

bed. He ignored the *sight* of other birds, but answered the *notes* of other House Sparrows, was excited at hearing their "courting" scraps and apparently responded to their alarm notes. In response to the piano playing of Mrs. Kipps he developed a truly musical song. In many ways he followed the pattern of the House Sparrow raised by the Heinroths (*Die Vögel Mitteleuropas* 1924-28, I: 169-178). This bird treated Dr. Heinroth as his mate and also as an old tower holding his nest site; he chirped in his master's ears, attacked Frau Heinroth and the maid, crept into pockets and under the table napkin, turning about to mold a nest. He paid no attention to other small birds and he developed a pretty little warble. I have come across seven other instances of hand-raised male *Passer domesticus* developing songs, three reported by friends, four published by Conradi (1905, *American Journal of Psychology*, 16: 190-198). Mrs. Kipps has written a good account of a member of a social species imprinted on human beings. Her book would gain greatly by the deletion of the quotation at the beginning which states: ". . . man was made to be the priest and even, in one sense, the Christ of the animals."—M. M. Nice.

NOTES AND NEWS

Dr. William H. Drury, Jr., co-author of the leading paper in this issue, is Assistant Professor of Biology at Harvard. His principal interests in recent years have been in the Arctic—birds, flora and permafrost—with field work in Alaska, the Yukon and on Bylot Island (District of Franklin). He has just been appointed director of the education and research program at the Louise Ayer Hatheway School of Conservation Education, being started by the Massachusetts Audubon Society at its magnificent new property in Lincoln, Mass., Drumlin Farm. Dr. Drury is spending the summer in Europe, visiting museums, universities and bird observatories to get ideas for the new school.

It is suggested that those interested in the use of mist nets for the banding of fall migrants along the Atlantic coast of the United States, and who wish to join "Operation Recovery—a cooperative banding study of the coastal fall migration in the eastern United States," should get in touch with James Baird (Norman Bird Sanctuary, Third Beach Road, Newport, R. I.). Mr. Baird, as coordinator of the study, will supply all of the necessary information. Depending on the locality, the peak of the passerine migration is expected to fall between the middle of August and the end of September. Target dates for the optimum operation of mist net stations for specific areas along the coast will fall within the period that the migration peak is expected in that particular locality. However, it is hoped that many stations can be manned continuously for a period of weeks, and volunteers are needed. Stations right on the coast are most desirable, but cooperation from inland stations within about 50 miles of the coast will be welcome.

We announce with regret the resignation of Wendell Taber as a member of the Review Staff, after three years' service, because of the pressure of his work as chairman of the committee of the Nuttall Ornithological Club to complete the Bent "Life Histories" series.

Banders in the western United States have long had the problem of distinguishing the House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) from Cassin's Purple Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*). A new bulletin on the differences, based on studies by Oakleigh Thorne, II, and O. A. Knorr, may be obtained without charge from the Thorne Ecological Research Station, 1707 Hillside Road, Boulder, Colo. (ask for Bulletin No. 3). Now that the House Finch has become established on Long Island and near Greenwich, Conn., the distinctions between it and the Eastern Purple Finch (*Carpodacus p. purpureus*) have become of interest to banders in the eastern United States, and the Thorne bulletin may be of interest to them, although it deals with a different species of Purple Finch, not a subspecies. Many

banders may not be familiar with the most useful single point of distinction, which is that *Carpodacus purpureus* has a deeply notched tail while the tail of *Carpodacus mexicanus* is square or slightly rounded. This is shown in Ridgway's illustration but not commented on in his text (*Birds of North and Middle America*, vol. 1, pl. IV, 1901). The distinction was pointed out in the *Linnean Newsletter* (The Linnean Society of New York) for May, 1954, by C. K. Nichols, who cited one earlier reference.

Mr. Thorne also comments on the need to keep Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) separate in gathering cages to avoid wing or leg injuries from bites. This is not a new point (see *Bird-Banding*, **22**: 34, January, 1951), but one well worth repeating. Multi-cell gathering cages are the best solution, along the lines of the Reed cage (sold by the Massachusetts Audubon Society, 155 Newbury St., Boston 16, Mass.; inquire for current sizes and prices).