

Banding Association, Vol. II, pp. 78-81) attention was called to the existence of limited nesting-areas, outside of which many nesting species are unlikely to go during the nesting-season, as affecting bird attendance at near-by banding stations and the necessity of considering these areas in interpreting the banding records and observations made at such stations. Above, the existence of restricted wintering areas in the case of some species is also pointed out, with a very limited discussion of the reasons why such areas should be taken into account when interpreting the phenomena at banding stations.

COLORED BANDS

ATTENTION is called to the opportunity now available to secure suitable colored enamels with which to color bird bands and also to have bands colored to order. Mr. A. W. Higgins's advertisement in this issue gives prices for coloring bands and for enamels.

In recommending to him that he should make it possible for banders easily to have this service, we feel that the use of colored bands should not become so general as to endanger their value as an aid in scientific work, which might result if they were used at stations so close together that birds wearing them would visit more than one banding station, thus destroying or impairing their use in permitting sight returns and sight repeats. In certain cases, however, stations close together may use them effectively if the operators use no colors in common.

It is also felt that to a considerable extent their employment should be largely confined to the most active banders and those wishing to investigate specific ornithological problems. It is recommended, therefore, that their use be restricted as a rule to operators planning to use them in helping solve some definite problem, since to use them otherwise is likely to yield results of importance only by accident.

A MYSTERY SOLVED¹

The Canadian National Parks Branch, which keeps a record of all wild-bird banding operations of interest to

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Canada, has had brought to its attention an item from *The Free Press*, St. John's, Newfoundland. This item gave an account of a bird locally called a "Ticklace," which was killed on August 12, 1924, by Mr. L. Curtis, of Horse Island, in the District of St. Barbe, Newfoundland. On the bird was found a thin silver band said to be inscribed with the words: "Inform Witherby High. Holdron, London."

On writing to Messrs. H. F. & G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London W. C. 1, England, it has now been learned that this ring, No. 67,423, was put on a young Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*), on June 28, 1923, on the Farne Islands, Northumberland, England, by one of Mr. Witherby's correspondents. Mr. Witherby stated that the foot of the bird was examined by Mr. W. C. Henderson, of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, and was pronounced by him to be that of a Kittiwake, which agrees with Mr. Witherby's records. The record is extremely interesting, more especially as the bird is the first under Mr. Witherby's ringing scheme—which has been in operation for sixteen years—reported from this side of the Atlantic. The correct lettering on the band was "Inform Witherby, High Holborn, London."—Hoyes Lloyd.

GENERAL NOTES

Chewink Notes from Martha's Vineyard.—It was with particular interest that I read Mr. Keniston's notes on Chewink returns in the October *Bulletin*. I have maintained a banding station for the past three summers on Martha's Vineyard Island about eight miles from Mr. Keniston's station. Chewinks are remarkably common over a large part of the island, and are easily trapped. During four years of banding in Glenolden, Pa., we have trapped only five Chewinks, though they are fairly common during migrations. At the Vineyard, however, I have caught seventeen individuals during three summers. Had I been able to be there in May and June, the number might have been larger, as Mr. Keniston reports a large number caught in May.

None of my Chewinks have returned, but during the past summer (1926) I took a male Chewink that as banded was a fledgling in 1925 about an eighth of a mile from my station by Miss Grace Meleney. The bird was nesting within my trapping radius of a few hundred feet, and would not, in all probability, have been taken by Miss Meleney at her station. This bears out Mr. Whittle's observations on the returns of young birds.

A second point of interest is the apparent preponderance of males among the Chewinks. Mr. Keniston says thirteen out of twenty were males in 1926. My records show eight out of nine were males in 1926. Three of the males were adults, and the other five and the one female were juvenile. Is this merely a coincidence, or do other records show males in the majority among Chewinks. —Mrs. MABEL GILLESPIE, Glenolden, Pa.