

seen alive in North Dakota. Having been very familiar with them in my early years in southwestern Connecticut, there could be no question as to the identity and it did give me a thrill, such as only a student of bird life can experience. I hunted through the bushes, which were thick in places, almost impenetrable, but failed to flush it again.

Migrating by night as the Woodcock does, it may be more common than such data as we have would indicate. Such cover as it would usually seek is not often threshed out by our North Dakota hunters. We have, so far as I can find, only four records of their being taken in North Dakota.

Henry V. Williams of Grafton shot one in the fall of 1934, east of Grafton along the river and now has it in his collection of mounted birds.

The note of my own as above recorded was at Snyder Lake, October 2, 1936.

Dr. Coues records in his "Birds of the Northwest", the statement of an army officer who shot one near old Fort Rice in the Missouri River Valley. Dr. N. A. Wood, Ann Arbor, Michigan, gives it a place in his "Preliminary Survey of the Bird Life of North Dakota" from a statement of a hunter who said he had shot three near Saint John, North Dakota, in October, 1920.

Contributory data: Roberts ("Birds of Minnesota"), says it is common in the Mississippi Valley, rare along western boundary, casual in eastern Montana. Taverner ("Birds of Western Canada"), says it is occasional in southern Manitoba. Seton-Thompson ("Birds of Manitoba"), reports it along the boundary line of southeastern Manitoba. Youngworth (WILSON BULLETIN, XLVII, p. 218), records that a few were shot at Fort Sisseton, South Dakota, in 1877-78, but have not been seen there recently.—E. T. JUDD, *Cando, N. D.*

**Banding of Snow Buntings in North Dakota.**—These northern birds are frequent visitors to the United States during the winter, but their restless disposition gives us little opportunity for close contact. For the year ending June 30, 1936, only 383 of them were banded in North America. In the winter of 1933-1934, C. E. Boardman and Glenn Berner at Jamestown, North Dakota, banded 1285 and reported a few observations on their behavior (*Bird Banding*, V, 1934, pp. 129-131). During January and February, 1937, I was able to band 235 of them and found, as did Boardman and Berner, that they came only when the ground was well covered with snow and the weather cold.

There was a small spot in front of our granary where the snow always blew off the ground. We fed turkeys and sheep there daily and the buntings formed the habit of coming to feed also. With a drop trap 24x36 inches, I took from three to nine at a time. They were probably the most nervous and restless of any species which I have handled. During real stormy days they seemed to relax from their nervousness and would fight to get under the trap.

In milder weather it was hard to get many near the trap and they would fly at the least noise. Usually they would disappear for about four hours during the middle of the day. Trapping was best in the early morning and late afternoon. The birds would appear in small flocks of twelve to fifty, and rarely did any of the banded ones re-appear. It was hard to get them out of the trap as they would continually try to fly upward. In the hand they would flutter and try to escape. They were quite pugnacious, picking savagely at fingers though not inflicting injury. As soon as warmer weather made bare areas in the fields the birds deserted us.—EDGAR PRESTON, *Tower City, N. D.*