Sept-Oct 1956

EBBA NEWS

of a Herring Gull of 28 years. Among recoveries there is one of a least tern banded in Java and recovered on the Gold Coast of West Africa. Another outstanding recovery is that of a ruddy turnstone banded on Ellesmere Island, Canada, on July 5, 1955, and recovered on September 13 of the same year in Portugal.

In each issue under "recent literature" the editor lists the titles of numerous papers and includes several book reviews. Although the editor has access to most ornithological literature, he is anxious to have readers inform him regarding "papers based on or referring to bird ringing and published anywhere."

> THE REDPOLL INCURSION OF MARCH-APRIL, 1956 By Elinor McEntee

Here is my Redpoll record:

March	21	First seen, none trapped	March	27	40	banded
11	22	54 banded	11	28	31	11
11	23	209 " in 5 hours	11 -	29	32	
11	24	(not home - none trapped)	11	30	31	11
11	25	83 banded	11	31	31	11
ft	26	24 "	April	2 to	9	24 banded
		m. L. 7 1				

Total banded 560

The last big incursion of Redpolls in Ridgewood, New Jersey, was the winter of 1946-47, before I was banding, and I almost hope it will be another 8 or 9 years before they come again! It will probably take me that long to clean all the feathers and droppings out of my house. The day I banded the 209 we had to eat dinner out because the kitchen was so filthy!

They arrived at my station on March 21st, and on the 22nd I banded 54, which to me at the time seemed like a tremendous number. Little did I conceive what the next day would bring. Between 7 a.m. and noon 209 were trapped and banded - and I was about to collapse. There were still hundreds around, but I was unable to do any more banding (due to illness in the family) until March 25th when another 83 were banded. From then on the flock gradually decreased in numbers until their departure April 10.

Page 67

Sept-Oct 1956

EBBA NEWS

I have often speculated how many I could have done on March 23rd had I been able to operate the traps all day and had I not at that time been low on bands. (New bands arrived from F & W on March 27th.) Without a doubt it would have been well over 500. Up until the 25th or 26th there were practically no repeats, which meant that the flock was constantly on the move. Late in the afternoon of the 23rd (the day I banded 209 in the morning) there were easily 1000 birds in an area 130' x 130' visible at one time on the snow.

The original attraction was my many birch trees and those of my immediate neighbors, but by the second day the seeds from the birch catkins were a minor interest apparently, if their flocking into the ground traps baited with a mixture of millet and canary seed was anything to judge by. They consumed pounds and pounds of that mixture in a week.

The six traps in use were a Modesto, a modified Modesto, a Middleton, a Mason, a Fluck 6 trap and a pull-string trap. No nets were in use during this operation.

REMINDER FROM THE BIRD-BANDING OFFICE by Allen J. Duvall

We will appreciate it if banders forward schedules of dove bandings through August of this year. As you are well aware, game birds, which include doves, should be reported by the tenth of every month following banding.

Banders should also send in schedules of bandings for blackbirds through August. By "blackbirds" we include redwings, cowbirds, grackles and starlings.

NEW Dr. James Baird, Norman Bird Sanctuary, 3rd Beach Road EBBA Newport, R.I. MEMBERS Walter K. Bigger, Star Route, Trout Run, Pa. Dr. Carl Breuker, Sugan Road, New Hope, Pa. Rulon T. Dempster, 1027 Edgemont Ave., Chester, Pa. Mrs. Richard P. Dubois, Grasonville, Md. Harry A. Foreman, Peck's Pond, Pa. John R. Given, RFD#1, Croton Ave., Peekskill, N.Y.