

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.*