

It may be interesting to readers of *Bird-Banding* that my coöperative project which involves sending out one or more bands to anyone in a position to band a Hawk or an Owl, has resulted in the banding of 305 Hawks, and 81 Owls, which have resulted to date in 22 recoveries, the long distance record being held by a young Marsh Hawk banded in Minneapolis in June, and shot in Havana, Cuba, in January.

This year I plan to appeal even more widely to every field ornithologist, to communicate with me and obtain bands with which to band the nestlings in all Hawk, Owl, or Crow nests known to him.—

National Association of Audubon Societies, 1006 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

GENERAL NOTES

Birds from the Atlantic Blown Inland.—A Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) and a White-tailed Tropic Bird (*Phaethon lepturus catesbyi*) were found near Hanover, New Hampshire, after the hurricane-like storm that devastated parts of the northeastern states in September, 1938. Both birds were immature females. They have been placed in the Dartmouth College Museum.

The Leach's Petrel was picked up by Robert Denison and the writer September 22 on the Pompanoosuc Creek in Vermont, in the backwaters of the Connecticut River during the flood that followed the storm. The Petrel probably died of exhaustion as there was no food in its gullet. The bird was undergoing a post juvenal molt. It weighed 41.8 grams, and was 215 mm. long and had the following other measurements: wing 153 mm., tail 80 mm., culmen 17 mm., tarsus 22.5 mm., middle-toe and claw 24.5 mm., wing spread 45.8 mm., and ovary 5 mm. long. These measurements indicate a size for the juvenal bird generally less than the minimum set by Murphy in the thirteen birds he recorded in "Oceanic Birds of South America." One other specimen has been recorded for the area. Professor Leland Griggs of Dartmouth collected one on Lake Fairlee, Vermont in October 1903. The Tropic Bird was found September 23 near Woodstock, Vermont and was presented to the Dartmouth College Museum by Richard W. Marble. I believe this New England inland record to be the first of its kind to be recorded.—RICHARD L. WEAVER, Naturalist, Dartmouth College.

Some Age Records of the Brown Thrasher, Eastern Song Sparrow, and Indigo Bunting, at Waynesville, North Carolina.—Brown Thrasher, ♂, (*Toxostoma rufum*) 461076, banded as an adult in 1926 has been reported in *Bird-Banding*, Volume V, page 191 and in Volume VI, p. 134. These records now include returns in 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938 the last one a return-11. This last return was her only capture for this season. It makes her age at least thirteen years.

Eastern Song Sparrow, (*Melospiza m. melodia*) C142992, banded as an adult in 1933, has returned every year since, making her age at least six years.

Indigo Bunting F25575, (*Passerina cyanea*), banded as an adult male in 1934, returned in April, 1938 making his age at least five years.—MARION A. BOGGS, R. D. 1, Waynesville, North Carolina.

A Cat-infested Vermont Farm.—On a horse-back trip through central Vermont during August of this year I chanced to stop overnight at a large and well-operated farm in a small town. My horse was stabled in a barn adjoining which was a long low cowshed where some forty of these animals with calves were housed.

At milking time in the building and the milk-house I counted twenty-four cats and without searching saw three litters of kittens totaling fourteen. This means that by fall thirty-eight of these creatures will be hunting for means of subsistence.

The significant feature of this horde of felines is that when I questioned the foreman and commented on the number of cats living there he stated that generally the greater number left in the spring and foraged for themselves in the woods, coming back to the farm again when the weather became inclement and they remained until the following spring when they left for the woods and fields. This being the case there will be probably thirty-eight cats at large securing their living from birds and small mammals and one can easily imagine what a toll of wild life they will take.—CHARLES B. FLOYD.

A Recovery Record of a Roaming Eastern Purple Finch.—A record that illustrates the roaming habit of the species was made by Eastern Purple Finch (*Carpodacus p. purpureus*) 138-15209, banded on July 30, 1938, at the Wharton Bird-Banding Station, Groton, Massachusetts. This bird was then a juvenile, and was one of two birds of this species trapped on that date. The bird repeated at the station on August 1.

The next report of this young Purple Finch came to us via the Biological Survey, who informed us that it was trapped and released by Mrs. Mary Bowers at her station at 19 Hubbard Street, Concord, Massachusetts. From Groton to Concord is about 16 miles in a southeasterly direction.

The erratic travels of the Eastern Purple Finch are well known, but a remarkable example of this phenomenon is the trip back to Groton made by this bird. Trapped and released at Concord on August 19, it was taken again as a repeat at Groton on August 21, having made the 16 mile return trip in two days.—EDWIN A. MASON, Wharton Bird-Banding Station, Groton, Massachusetts.

Auxiliary Perch for Top-opening Traps.—Banders who use top-opening traps are often annoyed by birds perching on the open door and subsequently springing the trap without catching the bird. This trouble can be alleviated with an ordinary wire coat hanger or a piece of hay wire. I prefer an enameled coat hanger as it is rust-proof. The wire is bent into a "U" shape, similar to a croquet arch, the top of the "U" being an inch wider than the top of the door. Fasten the inverted "U" solidly to the trap. The wire can be bent to any angle and as it is always higher than the door, birds will perch on it instead of the door. It is also convenient when such traps are covered by snow, since the perch will often protrude above the surface, thus locating the traps and serving as handles at the same time.—GEOFFREY GILL, 24 Overlook Drive, Huntington, L. I., N. Y.

RECENT LITERATURE

Reviews by Margaret M. Nice and Thomas T. McCabe

BANDING AND MIGRATION

1. Bird-Banding Notes.—1938. Vol. 2(16):269-294. In North America 346,056 birds were banded in 1938, the total since 1922 reaching 2,828,100. The ten species landed in greatest numbers were: Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) 25,607; Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) 18,805; White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) 17,026; Pintail (*Dafila acuta*) 16,360; Junco (*Junco hyemalis & oreganus*) 14,701; Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) 14,376; Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) 13,587; Franklin Gull (*Larus pipixcan*) 10,841; Green-winged Teal (*Nettion carolinense*) 8,372; Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) 8,023.

Great numbers of birds are banded on this continent, but the accumulating data are not being utilized.

Some information is given on longevity: two Mallards were at least 15 years old, one at least 14, one at least 11; a Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) was at least 14; two Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo borealis*) and a Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*), reached 13 years; a Chimney Swift at least 12, a Herring Gull 10; Common Terns 10, 9, and 8; a Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*) at least 8 years and a Nuttall