

Juncos (543, Song Sparrows (436), Cardinals (280) and Purple Finches (244). Many of his banded birds (including 38 White-Throats) have returned to his traps after an absence of at least one season. Twenty-two of his banded birds have been recovered from Quebec and New Brunswick, Canada to Louisiana. He has recovered only one bird banded by another - a Goldfinch banded at Milton, Mass.

Mr. Fast is a member of 7 national and local ornithological organizations. In July 1949 he attended the Audubon Camp of California. He has given 25 talks on birds to adult, youth and childrens groups. He regularly leads local bird walks. Groups and individuals frequently visit his station. During the winter and spring, the Fast's keep open house every Saturday morning to receive those who come to observe and to learn.

HAWKS

Dr. Paul H. Fluck sent in a clipping describing his adventures with a Red-tailed Hawk, which appeared in "The Country Gentleman". It was in the form of a letter reading as follows:

"Dear Editors: Several months ago when a husky red-tailed hawk was brought to me with a clipped set of wing feathers, I was hard pressed to find him a suitable boardinghouse. With some misgiving, he was tossed into a nearby chicken house with a full quota of chickens..... and the worst was anticipated.

"Three months passed during which the hawk fraternized almost affectionately with chicks and chickens. Nary a chicken was missed. But the mice and rats which once fattened on laying mash were meticulously eliminated.

"This hawk is now living in another chicken house with other chickens at the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary near Hamburg, Pa. In due time, a new set of wing feathers will carry him to freedom in the blue sky at which he gazes all day.

"Contrary to popular belief, few hawks are "chicken" hawks. This red-tailed hawk and most other hawks are hard-working rodent exterminators, immensely valuable to poultrymen and farmers."

It was illustrated with a photograph of the hawk on a roost with some young chickens.

Dr. Fluck also asks an interesting question - "Have you ever used mounted birds as decoys?" Well - have we - let's hear about it.