

Besides retaining the original appearance of the site, this method was also found to facilitate banding of the birds. With other methods it is necessary to insert one's hand and arm into the hole to bring out its occupant. With ducks this almost invariably results in the fouling of the eggs, and in any case makes the bird ruffled and distrustful of the nest from which it was dragged. When the bird is prodded through the new hole it leaves quietly through the normal opening and may be easily caught in a net held over the entrance. Most of the distrust thus created, as well as any fouling, was probably concentrated upon the net.

One limitation of the method is that one can not operate a brace and bit from a precarious perch. In such cases the cut-out panel is almost obligatory although the use of a "safety belt" greatly extends the use of the present method.

Mr. A. J. Wiggs performed much of the actual drilling operations, and suggested the variation used when the big bit was not feasible.—A. J. Erskine, Dept. of Zoology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, B. C.

Two 13-year-old age records for the House Sparrow.—Some longevity records for the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), widely known in this country as the English Sparrow, have been published by S. S. Flower (*Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, ser. A. 95: 1378. 1925; 108:200. 1938). These records are based upon caged birds. One bird lived for 11 years, 5 months, and one day, another bird for 14 years, and a third reached the age of 23 years. Dayton Stoner (*Auk* 59: 440-442, 1942) reported on another caged House Sparrow which was taken as a nestling and kept in captivity for 12 years. Longevity records of birds living in the wild are not easily obtained, and undoubtedly do not often reach the extreme age of caged birds.

At the time my study of banding House Sparrows was published (*Bird-Banding* 20: 40-50. 1949), the oldest recovery I had obtained was nearly five years old. Since then two of my banded sparrows have been recovered which extend the longevity record to somewhat over 13 years. These two (nos. 43-129716 and 43-129740) were banded as immature birds on June 13 and 24, 1944, respectively, on the roof of McGilvrey Hall at the campus of Kent State University. These were never recaptured by the writer, although many of those banded about the same time were later retaken in the same traps or others nearby as reported in the reference above. In October of 1957 these two were captured in a sparrow trap by Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Pirl at 711 Crain Ave. in Kent, Ohio, about 0.4 mile away from the site of banding. Unfortunately the carcasses of these birds were destroyed before the writer learned of their recapture. Mrs. Pirl believes that both specimens were males. It would be interesting to speculate how long these birds might have lived if they had not been destroyed as pests at a feeding station.—Ralph W. Dexter, Dept. of Biology, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Some Long Distance Barn Owl Recoveries.—On 1 July 1953 we banded a brood of six nestling Barn Owls (*Tyto alba*) in the Town of Granville, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. Two of them were subsequently found dead at points over 1200 miles distant, a greater distance than has been previously recorded (see Stewart, *Auk* 69: 227-245, 1952, and Broun, *Bird-Banding* 25: 149, 1954). One of the Owls (557-56405) was found at Delray Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, on 25 November 1953, and 557-56407 was recovered 6 June 1954 at Miami, Florida.

We captured and banded an adult Barn Owl (557-56442) in the Town of Mequon, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin, on 11 July 1955. On 1 November 1955 it was captured on a ship 225 miles due east of Savannah, Georgia, about 940 miles from the place of banding. The bird was kept captive, fed raw meat, and released 4 November on the Mississippi River about 65 miles south of New Orleans.—Helmut C. Mueller, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and Daniel D. Berger, Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Route 1, Cedar Grove, Wisconsin.

A Second Peregrine Falcon Banding Return from Uruguay.—On 1 October 1941 Murl Deusing trapped and banded an immature Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) at Cedar Grove, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin. This bird was recovered near Buschental, Department of San Jose, Uruguay on 8

December of the same year. (See Cooke, M.T., 1943, *Bird-Banding*, 14: 72). On 27 September 1954 we trapped and banded an immature male Peregrine (546-12230) at Cedar Grove, and 2 March 1955 it was shot near Montevideo, Uruguay. less than 70 miles from the locality of the above return. The straight line distance between banding and recovery is about 5900 miles, and the approximate distance of a probable route (across the Caribbean via the Antilles and then along the Brazilian coast) is 9000 miles.—Helmut C. Mueller, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and Daniel D. Berger, Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Rt. 1, Cedar Grove, Wisconsin.

Orange Crown Patches in Male Ruby-crowned Kinglets.—The following statistics are the result of Fall netting near Monkton, Maryland:

year	number banded	females	Ruby-crowned Kinglets	
			males (red crown patches)	males (orange crown patches)
1955	30	17	13	0
1956	76	31	44	1
1957	54	16	20	18

In 1957 the orange crown patches of four individuals were a lighter orange and one a darker orange than the average. Although Ruby-crowned Kinglets were banded from September 29, 1957 to October 23, 1957, the ones with orange crown patches were captured on October 22 and 23.

Bent (1949, *Life Histories of North American Thrushes, Kinglets and their Allies*, Smithsonian Inst., Washington, D. C.) reports that on occasion the young male will assume an orange or yellowish crown patch rather than the normal red one, but that this is a rather rare occurrence.—Stephen W. Simon, 402 Sharp St., Ashland, Ohio.

RECENT LITERATURE

BANDING

(See also Numbers 30, 33, 41, 61)

1. Recovery in Denmark 1900-1955 of Birds Ringed Abroad. (Genfanger i Danmark 1900-1955 af fugle ringmaerkede i udlandet). Ella Adelholt. 1958. *Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift*, 52 (3-4): 153-280. (With explanatory summary in English). This long list gives the raw data for almost all the birds banded abroad and recovered in Denmark over a 55-year period. Most of the records are from the literature (each is referred to its source in the bibliography), but a few are hitherto unpublished. Lists of this sort, despite the labor of compiling and the cost of publishing them, are exceedingly useful, and one wishes that similar ones could be done for other areas. Students of African faunistics, for instance, would welcome a compilation of the African recoveries of birds banded in Europe, but locating those that have been published, most of them in minor journals of limited circulation, is an almost impossible task, even in the largest and most complete libraries. How ornithology would benefit if the wealth of information scattered in the many small banding schemes throughout the world were deposited in some central repository for all to use! We welcome the publication of lists such as this one where they are economically feasible.

Here in the United States our banding data have long been so voluminous that publishing them *in toto* is financially impossible. While they are all available on IBM cards at the Patuxent Research Refuge in Laurel, Maryland, just processing and maintaining these records consumes a major portion of the Fish and Wildlife Service's limited appropriations, and leaves little or none for disseminating them further. The staff of the Banding Office is always glad to help any qualified researcher who can hie himself to Patuxent to dig the information he needs out of the files, and many ornithologists are now availing themselves of the opportunity. Far too many, however, are either unaware of this invaluable mine of information, or are unable to get to Patuxent to prospect in it. Something should be done to make fuller use of our rapidly mounting banding data, particularly for non-game species. But what?—O. L. Austin, Jr.