

the nine additional races nesting north of California. As all but three of the *Passerella* returns reported by Lincoln were made at Berkeley, these were doubtless returns to wintering quarters.

Swarth (*loc. cit.*) says (p. 112) that only by extensive collecting of wintering *Passerella* can the wintering homes of the California races be definitely determined. In place of collecting, well-ordered stations for trapping and banding of the birds will assist in securing the desired data as well as additional scientific information relating to *Passerella* and other species without the attendant sacrifice of bird-life of the collecting method.

—C. L. WHITTLE.

Common Cormorant Return to Natal Colony.—Mr. Charles L. Whittle has informed me by letter that the report of a capture in Minnesota of a Common Cormorant banded in Holland, published in *Der Vogelzug*, Vol. I, No. 3, July, 1930, has been declared by Fr. Haverschmidt, in a later issue of the same publication (*Der Vogelzug*, Vol. II, No. 1, pp. 42-43) to be an error.

Reference to the original report of this capture was made in my note, "A Banded Adult Common Cormorant," published in *Bird-Banding*, Vol. II, No. 1, p. 33, and it was considered to throw a slight doubt on the place of banding of an adult Common Cormorant seen with a band on its foot in a nesting colony of this species near Cape Whittle, Saguenay County, Quebec, on July 25, 1930. Now that it is shown that there is no valid record of the capture in North America of a Common Cormorant banded elsewhere, it is made so much the more certain that the banded adult individual mentioned above had indeed been banded as a juvenile in the colony in which it was observed, since this is the only place in North America where this species has been banded.—HARRISON F. LEWIS.

Notes on the Slate-colored Junco.—Local abundance of the Slate-colored Junco (*Junco h. hyemalis*) is apparently very irregular. Since I began banding birds in May, 1926, Juncos have been abundant at my trapping station only once. In the fall of 1928 and during the winter of 1928-29 they were quite plentiful. In October, 1928, 31 were banded; in November, 97; and in December, 11—a total of 139 for the three months. One was also banded in January, 1929, six in February, and one in March.

The more hardy individuals that remained all winter became very troublesome about the traps, repeating continually. One individual grew particularly tame, and acquired the "trap complex." It was first trapped November 21st in a six-by-six-foot drop-trap, in which practically all the Juncos were captured in the fall. November 23d it began to repeat in the two-, three-, and six-funnel traps, but mostly in the last-named trap. It repeated 195 times up to January 13, 1929, when it was last taken. The highest number of repeats recorded for one day is eleven. It spent practically the entire daylight time during the winter inside the six-funnel trap. The ever-present supply of food evidently constituted its chief source of subsistence during this period. Once when the bird was liberated, it alighted on a near-by fence. While I was closing the door of the trap, it flew down and calmly entered the trap through one of the funnels on the opposite side from where I was standing, about three feet away. Considerable trouble was encountered when the bird refused to enter the receiving-cage, from the six-funnel trap. This trap is three by six feet, and eighteen inches high. The bird could not be secured unless first driven into a receiving cage. It was exasperating when in my efforts to drive it into the cage, it would sometimes calmly sit and eat and would heedlessly

disregard all my gesticulations, which consisted of waving my handkerchief and cap in an effort to frighten it into the cage. It was obviously reluctant to leave the food. In an attempt to deceive the bird, a piece of poultry netting about three feet long, and as high as the trap, was bent at a right angle in the middle and placed in the corner of the trap near the door. This was then fastened at one end which served as a hinge. A long wire was attached to the free end and extended out through the wire of the trap, which could be pulled to close the opening, which was about eighteen inches wide, or wider if desired. Then, with much urging, the bird could be driven in and confined in this small inclosure, where it could be easily reached by my hand. But after the bird had been removed a few weeks in this manner, it gradually became obstinate and even refused to be driven into this corner. However, it soon left my station, and no more trouble was experienced. When the bird was free, it appeared to be normal and in a healthy condition.

Several other individuals repeated over thirty times. One Junco that had learned the way out of the funnels could be seen scurrying out every time the traps were visited, evidently the same individual. There was snow on the ground part of the time when the birds were repeating. They repeated frequently when the ground was bare, but oftener when the ground was covered with snow. The individual that repeated 195 times came almost as often when the ground was bare as when the ground was covered with snow. I have found that Juncos enter traps very freely when they first arrive in flocks in the fall, and also in the winter when there is snow on the ground. But I have found it difficult to trap them in the spring, when they are migrating north.

A few words of explanation concerning the traps I have been referring to as two-, four-, and six-funnel traps. The six-funnel, the largest, is three by six feet, and eighteen inches high, as previously stated. It has a funnel on each end and two funnels on each side, and is one of my best traps. The two- and four-funnel traps are similar, only smaller, and are also effective.—LONY B. STRABALA, Leetonia, Ohio.

Purple Grackle Returns at Paoli, Pennsylvania.—Out of three hundred and five Purple Grackles (*Quiscalus q. quiscula*) banded at Paoli, Pennsylvania, during a period of four years (1927-30), of which only twenty-three were adults when banded, I have had only four returns, two of immature and two of adult birds, the complete records of which are:

No. 274347, adult banded December 2, 1923	Returned September 14, 1924
No. 316372, immature banded July 17, 1924	Returned April 16, 1925
No. 281371, adult banded April 23, 1925	Returned April 4, 1926
No. 288850, immature banded June 26, 1926	Returned May 28, 1927

This small number of returns (1.31 per cent) appears to indicate that birds of this race do not possess in a strong degree the habit so common with many species of returning to the place of birth or where they have previously nested.—H. D. McCANN, Paoli, Pennsylvania.

A Blue Jay Sight Return-7.—Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*) No. 352483 banded as an adult at Lakewood, Ohio, November 3, 1924, was not again heard of until recaptured on March 21, 1928, by Mrs. Frank Zink, 1337 Brockley Avenue, Lakewood, in her yard about three quarters of a mile south of the place of banding. At this time the writer replaced the band on the left leg as the hind toe of the right foot was injured. This Blue Jay had also received injuries to his right wing, which was drooping. The recognition marks for this bird, aside from his behavior, which is