



Members of the committee on arrangements are Mr. Frank Frazier, Mrs. John Y. Dater, Mr. William O. Astle of Flushing, L. I., and Mrs. Army and Mrs. McEntee.

Perhaps the best part of these Annual Meetings is the opportunity to meet and compare notes with other banders. From past experience we can guarantee that you will enjoy the meeting very much.

#### WHO DID IT?

Evening Grosbeaks with orange and black paint on their bills were observed at Mt. Union, Pa. on February 2, 1952 by Mr. and Mrs. Philip H. Jung.

#### HAVE YOU -

sent your Evening Grosbeak data to Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Shaub, Evening Grosbeak Survey, 159 Elm Sts., Northampton, Mass.?

#### EVENING GROSBEEKS

Mr. Arthur H. Fast, 4924 Rock Spring Rd., Arlington, Va., has contributed the following information:

Prior to the present invasion (1951-52) the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service informally advised that a grand total of 52 Evening Grosbeaks had been banded in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Of these, 51 were banded by Arthur Fast in north Arlington, Va. and 1 by Harvey Brackbill of the Baltimore Sunpapers - all of them in 1946. The first birds of the present invasion were noted in the Washington, D. C. area during the last days of October. They increased in numbers until 97 were observed for the Christmas Bird Count for this area. Beginning December 10 they have come almost daily and in their greatest abundance (up to 50) to the feeding station of Mrs. Dorothy Dreese in north Arlington, Va. Using a 4-cell Potter trap and with bands furnished by Mr. Fast, she has banded to date (February 5) 68 Evening Grosbeaks, 14 males and 54 females. Mrs. Mary Newlin Borton of Alexandria, Va., a licensed bander, has banded 50 of these birds, 19 males and 31

females. Mrs. Elizabeth Peacock, a bander in Fairfax County, Va., has banded 4 of them, 1 male and 3 females. These 3 banding stations are 7 or 8 miles from each other, roughly at the angles of an equilateral triangle with Mrs. Dreese at the apex on the heights overlooking the Potomac River and Washington, D. C. A male banded on January 1 by Mrs. Borton was recovered by Mrs. Dreese on January 8. A female banded by Mrs. Dreese was recovered by Mrs. Peacock. Mrs. Borton and Mrs. Dreese both band on the right leg (or tarsus). Mrs. Borton places the red color band below the regulation government band and Mrs. Dreese above the government band. Mrs. Peacock bands on the left leg. She places the red color band above the government band on the left leg.

The Evening Grosbeaks were added to the Washington, D. C. list in 1922. During a few of the succeeding winters, occasional birds have been seen in the area. However, there have been but 2 invasions in the area - the one in 1946 and the greater present invasion. Many of the banders of Evening Grosbeaks are familiar with the Evening Grosbeak Survey News edited and distributed by B. M. and M. S. Shaub, 159 Elm St., Northampton, Mass., who in conjunction with Edwin A. Mason of Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Easthampton, Mass. are making a well-worth-while effort to assemble and make available to anyone interested all possible information and data on this species.

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An interesting letter has been received from Mrs. Mary W. Lair, Landenberg, Pa., which we quote as follows:

"I am a fairly new bander and only do it in a very small way, but have made a few observations here in the southeast corner of Pennsylvania on our farm.

"Hundreds of Red-winged Blackbirds have been around for several weeks. Last week they came down on our lawn and among them was an all-white one.

"Last winter we saw an Evening Grosbeak in and around our

Yews. It was around for several weeks - the only one I ever saw.

"There was a Phoebe around for many weeks last winter.

"Last year House Wrens put up a noisy fight with large brown and yellow bees (hornets, I guess) for control of a small bird house at our back porch. The bees won and worked at their paper making. This winter I opened it and found five Wren eggs in the nest, which they had been compelled to leave.

"Please tell people to wear gloves when handling Cardinals. I made the mistake of taking the first one out of a trap with bare hands. Such a clamp!

"Last year I was looking to see if Crested Flycatchers were building yet in a hollow log house. They always finish their nest with a cast-off snake skin. But instead of a skin - there was a very large blacksnake - very much alive."

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Mrs. H. G. McEntee, 490 Fairfield Ave., Ridgewood, N. J. sent us the following statistics of her first two complete banding years, which should be of interest to other small or new banders. All her banding activities, some 15 traps of various designs, are confined to an area approximately 40' x 40', or about two-thirds of her backyard. For the most part the traps are placed around the edges and near the shrubs which outline the yard, and they actually detract very little from the general attractiveness of the yard.

February, March, and April are the heaviest banding months, as the following breakdown shows:

May - 98	August - 32	November - 54	February - 218
June - 40	September - 59	December - 104	March - 309
July - 20	October - 69	January - 101	April - 359

Banding Results from May 1, 1949 to April 31, 1951

Mourning Dove	5	Red-wing Blackbird	32
Screech Owl	1	Baltimore Oriole	1
Blue Jay	39	Purple Grackle	54
Chickadee	38	Cowbird	187
Titmouse	2	Cardinal	2
Nuthatch, Wh. Br.	2	Grosbeak, R. Br.	1
House Wren	2	Grosbeak, Evening	7
Mockingbird	1	Purple Finch	113
Catbird	31	Goldfinch	111
Brown Thrasher	7	Towhee	4
Robin	24	Junco	205
Wood Thrush	1	Tree Sparrow	288
Bluebird	13	Chipping Sparrow	30
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	White-crowned	2
Starling	116	White-throat	24
Warblers -		Field Sparrow	3
Tennessee	1	Fox	2
Orange-crowned	1	Song	92
Yellow	2		
Magnolia	1	Total Species .....	40
Cape May	1	Total Birds .....	1463
Myrtle	11		
Bl.throated Green	2	Returns .....	83
		Recoveries .....	9

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APOLOGIES

Your Editor regrets that his absence made the February issue so late and has also delayed this issue beyond its normal mailing time. Arrangements are in process which will eliminate these delays.

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