

Some of the bands issued some years ago have inside diameters that differ from those given above. If the bander should still have such bands on hand, or should receive some in the future, he can easily provide for them by additional notches in the gauge, or, better, in another gauge.

One of these gauges sent to Mr. Frederick C. Lincoln elicited the following statement. "In my opinion you have hit upon a real idea, one that is sure to be of service to all station operators, but particularly to those who are just starting the work. As is not unusual with articles for which there is a need, it is a simple device. That is the reason it is particularly good. . . ."

418 North Hudson Avenue, Pasadena 4, California.

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### GENERAL NOTES

**An Old Herring Gull.**—A Herring Gull, *Larus argentatus smithsonianus* Coues, No. A609261, banded as a nestling by W. G. Means, R. J. Eaton, *et al.*, on South Gooseberry Island, Beverly, Massachusetts, on June 21, 1930, was found dying by Gail Wolff of Berkeley, California, on August 5, 1945, at Cape Ann, Massachusetts, within ten or fifteen miles of the banding station. Aside from the fact that this gull lived to the ripe old age of fifteen years, the recovery is interesting as added evidence of the tendency of birds of this species to spend their adult lives in the general region of their birthplace.—RICHARD J. EATON, Lincoln, Massachusetts.

**Returns of Banded Birds at Pleasant Valley Sanctuary.**—On February 6, 1947, at Pleasant Valley Sanctuary I trapped a male Hairy Woodpecker, *Dryobates villosus villosus* (Linn.), No. 39-307551, which had been banded by Dr. George Wallace January 19, 1939, at this same place, making this bird at least 7½ years old.

On September 26, 1946, at Pleasant Valley Sanctuary a Blue Jay, *Cyanocitta cristata bromia* Oberh., No. 39-307556, was trapped by me which had been banded at the sanctuary by Dr. Wallace on November 22, 1939, making the bird well over seven years old at least.—ALVAH W. SANBORN, Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, Lenox, Massachusetts.

**Aged Chickadee, Tree Sparrow, and Chipping Sparrow.**—On November 12, 1939, I banded a Black-capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus atricapillus* Linn.) 139-94096 at my banding station at Brooks School, North Andover, Massachusetts. This bird repeated frequently up to December 2, 1945, when it was last taken, being then at least in its seventh year. A record of a chickadee over nine years of age is given by Wharton (*Bird-Banding*, 1946, 17: 39). Harding (*Bird-Banding*, 1942, 13: 120) reports one at least six years old.

Eastern Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea arborea* (Wilson)) 139-94139 was banded by me on December 11, 1939. It repeated on February 23 and 27, 1940, and returned on January 11, 1941, and again on January 13, 1947. When last captured it was in its eighth year. Middleton (*Bird-Banding*, 1943, 14: 64) reports two Eastern Tree Sparrows, each one at least seven years old.

I banded an adult male Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina passerina* (Bechst)) 139-38306 on May 28, 1939. It repeated on April 30 and on May 5,