

through January to February. Otherwise, apart from a temporary, but very noticeable upward trend (unexplained) on the part of females, from August to September, this Graph shows a more-or-less parallel variation with males and females. Remarks relative to measurements, moult, etc., made in the discussion on Graph 1. apply with equal force to this graph.

*Graph 3.* From July to December a metric scale was not available, and for that reason birds were weighed during this period to the nearest half ounce. Although the scales used were considered to be accurate, and although the greatest care was taken in reducing the averages of these months to the nearest gram, this may account for the erratic movement of the Graph during this period. Certainly during the latter half of the investigation, i.e. January to July, the fluctuations in the weights of males and females ran a far more parallel course.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Trustees of the National Museum, Melbourne, through the then Director, Mr. R. T. M. Pescott, made the services of their Entomologist, Mr. A. N. Burns, and the then Ornithologist, Mr. W. Hitchcock, available to the committee. Dr. Robert Carrick, Principal Research Officer of the Wild Life Survey Section of the C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, supplied the committee with several nest-boxes, and also made available a number of valuable papers on Starlings that would otherwise not have been available. Mr. F. Penman, Officer in Charge of the C.S.I.R.O. Research Station at Merbein, arranged for the collection of many specimens for dissection and study. Thanks are due to these people, and also to the growers and others who, by collecting specimens and helping in many other ways, contributed a great deal towards making the investigation possible.

#### REFERENCES

33. Fitter, Richard. 'The Starling'. Young Britain Educational Series, A *Daily Mail* School-Aid Publication.
34. ———. *Emu*, vol. x. 1911, p. 299.
35. Favaloro, N. J. 'Usurpation of Nests', *Emu*, vol. xli, 1942, pp. 274-5.
36. Bryant, C. E. 'Imprisoned Starling', *Emu*, vol. xxxv, p. 299.
37. Thomas, H. F. 'Some Tried and Suggested Methods for the Attempted Control of Starlings.' A bulletin published by the Mildura District Council of The Australian Dried Fruits Association, Mildura, December 1954.
38. Hicks, Lawrence E. 'Individual and Sexual Variations in the European Starling', *Bird Banding*, vol. v, no. 3, July 1934.

**Tree-Sparrow in New South Wales.**—Discussing the distribution of the Tree-Sparrow (*Passer montanus*), P. A. Bourke indicated its possible occurrence at Cootamundra (*Emu*, vol. 57, p. 264). I recently made a visit to that town and found the Tree-Sparrow abundant and nesting.—JOHN N. HOBBS, Finley, N.S.W., 16/11/57.