

P.S. Having just completed the above report I turned from my typewriter to look across the back yard. I was able to discern a single Junco hanging in the net's next-to-the-bottom tier. A gray squirrel was stalking toward the bird's location. Without waiting to observe further I hurried downstairs and out of doors, but I was already too late. The squirrel had reached the bird, had torn it from the net, and was crouching over it when I arrived. Much after the fashion of a cat, the squirrel took the bird in its mouth and ran with it to the base of a large maple tree, then up the tree to an almost horizontal branch about 30 feet above the ground.

With binoculars Mrs. Parks and I watched the squirrel for at least 15 minutes as it held the Junco's body against the branch with its fore paws and tore at the flesh with its teeth much as a hawk would do. We could not be completely sure that it was swallowing the flesh, but it appeared to do so.

At last, leaving the mutilated remains of the Junco draped across the branch, the squirrel stepped over them and proceeded for a foot and a half or so. There we watched it "whet" its snout against the bark as do so many birds to clear the bill after having partaken of a meal. Then the squirrel reversed its position on the branch, once again facing what remained of the bird. There it lay itself down with its tail lying along its own back and apparently went to sleep.

Need I add that the netting and trapping at our station is to be strictly curbed until this carnivorous rodent has been removed from the vicinity?

99 Warrenton Ave., Hartford 5, Conn.

★ ★ ★

#### BANDING WITH A PURPOSE

By LeRoy C. Stegeman

There is still so much we need to know about birds and their ecology! We need a better understanding of their many relations to man's welfare. Through banding, we have learned much about their numbers, their locations, their travels and their ages. We need to know more about what they carry from place to place in the way of foods, parasites and diseases. This information could become very important in working out public health problems. In fact, it is now recognized by the Public Health Department and much work is being done.

If each bander would contribute what he can, in the form of accurate records, external and internal parasites, analysis of stomach contents, weights and measurements and probable cause of death, this information would become increasingly valuable. These things can be accomplished quite readily if the proper equipment is kept on hand. No doubt your nearest wildlife research station would appreciate receiving these speci-

mens and records. In my Department of Forest Zoology we have an extensive reference collection of external parasites of both birds and mammals. We would welcome additional materials accompanied by the following collection information:

Date	Collector's Name
Place	Collector's Address
Host Species	Explanatory Remarks

The reference collection I refer to can be utilized by anyone who is seriously interested in these problems.

It is such a privilege to handle and know these wild creatures that I am sure many of you would gladly collect what information you can. This information may be of great benefit to the birds as well as to mankind. Remember, you get the information first and directly from the specimen, and this is satisfying and even exciting. Good luck to you in these endeavors and if I can be of help let me know.

A ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK  
By LeRoy C. Stegeman

(Prof. Stegeman sent these pictures with his article; they were first published in the Post-Standard of Syracuse, New York. -Ed.)

The fine specimen of Rough-legged Hawk shown in the pictures was turned over to the game warden by a hunter. The game warden kept it a

