

Children's programs have been broadened to include animals, stars, trees and flowers, and even reptiles as well as birds. Indian lore, natural recordings of wild voices, and simplified instruction in photography provide children with a never-ending variety of new and out-door interests. The Director has been very much gratified when very small children have called out the names of unusual warblers and other hard to identify species.

7550 birds of 87 species were banded during 1961. 628 birds banded in former years returned to be retrapped. Among these were two Grackles banded in 1952, two Catbirds banded in 1953, and two Red-eyed Vireos banded in May 1958 which returned to nest in the Park during the summer of 1961. Goldfinches were very abundant. 2,000 were banded between November 1 and May 1.

Ophthalmoscopic examinations of the eyes of native birds, undertaken in 1960, continued throughout 1961. Lack of a much-needed retinal camera was a serious set-back. While it is hard to explain the need for such a costly piece of equipment (estimated at more than \$1,000) many lesions seen in avian retinas have never been seen before by ophthalmologists. Cataracts were seen in the eyes of 16 species, including Turkey Vultures, Blue Jays, Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrushes and Cardinals. These retina studies are done exactly as with humans; birds cooperate well and are not harmed in any way. A technique for staining the corneas of Wood Thrushes with Fluorescein was developed. This will facilitate the study of the external eyes of living birds.

Utilizing birds brought to the Bird Hospital, techniques perfected in 1960 were employed. Birds with leg and wing fractures were splinted with Scotch Tape, and released to care for themselves. When the fractures are healed, the birds remove their own dressings. A number of birds with fractures were known to fly again.

With the establishment of the Nature Center as a non-profit corporation, at last, after ten years, the Center has a future.



THE WORKSHOP MANUAL    Copies of the Workshop Manual are still available. It contains invaluable information for banders -- veterans as well as those who have just received their licenses. If you do not have a copy -- send one dollar and your name and address to Miss Mary-Rebecca Cregar, 223 Matsonford Road, Radnor, Pa.