

GENERAL NOTES

The Returns of Banded Chimney Swifts at Kent, Ohio, in 1954 and 1955.—Chimney Swifts returned to the campus of Kent State University in 1954 on April 21. A total of 46 returns was captured during that season, which had been banded as follows: 1947 (3); 1948 (1); 1949 (6); 1950 (6); 1951 (6); 1952 (10); 1953 (14). Twenty were males, 18 were females, while the remaining eight have not yet been determined (sex determination, except for those found dead, must be made indirectly by learning which ones have been mated to one of known sex). This was the first year that no return was obtained from the first three years of banding (1944-46). There were 13 mated pairs, each occupying a separate air shaft. Two of these couples, however, involved the same female who started nesting with one male, but when he deserted her at the time the nest was completed to become a visitor with another pair, she began a second nest in a nearby shaft, which was never completed, with another mate. In addition, there were three threesomes in which a visitor remained with the mates throughout the nesting season, and three other pairs had an occasional visitor during the nesting period.

Of the 37 taking part in nesting and the additional five who were visitors, only two were birds which had not been banded in previous years. One was a female who nested successfully and the other was the male who left his mate to become an occasional visitor with another pair. Three pairs nested in the same air shafts which they had occupied the previous year. One threesome returned to the same shaft where these three had nested together the previous year. Twelve others returned to the same shafts which they occupied in 1953, but in each case there was some change—a new mate, a new visitor, or the loss of a former visitor. There was only one pair in which neither partner had previously nested on the campus. Eight other Swifts were nesting for the first time on the campus, including the two not banded until 1954, each mated to a former nesting bird. In only two cases did both former mates return to nest but fail to remain mated to each other. In two other cases a former visitor returned to the campus but got a mate of its own rather than continuing as a visitor with another pair. Seven Swifts which returned before nest building was completed on the campus did not remain to nest there. One other did not return to campus until nesting was over. Of those trapped before nesting began, 26 out of 34 remained as mates or visitors in the same air shaft where they were first recaptured that year. Twenty-seven birds were taken first that year from shafts which they had occupied in former years. One bird was recaptured for the first time since it was banded in 1950.

In 1955 the Chimney Swifts returned to the campus on the same date as in the previous year—April 21. This time a total of 55 returned which had been banded as follows: 1947 (3); 1948 (1); 1949 (5); 1950 (6); 1951 (7); 1952 (8); 1953 (14); 1954 (11). Twenty-one were males, 19 were females, and 15 were of unknown sex. There were 17 mated pairs in as many separate air shafts. There were two threesomes and one foursome. The foursome consisted of a threesome from the previous year with an added member to the group, which was a bird in its first year. In addition, one other pair had an occasional visitor during the nesting season. This visitor was a newly banded bird and possibly a bird in its first year. It was the only newly banded bird to take part in nesting in 1955, and then only as an occasional visitor. Of the 42 birds involved in actual mating, one male was nesting in its first year, having been banded as a juvenile the previous season. Ten pairs remained mated as they had been in 1954 and nested in the same shaft, placing the nest in the same position where it had been the previous year. One pair remained mated as before but nested in the adjoining shaft to the one previously occupied, while two other pairs returned as mates to their same shafts, but each acquired an all-season visitor. Three birds returned to the same shaft for nesting as in 1954, but with a new mate. In no case did former mates, where both returned, obtain different mates in 1955. One former visitor, however, left the pair it resided with in 1954 and acquired a mate of its own. This pair and three others were nesting for the first time on the campus.

Of those trapped before nesting began, 20 out of 36 remained as mates or visitors in the same air shaft where they were first recaptured that year. Thirty-three birds were first taken in 1955 from shafts which they had occupied in

former years in one way or another. Four birds which returned before nest building began did not remain to nest on the campus; four others returned while nesting was in process or after it was over, but did not nest on the campus. Two of these were the pair which separated in 1954 after nest construction was just completed. They were never found together again.

One Swift was recaptured for the first time since it was banded in 1950; another one was recaptured for the first time since banding in 1951. Neither one nested on the campus. One bird found dead in a house located one city block from the campus had not been trapped since it was banded in 1953.

One of the Swifts (20-188672) banded at Kent in 1952 and recovered in Rome, Georgia, by Gordon L. Hight in 1954 (*Bird-Banding*, 25 (4): 150-151. 1954.) returned to Kent in 1955 and resumed nesting in the same shaft with her former mate. Swift No. 42-188588, banded in Kent in 1949, and recovered in Chattanooga, Tennessee, by Clive E. Smith in 1954 (*Bird-Banding*, 26 (2): 71-72. 1955.) also returned to Kent in 1955 and resumed nesting in the same shaft with his former mate. Both foreign recoveries had been made on the same day, September 19, 1954.

The previous report on Chimney Swift returns at Kent, Ohio, was published in *Bird-Banding*, 25 (2): 60-61. 1954.—Ralph W. Dexter, Department of Biology, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Memphis-Banded Chimney Swift in Peru.—Among our 1954 bandings of the Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) was that of a flock of about 1,020, on September 25, at Levi School (latitude 35° 2½' N, longitude 90° 4' W), on highway US 51 and three miles south of Memphis. Through the kindness of Mr. George Barnes, Supt. of Shelby County Schools, we had banded two other interesting flocks there. From this third group, the swift with band 54-55523 was captured November 7, 1954, 3,500 miles to the south, at Trujillo, Peru, located 8° 6' latitude S and 79° 2' 15" longitude W. This is on the coast, 300 miles northwest of Lima, and, according to the reporting letter, 100 feet above sea level. The bird was among various specimens taken for the Museum of Zoology (Sr. Juan Ormea, Chief) of the Faculty of Sciences, National University of Trujillo and the report was made by Dr. Juvenal Gonzalez Anssuini, Director of the Faculty. In answer to my inquiry, Dr. Gonzalez writes (as I interpret his Spanish) that the specimens obtained were inhabiting an unoccupied room on the second floor and departed in a southward direction. Further data is promised, on subsequent observations of more of these birds.

This is the second report of banded Chimney Swifts in Peru and the first for a definite date and place. As detailed in *The Auk* (61: 604-609) by Frederick C. Lincoln, *The Migrant* (Sept., 1944) by Coffey, Ganier, and Laskey, and *The Migrant* (21: 17-21) by Hervey Brackbill, thirteen bands from Chimney Swifts found their way from Indians in the Yanayaco River region of Peru to the American Embassy at Lima. The thirteen (five from Memphis) had been banded at various times from 1936 through October 13, 1940, and were apparently picked up, by a trader, from the Indians in December, 1943. The bands evidently came from a large number of birds, probably from various flocks at different times, and could have been held for some time by the Indians.

The above region is about 540 miles northeast of Trujillo and east of three intervening high mountain ranges, the heavily forested eastern slope, and in the lowlands which drain into the Amazon River.—Ben B. Coffey, Jr., 672 N. Belvedere, Memphis 7, Tenn.

Half-day Flight of a Banded Chimney Swift.—On Sept. 26, 1953, we banded successively two flocks of Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*), the second being at Bellevue Baptist Church in the center of Memphis, Tenn. Fortunately, Mrs. Coffey's records were at hand later to show that 51-17771 was released about 12:15 C.S.T. (between 12:05 and 12:25), since the next morning Clive E. Smith, of Chattanooga, Tenn. found it in a flock of about 5,000 swifts, at Lakeview Elementary School, Rossville, Ga. This bird and other "foreign" swifts were set aside in cages and a recheck made later of all band numbers. Mr. Smith kindly advises me that this large flock went down the chimney the previous evening, from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m., E.S.T., taking much longer than usual, though starting down about the normal time. The weather was clear at both points and the distance between them is about 270 miles airline.