

A Cardinal's Odd Way of Catching Ants.—This incident concerning the Eastern Cardinal (*Richmondia cardinalis cardinalis*) was related to me by a friend, Mrs. Mary Heath Lee of Fairhope. Mrs. Lee is a very careful observer. She says: "Hearing a pattering on my porch one morning (early in July) I looked out quickly. Cardinals were frequently about but they seldom came nearer than the drinking-bowl in the yard. But there was one (a male) on the porch investigating a dead cockroach. There was really very little of the insect left, but it was surrounded by ants. The Cardinal first picked the ants from the cockroach's body and then from the porch floor. Probably with its broad beak the bird found it difficult to pick up the ants. I was not near enough to see. But it began walking back and forth, dragging its tail alongside, with the underside uppermost, and though this was almost too much for its balance, it managed to stand and pick from the underside of its tail the ants it had thus swept up."—HELEN M. EDWARDS, *Fairhope, Ala.*

The Record of the Starling in Arkansas.—In W. J. Baerg's recent "Birds of Arkansas", published in January, 1931, the record of the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*) is given as from Fayetteville, and under date of January 25, 1930. This same source also states that this is the only record for the state. Both of these statements are incorrect. Furthermore the Fayetteville record is based on a rather uncertain sight observation, and could not be accepted in any form except for the work of Mr. S. H. Weakly of Fort Smith, who established the true state record January 18, 1930. On that date Mr. Weakly trapped and banded the first Starling taken in the state, according to all available information. This bird was banded with Biological Survey band No. A239438. Three days later Mr. Weakly banded four of the birds, with bands No. A239474-75, A239495-96, and a sixth bird, No. A350691 on the following day. Since that time and ending February 19, 1930, Mr. Weakly has banded twenty-three more of the birds, for a total of twenty-nine from Fort Smith during the winter of 1929-30.

Of the above Mr. Weakly has received two returns, one No. A239476 (banded January 21, 1930) being found dead by C. E. Dennis, in Moultrie County, Illinois, March 3, 1930, and another No. A350721 (banded February 6, 1930) captured and released by M. Chambers at Athens, Illinois, January 19, 1931.

Mr. Weakly has been kind enough to furnish me with his records to supply the above information, which establishes beyond question the state record. He adds in his letter to me with the above information and records (June 6, 1932) that: "Starlings were fairly plentiful here during the winter of 1928-29, extremely plentiful in 1929-30, very few in 1930-31, and lots of them last winter, but the weather was so mild and feed so abundant that I did not band a single one, although they fed in my garden among my traps."

It is evident from the above that Mr. Weakly had established a sight record for the Starling at least a year before banding a single individual, and that the Starling can no longer be considered as accidental, but as an established winter resident in Arkansas. It might be added that Fort Smith is on the extreme western border of the state, and it is quite probable that the birds are locally even more common at certain places on the eastern side of the state.—J. D. BLACK, *University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.*