

## WITH THE BIRD BANDERS

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

**One Gambel Sparrow.**—On October 17, 1924, a Gambel Sparrow (*Zonotrichia l. gambeli*) was given band no. 138743 at my home near Buena Park, California. It wore the immature plumage when banded and remained about the station, repeating on twenty-three different days. During February and March, 1925, it often repeated two or three times a day, and was last retaken on March 31.

On October 14, 1925, this bird, then in fresh adult plumage, returned from its summer in the north. It was again in the trap on October 17 and was then carried to John McB. Robertson's banding station,  $\frac{3}{8}$  of a mile from my station, and turned loose at 2:30 P. M. The following morning, October 18, at 8:30 A. M., the bird had returned and was again caught by me at my banding station.—JAMES A. CALDER, *Buena Park, California, October 30, 1925.*

**NOTE.**—We would like to hear the result when a hundred of Calder's birds had been liberated at Robertson's, and a hundred of Robertson's liberated at Calder's. The experiment should be repeated at different seasons, and duplicated in subsequent seasons.—J. E. L.

**A Warbler Trap.**—The accompanying illustrations show a warbler trap and some of its catches. The trap is a 12 inch cube made of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch hardware cloth with the top entirely open except when it is closed by a sliding cover. The rails on which the cover slides are made of stiff wire and are fastened to the top corners.

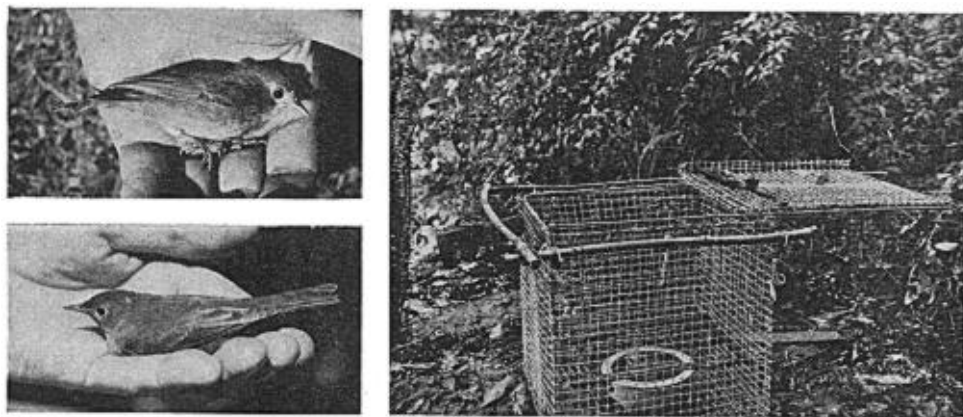


Fig. 20. WARBLER TRAP AND TWO OF ITS CATCHES. UPPER LEFT, A CALAVERAS WARBLER; LOWER LEFT, A YELLOW WARBLER.

The rectangle of sticks inside the trap close above the water basin is the treadle which is hinged to the right side of the trap as seen in the picture. The flat stick outside the trap is a partial counterbalance for the treadle and is handy in setting the trigger. From the point where this counterweight touches the treadle a stiff wire extends to the top of the trap where it engages one of the cross wires of the cover. A weight (an old monkey wrench in this case) is attached to the cover by a string which extends across the top of the trap. The weight of a bird, when it alights on the treadle, pulls the stiff wire downward and disengages the cover. The weight then drops, pulling the cover across the top of the trap. The sticks around the top are merely for perches.

The trap was first tried with a gallon can of water suspended three or four feet above the trap so that the water dropped into the water basin. This did not attract the birds very much. In two or three weeks three birds were caught in it.