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PRESIDENT

Horace Groskin
210 Glenn Road
Ardmore, Pa.

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BANDERS SHOULD SPECIALIZE

by

Richard B. Fischer

SECRETARY

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Flushing, L. I., N. Y.

Banders should specialize. They should select a species or a very small number of species to study and band in the greatest possible numbers.

TREASURER

Merrill Wood
811 N. Allen St.
State College, Pa.

There is at present a small number of such specialists, and to know of their results is to become both embarrassed and, I dare say, envious. For example, when I visited the Coffeys down at Memphis, Tennessee recently, I was astounded to see them send in over 400 return cards for the Chimney swift. LeRoy Wilcox probably has more returns for the piping plover at his Long Island study area than the combined total of all other banders. Dr. Austin up on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, has learned more about the common tern through banding than a thousand people, banding these terns now and then, could unearth in a life time.

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Term Ending 1950

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Term Ending 1951

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The urge to band as many birds of as many species as possible is the basis of our problem - I have it and doubtless you have it too. If we yield to this urge we will end the year with a big total. But the very time we are out searching for a meadowlark's nest - because we have never banded this species and what's more they have four or five young - is the time we should be recapturing the adult wrens at that birdhouse in which we banded young wrens last year.

EDITOR

Robert Leo Smith
Route 1
Reynoldsville, Pa.

Through the years - this is my tenth at banding - I have confined most of my efforts to a few species: house wrens, chimney swifts, barn, cliff and tree swallows, bluebirds, and when I can find their nests and capture their adults, flickers, kingfishers and rough-winged swallows. I capture these birds at my summer camp in the Catskills, where I usually pass the entire summer.

PUBLICATION
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Leroy Wilcox

Formerly in the summer I drove and walked many miles every day, banding every bird, young and old that I could catch. One year I banded over 500 in 8 weeks, but I obtained few returns until I saw "the light." Now I work the same small area intensely every year and the results show it. My summer's total regularly runs around 200 individuals of 12 to 14 species. Even before

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Who Banded these birds: James Ramsey, Route 5, Greenville, Pa., reports that on February 28th he trapped two tree sparrows which were not banded by him. The numbers are: 39-59580 and 39-59589. Since the cards will not be sent in until June, Mr. Ramsey is anxious to learn who the bander is before that date. In his first year of banding Mr. Ramsey banded 216 birds.