

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

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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.

"The major construction has been completed, and I should be glad to have interested bird-banders view the trap at 516 Walnut Lane, Swarthmore, Pa. The cost of materials has been (groan, sigh) about \$70."

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Note: On Saturday, November 26, the Editor and his wife visited Dr. Worth and inspected his trap. Although he is located within the Borough of Swarthmore, his attractive property is located on the edge of town, with a valley immediately in back of the house. This valley acts as a natural funnel for birds, and the trap, located at the top of the funnel, is almost a 'natural' receptacle for birds working their way up the valley. After the birds have been funnelled into the trap proper, they work their way into a large collecting cage.

On Saturday, in response to the bell, Dr. Worth appeared at the door with a White-throated Sparrow in his hand, his new trap having just caught 18 members of that species. Dr. Worth extended the ultimate in hospitality to a fellow bander by asking the Editor to band the White-throat. The Editor is certain that other members will profit by a trip to examine this interesting trap.

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NOTES ON THE HOMING ABILITY OF BIRDS

by Albert E. Conway

During the years 1936 and 1937, the writer made several attempts to test the homing ability of six species of birds, but press of other duties did not permit him to carry out the extensive experiments which he would like to have performed.

A cursory review of the literature reveals that only a few species have been used in homing experiments, notably Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*), Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*), and Pigeons (*Columbia livia*), although it would seem that almost any species would possess the ability to some degree. Just because a bird is sedentary does not signify that it lacks homing ability; it may only be that it lacks the homing urge, that which provokes the use of the homing ability by means of which it is possible for the bird to return to a desired goal.

Following is a list of the few results which the writer has had with homing in several species. All these results were obtained during the Winter and Spring of 1936-1937: