

opened in the manner of White-breasted Nuthatches. It dug a good many holes in an old pear tree near the house, in which it tucked away grain and suet, which later a Hairy Woodpecker ate. It is interesting to note that the habit of storing food in holes which it excavates is one much practiced by the California Woodpecker, a member of this genus. This Western species, as is well known, stores immense numbers of acorns in holes which the birds dig in the bark or wood, forming food-supplies often termed "cupboards." RACHEL E. CAGHEY, Antrim, New Hampshire.

Notes on Tempting the Birds' Appetites. As my trapping experience grows, I am more impressed by the necessity of varying the menus at the station to meet the seasonal variations in the natural food-supply and the individual variations of taste within the species.

On the whole, the seed-eaters will stand for a rather monotonous diet. Cardinals will come for sunflower or hemp seed almost the year round, while Song Sparrows and White-throats seem never to tire of Baby Chick Feed mixed with hemp. Jays, on the contrary, are always looking for variety, and who can follow the caprices of a Catbird or a Thrasher?

To show the value of out-of-season food as bait, in spring, when wild fruit is not to be had at all, an apple with the top cut out to expose the pulp is a magnet to fruit-eaters. Catbirds come in a steady stream all day, digging so energetically and skilfully that they leave nothing except the skin standing up around the bare core. Apples are also beloved by Robins and Thrushes, and the few Orioles I have banded have been baited with apples.

With the coming of insects and wild berries, apples lose their appeal and the birds are likely to drift away more or less until the ceaseless demands of their young bring them back to the station. At this time I find food that is soft and moist is most attractive to Catbirds, Thrashers, Jays, and even Song Sparrows. The Sparrows do not fancy it for themselves, though they pick it up gingerly to carry to the young, but the other adults eat it greedily themselves before taking great dripping mouthfuls to the nest. A small shallow pan made for baby chicks, if kept full of bread and milk, makes a lively station, as parent birds fight for possession. Milk alone is much relished by Catbirds, and it is amusing to see how they tiddle the unaccustomed drink. With the end of the nesting-season, the popularity of the station declines, unless the bander can find fresh attractions, and even then it is difficult to trap any except casual immature birds.

Where it is possible to distinguish individual birds, it is interesting to see that they vary somewhat in their tastes, as when one of a pair of Chickadees devotes himself to sunflower seeds, while the other prefers nut-crumbs or grated cheese.

One of my surprises has been the discovery that North Carolina birds utterly scorn suet in the coldest weather.

Cornbread is a very valuable bait because it does not harden like wheat-bread, and the liberal use of shortening makes it attractive even to insect-eaters.

Jays are more easily trapped during the nesting-season than at any other time in this locality. They will take great risks to secure food for the young, but afterwards I find them very wary. In fact, when the winters are open, though cold, the breeding-season is better for trapping, since the great abundance of birds creates a demand for food, while in winter the

supply of seed and berries makes the few winter birds quite independent. —
MATTOS A. BOGGS, R.D. 3, Waynesville, North Carolina.

A Black-crowned Night Heron Recovery of Interest. Notice has just been received from the Bureau of Biological Survey of an interesting recovery of a Black-crowned Night Heron. This bird, number 311276, was banded at Sandy Neck, Barnstable, Massachusetts, on June 16, 1924, and was picked up by J. A. Lombard at Truro, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in the "Fall of 1928." It was, therefore, four years and some months old when found. The place of recovery is approximately twenty miles from the heronry where it was banded when a fledgling. CHARLES B. FLOYD, Auburndale, Massachusetts.

Labrador Banding Records. Vice-President Captain Donald B. MacMillan sends in the following banding-records from different parts of Labrador during 1928:

At Anctalak Bay, twenty-five miles west of Nain in northern Labrador:

July 18	Northern Raven	2
	Razor-billed Auk	3

At Cape Harrington:

Aug. 6	Great Black-backed Gull	1
	Herring Gull	5
	Glaucous Gull	11

At Seck Island, fifteen miles north of Cape Harrigan, eight miles north-east of Davis Inlet:

Aug. 6	Glaucous Gull	17
--------	---------------	----

At Noo-nat-chuk, twenty miles northwest of Cape Harrington.

Aug. 16	Brunnich's Murre	10
---------	------------------	----

Total	49
-------	----

Captain MacMillan will return to Labrador next June and will continue the work of banding on every opportunity.

A Purple Finch Recovery of Interest.—The Bureau of Biological Survey reports that Purple Finch A28735, banded by me at Peterboro, New Hampshire, July 16, 1927, was recovered by G. H. Caperton at Stevenson, Alabama, about February 8, 1929. Of the many hundreds of this species banded by me this is only the second to be reported from any faraway point, the other being at Thornton, Texas. A28735 was not taken at my station after banding and was at least a year old when banded.

HELEN G. WHITTLE, Peterboro, New Hampshire.

A Western-Ranging Purple Finch.—Many if not most of the recoveries reported are cases where banded birds are found dead or are shot.