

have inherited. The building of a new bridge across the Chesapeake Bay threatens our wildlife, and education is needed to prevent abuse and to encourage improved methods of assistance to wildlife.

CHARLES J. SPIKER

Born April 3, 1895, Liberal, Mo. Reared in Iowa; Ottumwa High School, 1914; A.B., Morningside College, 1926; M.A., Syracuse University, 1930. Taught 12 years, last at Michigan Normal College at Ypsilanti. Field man for Roosevelt Wildlife Experiment Station at New York College of Forestry at Syracuse, 1927-1934, with special assignments in Summer. Built airplane parts in Mercury Aircraft, Hammondsport, N.Y., for seven years during and after the war. At present living on a 65 acre farm and running a hardware store in Hammondsport. Residence here since October 1933. Second hobby music; organist in both Branchport churches for last 14 years, playing Episcopal service at 9 a.m. and Methodist at 11. Banding since June 1924. Never married.

* * *

NURSING INJURED BIRDS BACK TO HEALTH

by Anna M. Wanek

The problem of nursing injured birds back to physical fitness puzzled my husband and myself and still does although an experience we had last year with a female Cardinal which had lost its power of flight taught us that under certain favorable conditions birds will regain their health if left to their own resources.

The Cardinal was trapped early last Summer and banded on the left leg. When released, the bird was unable to fly. Not wishing her to fall into the grasp of a predator, she was recaptured. This was easily accomplished even without benefit of a trap. She offered the usual resistance, emphasizing her loss of dignity with a few nips. She was placed in a cage, but she would not calm down. Rather than risk additional injuries to her, she was released in a wooded area opposite our house, where she remained only for a short while. She reappeared in our yard and settled herself near the food supply. In the evening, she left for the wooded area, crossing the street on foot the first few days. In the morning, she would again reappear in our yard. That ritual was followed for two weeks, but in the meanwhile, on the fourth day, she was capable of flying to low branches of trees, and gradually

she regained her powers of flight. At the end of two weeks she was in full control of her wings, after which she disappeared.

We can not be sure what became of her, although we can express a wishful thought. Late this winter, a female Cardinal banded on the left leg visited us but unfortunately refused to enter a trap. Incidentally, we have banded only one female Cardinal.--Mrs. Ernest E. Wanek,

5 Davidson Ave., Ramsey, New Jersey
* * *

AN INTERESTING MAN-SIZED BIRD TRAP

Dr. C. Brooke Worth contributes the following interesting account of a trap which he recently built. The Editor is especially interested in the possibilities of a trap such as this, having had favorable experience with a large trap two or three years ago. What do other banders have to say in this connection? Dr. Worth says:

"Following suggestions found in a brochure of our British colleagues, 'Trapping Methods for Bird Ringers', I am just completing what I choose to name an Environmental Trap. This is designed to fit a portion of the landscape in my backyard, and it could not therefore be adapted to any other situation. Essentially, it consists of a large funnel, built into a curved slope. The neck of the funnel leads into a gathering cage.

"The trap is permanently attached to broomsticks driven into the ground. Ingress will eventually be via the placement of about a dozen funnels of the conventional sparrow-trap variety dispersed here and there. A few top openings will be provided, and I am puzzling at the moment about means for snaring woodpeckers, nuthatches, etc.

"I believe that this trap will take many birds that enter it not for the grain or other bait, but merely because they blunder through one of the entrances during routine foraging for insects or other natural food. In warm weather, I shall include a water-drip mechanism as one of the attractants.

"Even though incomplete, the trap is already working. In the past week, I have caught 3 Juncos and 10 White-throats. One Junco was a two-year return.