

with numerous promontories and little bays. The promontories were well covered with lodge-pole pines and alpine hemlocks. The shore-line was densely covered with chin-quapin and dwarfed manzanita. We spent most of the day investigating every possible and likely-looking nesting site, but to no avail. The nest, which I feel certain was located nearby, must have been well hidden and may have been on one of the three small islets at the west end of the lake, near where the female was taken.

The bird uttered a peculiar and complaining sort of two-syllabled *quer-ew*, sounding somewhat like the call of an American Golden-eye, but much higher and more complaining in tone. No male bird was in evidence at any time, either on this lake or on Spotted Fawn Lake, a short way over the hill.

There are great possibilities in store for future field work in this section, which should lead to the discovery of the nest of both the Harlequin and Barrow Golden-eye ducks.—DONALD D. MCLEAN, *Coulterville, California, October 8, 1924.*

A Correction Concerning the Starling.—In a paper entitled "The Starling Family at Home and Abroad", by Casey A. Wood, which was published in *THE CONDOR*, XXVI, July, 1924, the following concerning the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) appeared on page 125:

"Harrison F. Lewis (*Auk*, vol. 39, 1922, p. 513) reports that a pair of these winter-defying birds was found in Labrador in 1917, where they not only raised a summer brood, but flourished in temperatures many degrees below zero. This is probably the earliest Canadian record."

This is not correct. My record at the place cited is simply as follows:

"*Sturnus vulgaris*. Starling. A skin of this species was shown to me at the home of Mr. F. W. Salzman, at Betchewun, where it was taken. Under date of August 31, 1921, Mr. Salzman has written to me that this bird was killed 'four years ago in April.' This is the first Labrador record of the Starling."—HARRISON F. LEWIS, *Ottawa, Canada, February 4, 1925.*

Some Birds New to the Cape San Lucas Region.—During the period between February 3, 1923, and November 2, 1924, the writer was engaged continuously in field work in the Cape Region of Lower California, Mexico. In this time two hundred and forty species of birds were observed and of this number, as far as I can find any record, the following appear not to have been recorded.

Larus argentatus. Herring Gull. It is hard to say much as to the abundance of this gull. It was seen only at San Jose del Cabo, a female immature being taken there April 20, 1923. In the winter months large numbers of various young gulls frequented the mouth of the tide lagoon at San Jose del Cabo, but at that place no adult gulls of any species were seen, with the exception of *Larus californicus*.

Florida caerulea. Little Blue Heron. Three white immature birds were taken, one at La Paz February 28, 1924, and two at Todos Santos—one October 28, 1923, and the other September 15, 1924. I saw no adults, and possibly more immatures were among the Snowy Egrets also seen there.

Calidris canutus. Knot. This, as usual on the Pacific Coast, was a rare bird. Two were seen and secured on the mud flats near La Paz September 19 and 24, 1923.

Limosa fedoa. Marbled Godwit. Quite a common winter visitant to the vicinity of San Jose del Cabo and La Paz. A pair was taken at the latter place September 12, 1923.

Arenaria melanocephala. Black Turnstone. A few were seen at La Paz in September and one was secured near Loreto April 15, 1924.

Tyrannus tyrannus. Eastern Kingbird. One seen at Todos Santos sitting on a wire fence in company with a Cassin Kingbird, August 3, 1924. I wounded the Eastern Kingbird but before it could be picked up it escaped into the bushes.

Myiarchus magister magister. Arizona Crested Flycatcher. Of the large series of *Myiarchus* taken in the Cape Region one proved to be of this species; it was an adult male taken at San Jose del Cabo April 30, 1923.

Empidonax wrighti. Wright Flycatcher. Of the large numbers of small flycatchers, including *E. griseus*, *E. d. cineritius* and *E. d. difficilis* taken, one proved to be of this species; it was an adult male taken at San Jose del Cabo April 17, 1923.

Poocetes gramineus confinis. Western Vesper Sparrow. The only place I saw vesper sparrows was at El Oro. A very few were seen there, the first week of February, 1924, when three were secured, one on the 2nd and two on the 4th. These proved to be *P. g. confinis* rather than *P. g. affinis*, which latter was recorded by Brewster.

Piranga rubra cooperi. Cooper Tanager. A single immature male was seen and taken at San Jose del Cabo February 23, 1923.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni. Olive-backed Thrush. Thrushes were fairly common in the fall at Todos Santos, but at La Paz none was seen with the exception of one of this species taken on October 11, 1924.

Hylocichla guttata slevini. Monterey Hermit Thrush. Quite common in the fall and spring in various parts. Several taken.—CHESTER C. LAMB, *Los Angeles, California, March 7, 1925.*

WITH THE BIRD BANDERS

Under the Direction of J. Eugene Law, Altadena, California

A Banding Outfit and Some Traps.—As well as the banding outfit, two traps are given here which bird banders may find worth experimenting with. I say experimenting with, because, however well a trap may suit the person who made it, or the species of bird for which it was intended, it may still prove worthless to some other bander using it under different conditions.

It is my belief that position of the trap plus camouflage and the habits of the birds

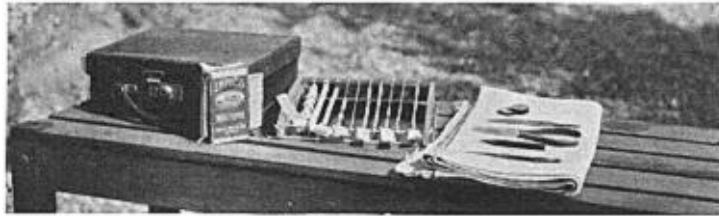


Fig. 33. BANDING OUTFIT. A NOTE BOOK SHOULD BE ADDED.

it is desired to catch, are really the first points to be considered, after which the most suitable trap for the purpose might be selected from the many types described from time to time in the various banding papers. I live in the woods, and although my land runs down to the sea, birds are not overly plentiful; and they are extremely shy, so that when I tried cage traps and some others that might be called city traps, they failed me with most species.

After experimenting with a good many, I found them, as traps, for the most part, ideal, but few suited the conditions prevailing here. I then started to alter them or discard them entirely, and after watching the birds as they approached them, and when in them, I was finally able to get what appeared to suit the birds best, or frightened them least.

Those given here have been well tried. A third, a funnel trap, has already been referred to in these columns.

The Banding Outfit.—For convenience I made up the outfit here shown in figure 33. When packing the box, the larger band-holder is made to fit snugly in the bottom, where it should remain even when in use. Over this lies a folded piece of canvas, about two feet square, useful for covering traps or collecting boxes when birds are wild. Many other uses are found for it, especially in wet weather. It also keeps the bands from rattling when the box is being carried. Above these again lies a paste-board box in which are kept the tools: pliers, knife, three-cornered file, pocket lens, note-book, etc.