

## BANDING WITH AN EXPERT

One of Seth Low's assistants describes his experience

By Rev. Garrett S. Detwiler

We got together at the Point on Friday, September 12, and I discovered that we would be working with more nets than I had ever seen. In all there were 26 nets strung out in a wooded area for a distance of nearly 800 feet.

Friday and Saturday proved to be very poor days but, as the birds banded were not common to my banding station, I was quite pleased with those we banded. I grant you, I could have done very well without the House Wren I found in the net just as it was getting dark on Friday evening. It posed that problem with which all netters are acquainted, the tedious process of releasing so small a bird from the net, but I kept reminding myself to "Take it easy", "Keep calm" and "Have patience". However, as I began talking to myself, I was almost shocked to hear that what I said bore little resemblance to "Take it easy" or "Keep calm" or even "Have patience".

On Tuesday, September 18, I returned for another day at the Point. When I arrived, and started along the net line, there were birds of every description enmeshed in the nets. For several hours, thereafter, we were actively engaged in banding. Our total for this particular Tuesday was about 200 birds.

It might be of interest to list some of the interesting species that were banded on these two trips. Redstarts were the most numerous. They were followed by Northern Waterthrushes, Black and White Warblers, Ovenbirds and Veerys. Species that I personally banded were Yellowthroats, Magnolias, Canadas, Chats, Cardinals, Red-eyed Vireos, some Flycatchers, an Indigo Bunting, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak and a fine Sharp-shinned Hawk. In all I banded 20 new species for a total of 91 birds.

Everyone interested in birds should go to Cape May Point in the Fall. It is a bird watcher's paradise and an experience never to be forgotten. I, for one, am looking forward to next fall and I hope that I will again have the opportunity of banding with an expert like Seth Low.

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How Many returns of what did you get in 1956?  
When you send your report to the Banding Office (March 31st is the deadline) earmark that extra copy for EBBA NEWS \*\*\*