

THE OLDEST BARN OWL

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With reference to the note on the age of Barn Owl (Ebba News, 19: 47) I should like to inform Mr. Albert E. Conway that at least two European birds reached an age over 10 years. Both of them were banded as nestlings and both were found dead. One with Swiss band of the Vogelwarte Sempach 953612 was banded on June 19, 1937 and recovered in June 1950, the second with German band of the Vogelwarte Helgoland 31928 was banded on June 13, 1928 and found dead on April 1, 1943. This, so far as I am informed, is the oldest Barn Owl reaching an "age" of 14 years, 9 months and 17 days.

I take this opportunity to inform the readers of Ebba News that records of longevity of banded birds have been published in The Ring, an ornithological quarterly bulletin devoted entirely to bird banding everywhere. The Ring is quite international in its scope and circulation and invites cooperation of any member of the EBBA. Information on longevity of banded birds would be greatly appreciated. As The Ring is being exchanged with Ebba News members can examine it at their Editor's office.

"BLACKBIRD"
BANDING Allen J. Duvall of the Bird Banding Office writes: "We hope that you banders will continue to trap and band "blackbirds" during the fall and winter. You should be on the alert for observations of color marked birds since Redwings and Grackles were dyed on the upper surface with a golden spray in New York State. A silver spray was used in New Jersey on Redwings and Grackles while red plastic neckbands were used in Delaware. Any observations of these color marked birds should be forwarded to the Banding Office.

WANT TO READ THE CONDOR?

Mr. Donald E. Payne, Route 4, Box 512, Hood River, Oregon, wishes to exchange on a loan basis volumes of The Condor for Bulletins of other ornithological societies such as The Auk, Nuttalls or Bird-Banding. "We could keep the bulletins a month or so and return them," he writes. Any one interested, write Mr. Payne. (I've already sent him Vols. 68 and 69 of The Auk -- Ed.)
