

The key to the problem may be that too many banders band for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, so to speak, and not for their own improvement in ornithology. We must remember at all times that the Banding Laboratory is primarily a collection agency for data which has to be entered in a central file. They are not interested in certain data because their computer oriented filing system is not geared to take that kind of data. The motivation you should have is that you are banding to learn more about ornithology and related sciences, and while you're at it, while you have this august opportunity, take as much data as you can!

There are many pros and cons to what I'm saying. The foregoing is intended only as an aid, to help evaluate our work, rather than as any sort of criticism. I've been guilty of so-called "ringing and slinging" too, and probably will again. I try not to ring-and-sling, though! Occasionally, particularly during O.R., it has been said if you have no time to band all the birds you net, throw them away unbanded. With this I firmly disagree. Though I discourage banding merely for the sake of banding, rather than for the sake of gathering information - the bird you throw away unbanded may be the one which is picked up in Argentina! With the small recovery ratios, we cannot take a chance. What I'd do, is close up my traps so no more birds can get caught, but I'd band everything caught up to that point, even if I miss a weight or a measurement here and there.

#### Atlantic Flyway Recovery Report

1. (Rc) Saw-whet Owl, 372; AHY-F 524-21171  
 04-07-68 - JFK Wildlife Refuge, Nassau County, New York  
 01-12-69 - So. Portland, Cumberland County, Maine. Found shot.
  2. (Rc) Myrtle Warbler, 655; HY-U 116-39872  
 10-28-67 - JFK Wildlife Refuge, Nassau County, New York  
 02-21-69 - Miami, Dade County, Florida. Found dead.
- 139-48 85th Drive, Jamaica, N.Y. 11435



With the passing of the Treasurer, who was also a very dear friend, we cannot escape the thought that this column, adorned with Dorothy Bordner's delightful and often humorous drawings, is perhaps not quite appropriate for this issue...it will reappear in its usual form in the next.

Many readers will recognize the cover picture, representing "Harrier Hill", the name the Dickerson's gave their Block Island home...the drawing appears on their Block Island stationery.

Deadline for the next issue is September 1. Please send us material for publication as far ahead of Sept. 1 as possible.