two of these