All returns in the spring and summer of 1955 came from birds banded not later than 14 August.

Three early stages of postjuvenal molt are described. Differences in time of molt in parts of the population are discussed.

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Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.

GENERAL NOTES

Observations on a Wintering Flicker.—A male Flicker *(Colaptes auratus)* that I first saw December 30, 1953, at my feeding shelf in Baltimore, and color-banded there 9 days later, was present in a rather wide area about my home through April 10, 1954. His disappearance coincided with an influx of the species on the night of April 10-11; that was the main arrival of the year in the neighborhood, where the Flicker is normally a summer resident; the very first new bird had been present March 7-18 and I had seen 2 or 3 passing singles after that. On July 15-16 the color-banded male was back on his wintering ground, feeding two partly independent juveniles. Again October 12-14 he reappeared; on October 14 a female was with him during the few minutes he was seen. He did not return in 1955.

Winter range. During his winter stay I found this bird chiefly—that is, frequently—within an area half a mile long and a fifth of a mile wide; occasionally the width of his range was extended to a third of a mile. There were times when I could not find him and he may have been outside those boundaries. There was a large wood at one end of the area and a very small one near the other end; a good part of the intervening and surrounding residential territory was fairly well wooded.

Although my complete record of the bird suggests that he nested somewhere in my region, I am confident that he did not do so within the range just described, for I searched there—and also well beyond, on all sides—many times during the summer, and scanned for bands the great majority of all Flickers encountered, without finding him. Also, the part of the range in which he made his July and October reappearances was occupied during the summer by an unbanded male.

First singing, drumming. As far as I could observe, the wintering male came into song on February 22, and began to drum on February 25; the migrant male that was present March 7-18 sang on some days from March 10 on. My records for 15 previous years show no Flicker song before March 10 except once on February 27 by an isolated passing bird, and once on March 5 by an early arrival. My previous earliest date for drumming was March 18.

Hole-digging. On February 25 I found the Flicker digging a hole 43 feet up in the dead top of a tree; the hole at that time ran in horizontally about 1½ inches. On several more days through April 1 I saw him work there; by that time he had begun to dig downward. That was the last digging I saw him do.

Both during that period and later, this hole was a tremendous attraction to other woodpeckers—permanent residents, migrants and summer residents alike. On February 25 a color-banded resident female Downy Woodpecker *(Dendrocopos pubescens)* went within a few feet of it while the Flicker was digging, and her unbanded mate examined it during an absence of the Flicker.

Also on February 25, a migrating or wandering male Red-bellied Woodpecker *(Centurus carolinus)* actually drove the Flicker away from the hole in order to dig in his stead. Again on March 2 some digging was done by, and on March 7 the hole was at least visited by, a Red-belly that presumably was the same bird.

On March 18 the hole was worked upon by the migrant male Flicker that was present March 7-18. On April 11 it was worked on by still another male Flicker which that day took up this part of the banded one's now deserted winter range, and on May 1 both a male and a female Flicker, and on May 2 the female again, did some digging. On these May days, though, the Flickers were much bothered by Starlings *(Sturnus vulgaris)* and they abandoned the place.

Finally, on May 5, a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers *(Melanerpes erythrocephalus)* attempted to work at the hole; these, too, were continually attacked by the Starlings, and gave up on the same day.

The Starlings had begun frequenting the tree on April 7, and the hole itself by April 10. By April 20 they had taken in some nest material, and they added to this occasionally through May 5. However, in this instance they were defeated by their own pugnacity: their attacks had prevented the woodpeckers from digging the hole to a usable depth, and after a while they abandoned it themselves.

Feeding. Through March 31 the banded Flicker came frequently to my feeder for suet, and often ate lengthily, yet this by no means weaned him from natural foods. On one day, for example, after spending 10 minutes at the suet he went directly to a wood and began foraging and was still so engaged 40 minutes later when I had to stop watching. Because such statements as I can find about the winter feeding of Flickers emphasize their hunting over the ground or their dependence on fruits and seeds, it seems worth mentioning that besides doing some searching of the ground—where in another winter I once found a male Flicker pounding acorns to pieces—my bird spent considerable time in trees seeking insects. I several times saw him peck lengthily at particular spots on branches as if digging for prey, and once clearly saw him excavate at the base of a dead branch just as a Downy Woodpecker might have done. At other times he picked here and there at branches he was moving over, also in the manner of a Downy, chipped bits of bark off both live and dead stems, peered under the projecting edges of large white oak *(Quercus alba)* bark scales, and searched through piles of dead leaves that had collected in forks. Such heaps of trash probably hold hibernating insects, for I once saw the Flicker swallow after probing in one, and I have on other occasions seen a Flicker and Downy Woodpeckers search them. The leaf nests of gray squirrels *(Sciurus carolinensis)* are searched similarly by Starlings.—Hervey Brackbill, 2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore 7, Maryland.

Roseate Tern Nesting in Nova Scotia.—During June and early July of 1956, while banding terns in the Tusket Islands, Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia, we visited six islands which supported mixed colonies of Common and Arctic Terns. On only one island, shown on the British Admiralty chart as Little Bald, but known locally as Mossy Bald, we also found a very small group of Roseate Terns and were able to band one Roseate chick.

In an article which appeared in the January-February, 1956 issue of *Audubon Magazine*, Dr. Harrison Lewis reported that Roseates were seen occasionally along the south shore of Nova Scotia, but that there was no current record of a breeding colony. We are glad to be able to report that Roseates are still among the breeding birds of Nova Scotia.—David and Marie Henry, 64 Hoitt Road, Belmont 78, Massachusetts.

RECENT LITERATURE

BANDING

(See also Number 54)

1. The Greenland Bird-Ringing Scheme. Anon. 1956. *Polar Record* **8**(54): 270-271. (Summarized from information provided by Dr. Finn Salomonsen, Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Kφbenhavn.) "Administrative officials throughout Greenland organize bird-ringing as part of their official duties. Supplies of