ly reaching the shaft. Fig. 7 shows group B with narrow barring, not usually reaching the shaft with 10-12 bars, very seldom 9.

Note: The width of the bars and their distance from the shaft have many intermediate forms and are not safe for ageing. However the number of bars is a useful guide.

Fig. 8 shows the distribution of the number of bars on the 4th primary of those birds designated as 1st year by the bastard wing method(groups I and II). Fig. 9 shows the distribution of the number of bars on the 4th primary of the known adults.

Of the 12 indeterminate birds with white spots on the bastard wing; 6 had 10 to 12 bars on the 4th primary and were presumably adults. Two had 9 bars and could not be determined. Four had 7 or 8 bars. It seems that the four birds with 7 or 8 bars on the 4th primary should be 1st year birds which had replaced their bastard wing during post-juvehile moult.

SUMMARY

The majority of Wrens can be aged by using the following criteria. Juvenile/Post juv.: All wrens with uniform brown undertail coverts are juveniles. All wrens with a pattern of white spots on the undertail coverts are post-juvenile. First Year include any Wrens with: 1) Any definite contrast on greater coverts. 2) Poorly defined, horizontal light brown bar on the large feather of the bastard wing, or with 4 or 5 light brown bars without any trace of white or whitish brown at their leading edge. 3) A maximum of 8 bars on the outer web of the 4th primary(counted between tip of p.c. and the tip of 4th p.). Adult: Include any Wrens with 10 or more bars on the outer web of the 4th primary. (These will have some trace of white on the leading edge of the barring on the large bastard wing feather).

Many thanks to C. J. Mead for assistance in preparing this note, and to the fellow members of the Newbury Ringing Group, Ron Crockford, Reg Smith and Ian Weston, who cheerfully handed over all Wrens caught during this period.



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(Banders' Aids continue on the next page)

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<u>REPRINTS</u> of various articles are still available. Reprints of the Empidonax Guide by Bordner will be mailed to anyone for the cost of postage. Contact the editor for further details.

PHOTO CONTEST

When we announced that the first of the four prize-winning photos would appear in this issue, we miscalculated a bit. Since the deadline for this issue (nicely kept by all) was December 15th, 1971, and the deadline for the photo contest was December 31, 1971, we couldn't very well publish a winning picture in the February 1972 issue.

The first of the four pictures planned for publication will therefor appear in the May 1972 issue.

Editor

NINE YEARS OF BIRD BANDING AT FOUR AREAS IN NEW JERSEY: IV. CORVIDAE AND PARIDAE

By Raymond E. Kerlin, William C. Carter, Oscar Sussman, and Martin Goldfield

Birds of the Families Corvidae and Paridae were captured during a nine year period at four areas in New Jersey (Sussman et al 1971). The areas are known as Great Swamp, Forked River, Oceanville, and Estell Manor.

Bands were placed on 1,369 birds of Family Corvidae and 1,713 birds of Family Paridae. The only member of Corvidae was Blue Jay. The most frequently banded bird of the Paridae was Carolina Chickadee. (Table I)

A record was maintained for each bird which repeated or returned. These records were used to prepare tables showing the number of individuals of each species captured each year. The tables were expanded to show the number of those individuals recaptured in subsequent years. For this purpose, any bird was counted only one time in any calender year, although many birds were actually captured several times per year.

BLUE JAY:

Blue Jays were captured at Great Swamp (1961-1968), Forked River (1961-1968), Oceanville (1961-1968), and Estell Manor (1960-1968). At Great Swamp, the fewest individuals captured in any calender year were five in 1968 when very little netting was done at that area. During the years of more active netting, the number of individuals handled varied from 25 in 1967 through 162 in 1963. (Table II).