Cedar Waxwing recovery.—A Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*) was banded here on October 28, 1966 as an immature, band number 104-112128. It repeated the next day, but was not recorded here thereafter. It was reported recovered at Columbia, S. C. on January 28, 1970, by Mrs. C. M. McCall, who writes that it "was picked up sick, and did not survive that night". The area is full of fruit-bearing shrubs and trees "much frequented by waxwings . . . several waxwings were observed in other parts of town flopping around sick on the lawns". It would seem that insecticides are used a good deal in that region, and are a serious problem.—William P. Wharton, Groton, Mass. 01450.

Shift of mates during nesting of chimney swifts.—Usually pairs of Chimney Swifts remain mated to each other as long as both partners return each year to the nesting locality. Occasionally both birds return but each one gets a new mate. Such a change, however, takes place early in the season before nesting begins (Dexter, 1969). In the season of 1969 an unusual shift of female mates occurred after nest building was completed. In air shaft N9 on the roof of Kent Hall on the campus of Kent State University (see *Ibid.* for illustration), two swifts (band nos. 28-141884 and 28-141889) took up residence on 18 May 1969. (No. -84, a female, had been banded the previous year from shaft A5, and No. -89, a male, from shaft V, but neither one nested there.)

On 26 May 1969 they began nest building in shaft N9, completing it five days later. The first egg appeared 4 June. Upon my return to the campus following an absence of six weeks, I found No. -84 had been replaced by female No. 28-141880 which had been a visitor in shaft E1 both in 1968 and the early part of 1969 (see Dexter, 1952 for study of visitors). No. -84 had moved into shaft A5 and replaced female No. 28-141808 which had been mated there to No. 28-141869, after two years of successful nesting in shaft D4 with another male. (No. -69 had been banded in shaft A5 in 1967 as a juvenile.) The new mates in A5 (-69 and -84) had three eggs on the nest 20 July, two of which hatched the following day, a very late date for hatching.

Oddly enough, on 21 September 1969, in a roosting flock of 19 swifts in shaft A5, there were included Nos. -69 and -84, which were the second set of mates in shaft A5, No. -08 which had been replaced there by No. -84, and No. -89 the first mate of No. -84 in shaft N9. Nine days later No. -89 was found back in shaft N9 with his second mate, No. -80, after visiting with his first mate in shaft A5. In a roosting flock of 17 swifts found in shaft E1 on 3 October 1969, there were included Nos. -69 and -84, the second mates of shaft A5, but none of the others involved in the "musical chairs" described above.

In the season of 1970, Nos. -08 and -69 nested in shaft A5 and Nos. -84 and -89 nested in shaft N9 as they had started to do the year before. No. -80 did not return to the campus for nesting in 1970.

LITERATURE CITED

DEXTER, R. W. 1952. Extra-parental cooperation in the nesting of Chimney Swifts. *Wilson Bull.* **64:** 133-139.

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A device for handling shearwaters.—Investigators who have worked with shearwaters very often have scars to prove it. Both the bill and feet can cause painful injury if the bird is handled improperly. The suggested device is designed to alleviate this problem.

Working with Wedge-tailed shearwaters (*Puffinus pacificus*) in Hawaii, I quickly learned that light gloves alone would be insufficient to prevent injury while measuring and banding birds, and heavy gloves are too cumbersome. The birds become very disturbed and often regurgitate during such prolonged handling. In addition, for an investigator working alone, it is very difficult to capture both members of pairs in the open and still be able to carry out all measurements and banding operations without harsh treatment of the birds.

A modified plastic Clorox bottle (1 quart) serves as the holder for shear-