

RECENT RECOVERIES

by Geoffrey Gill

To prove that you do hear from banded birds, here are a few recoveries I have received recently. They may be of interest to the readers of EBBA News and prove that birds may make several migratory flights before you hear from them or you may hear from them almost at once. For instance: (Birds banded at Huntington, L.I., N.Y.)

- 58-13078 - Slate-colored Junco banded March 17, 1956; recovered April 21, 1956, at Gloversville, Fulton County, N.Y.
 532-20277- Red-wing Blackbird banded April 8, 1956; recovered June 6, 1956 at Redding, Conn.
 522-57440- Red-wing Blackbird banded March 18, 1955; killed Jan. 16, 1956 four miles east of Bath, North Carolina.
 503-96674- Purple Grackle (adult) banded July 9, 1953; killed Jan. 11, 1956, at Hartford, North Carolina.
 20-196239- White-throated Sparrow banded Nov. 28, 1951; shot Jan. 21, 1956, at Bath, North Carolina.
 48-345292- Purple Grackle, Ad. female, banded July 7, 1950; *recovered Dec. 12, 1955 at Metuchen, N.J.
 48-246468- Robin (Imm.) banded Oct. 4, 1950; found sick and died July 8, 1955 at Babylon, L.I., N.Y.

* Only had two grackles recovered in New Jersey; both were killed by a cat and both were killed in December, leading me to think that they were sick or crippled by gunshot when caught by cats. Other recoveries are much further south in December.

I SAW THE AIR EXPERIENCES that come out of the blue, I believe, are COME ALIVE * often far more exciting and rewarding than those that Garrett come as the result of much planning. Recently, while Detwiler driving along Ocean Drive, just south of Wildwood, N.J., I rounded a curve in the highway and, all at once, the air literally came alive, for, up from the tules and cattails flew thousands of Rough-winged Swallows. A very conservative estimate of the total number of swallows in the three flocks that I saw would amount to some 300,000.

Imagine it, there I was with nets and bands but no time to stop. That, my fellow banders, in the words of the hero of "The Life of Riley", was a most revoltin' situation.
