

Then a sprinkler was made by drilling a small hole in a plugged hose coupling. This is shown on the end of a hose on the ground at the left side of the trap. Two or three turns of wire act as baffles to direct the spray into the trap. During the first twenty-seven days that this trap was operating (September 8 to October 5, 1925) forty-eight birds were caught in it, two of which had been previously caught in other traps and one in this trap. The following is the list of those forty-eight birds: Twenty-one Pileolated Warblers and one repeat, eleven *Vermivora celata* (subsp.), one Calaveras Warbler, one Yellow Warbler, one Tennessee Warbler, two Western Warbling Vireos, two Western Tanagers, two Orioles, one Black-headed Grosbeak, one Song Sparrow, one House Finch, one Mockingbird, one Plain Titmouse (a repeat), and one Lazuli Bunting (a repeat).

Identification of the *Vermivora* group was assisted by specimens borrowed from the Los Angeles Museum. Some of the *Vermivora celata* appeared to have coloring identical with the Lutescent specimens, others appeared to have coloring identical with the Dusky specimens, and still others seemed to have coloring about midway between the two. Possibly Lutescent Warbler would be an appropriate vernacular name for this group, in autumn, at least!

The record of the Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*), no doubt, will excite some skepticism. After identification by use of the classification keys, a careful description was written and a sketch in colors was made. Then a skin was borrowed and the description and sketch compared with it. The agreement seemed to be perfect and ornithologists (Bishop, Law and Tavener) who have seen the evidence as described have expressed themselves as believing that the bird in question was a Tennessee Warbler. It was captured at 9 A. M., September 28, 1925. The above is given in detail so that the record will receive whatever credence it deserves.—HAROLD MICHENER, Pasadena, California, November 23, 1925.

Say Phoebe Banded at Night.—During the winter of 1924-1925 two individuals, at least, of Say Phoebe (*Sayornis sayus*) remained in the vicinity of my home. One regularly roosted on a ledge in an unoccupied hen house. On November 15, 1924, about 7:30 P. M., with the assistance of Mrs. Calder, who held a flashlight, this bird was gently lifted from the ledge, given band no. A3124, and replaced on the ledge. It was held there for a while, then gradually and cautiously released and, to our delight, remained there while we withdrew. Later observations indicated that it continued to roost on the same ledge on succeeding nights.

A third Say Phoebe appeared on March 25, 1925. On April 8 a nest composed of fine weed stems, sack twine and cobwebs, and lined with white horse hair and chicken feathers, was found in another unoccupied hen house. An unbanded parent, however, was found dead under the nest after two eggs had been laid. No bird was seen after April 10, 1925.

Although nests of this species have been found by me in the Coyote Hills some three miles away, this is the first nest I have found in the flat alluvial plain.

The first Say Phoebe for the autumn of 1925 appeared here September 22.—JAMES A. CALDER, Buena Park, California, October 10, 1925.

Mystery Band Number 3: Season 1925.—Each year during the shooting season the Biological Survey receives, in addition to many reports of registered racing pigeons, a few records of the capture of banded ducks, the bands being of unknown origin. As it is the practise of game breeders to mark their stock, it is believed that some of these cases represent full-winged birds raised in domestication, while others probably originate at shooting clubs where tame ducks are kept for use as decoys.

There is always the possibility, however, that if full data were available, the record might be applied with advantage to problems of migration. Accordingly, it is desirable that each finding be brought to the attention of ornithologists and sportsmen, through the medium of the sporting and ornithological journals. Three cases of this nature already have been reported during the present season, one of which may be directly traceable to some person residing in the territory of the Western Bird Banding Association.

The record in question refers to a Mallard drake killed on October 14, 1925, in eastern Stanislaus County, California. The band carried was an ordinary poultry marker embossed with the number 136 in large figures. It was of such thin metal and showed so little wear that it is evident that it could not have been carried more than a year and probably much less. It will be appreciated if anyone having information concerning this bird will report it to the Biological Survey.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., November 5, 1925.*

Register All the Bands You Receive.—The importance of a western register of all bands issued to western banders is becoming increasingly apparent. Such a register is maintained by Harlan H. Edwards, 2311 N. Allen Ave., Altadena, California, but can only be complete with the cooperation of each bander. When a supply of bands is received, a card should be immediately mailed to Edwards listing the *serial number by sizes*. Let the first list sent in *include all bands so far received*, and promptly advise when any new sets are received.

A case in point: On March 3 and 31, 1925, Mr. Ernest G. Osborne, at Claremont, California, captured Gambel Sparrows which had bands nos. 151716, 151751, 151789. When reported to Washington word came back that 151716 had been issued to New Mexico, 151751 to Texas and used on a Cardinal, and 151789 to Georgia. Osborne was not convinced and a later advice stated that all three bands were issued to New Mexico, adding that Osborne's report, therefore, "does not appear to be correct"—a conclusion not necessarily conclusive.

Obviously, a bander may make a mistake in reading a band number, but it is safe to say that he does not read all the figures of a number wrongly, nor make three errors which would record bands in a single series only a few numbers apart. The western maintained record of all bands received will quickly straighten out such tangles, and will serve as a check against errors which may slip into the Biological Survey records where such quantities of number records have to be taken care of. By means of the western register, too, a bander who inquires can be put in early touch with the bander at the other end of the line, when a strange band turns up.

If Mr. Edwards is willing to give his time to keeping the whole record, and to answering queries that arise, we banders cannot well fail to do our little part by reporting to him promptly all bands we receive.

How Soundly Do Birds Sleep?—The Say Phoebe which seemed undisturbed when cautiously handled at night (see Calder's note above) coincides with an incident which happened at Altadena, California.

There were three nests of House Finch (*Carpodacus m. frontalis*) in crannies just outside an open vestibuled entrance of my home. About 8:15 P. M., on April 26, 1925, while a ceiling light was agleam in the vestibule and guests were departing, females from two of the nests flushed, one into the vestibule, while the other fluttered down to a stone just outside. A few minutes later, when it was quiet again, both birds were caught by hand, the one in the vestibule first, as it stupidly fluttered about the lighted walls, and the other by first flushing it into the vestibule. After each was caught and its band read, the light was turned off and the birds held a little time until they became calm (perhaps half asleep), when they were gently replaced on their respective nests and held there by cupped hand for a bit; then, as cautiously as possible, the hand was withdrawn. In each case the bird remained on the nest and ultimately raised the brood.

During the time these birds fluttered about the vestibule, they occasionally rested clinging to the perpendicular rough plaster, supported by their spread tails pressed against the wall, after the manner of swallows.

The fact that the owners of all three nests consistently flushed all day long and up till nearly dark whenever anyone entered or departed from the vestibule, and that they never to my knowledge, except on this occasion, flushed at night, although the vestibule was occasionally lighted, and people often entered or departed after dark, sometimes with a slam of the door, indicates a profound soundness of sleep, particularly as night noises should be more terrifying to a diurnal bird than daylight noises.—J. EUGENE LAW, *Altadena, California, November 27, 1925.*