

was shot and brought to me for identification. It proved to be a Western Red-tail (*Buteo borealis calurus*) of last spring, sooted and smutted by city life until the white of the under parts was almost invisible. I am unable to verify statements as to the hawk catching pigeons in flight. Certainly, it fed well upon pigeon meat, however secured, and was apparently undisturbed by proximity of humans and the noise and smoke of the city.—L. E. WYMAN, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, January 28, 1925.*

## WITH THE BIRD BANDERS

Under the direction of J. Eugene Law, Altadena, California

**Trapping Notes from Altadena, California.**—On January 22, 1925, a female Western Bluebird was caught and banded as no. 129940 in the yard at my home in Altadena, California. On January 23, as I glanced out the window and saw that a female bluebird had been trapped, a Sparrow Hawk, which had been perching on the top of a near-by telephone pole, swooped down and lit on the trap. In an instant, a male bluebird dashed down and flew at the hawk time after time until the latter finally retired to the top of the pole. The male bluebird continued to hover near the trap until I had taken the female out and released her, whereupon the two flew off together. This female proved to be no. 129940 banded the day before. About an hour later a male bluebird was caught in the same trap and received band no. 129941.

Early in January, I set one of my Potter traps over a bird bath which has the water about four feet off the ground, hoping to get some of the many Green-backed Goldfinches and Pine Siskins that came in flocks to play in the water. In a short time, a flock drifted in and three of the goldfinches and a siskin were caught, two in each end of the trap, while the rest of the flock of more than 50 birds crowded over the trap and bath mound, chirping cheerily. As I approached the trap to remove the captives, the greater part of the flock remained at and around the far end of the trap, not two feet away, and stayed during the removal process, scolding at me and looking at the birds in the trap and trying to get at the water within. I reset the trap several times, repeatedly catching more birds before I could finish banding one just taken out. They virtually covered the trap and rock sides of the bath, flying from it to the fence near-by and back again like a swarm of bees. Suddenly they were off again, leaving the yard as quickly as they had come.

Another day, while banding a siskin just trapped at the bath, two of the goldfinches flew in and alighted on the trap which was closed, chirping vociferously at me. Judging that they wanted to get in for a bath, I reset the trap, while they retired to the fence. Then they immediately flew in, had their bath, and received their bands as a reward.—MRS. HARLAN H. EDWARDS, *Altadena, California, January 29, 1925.*

**The Western Bird Banding Association.**—The processes of evolution continue to operate. New necessities demand new adjustments. And the organization of the Western Bird Banding Association, unthought-of a year ago, is the natural result of today's necessity.

Primarily this necessity pertains to finances. The splendid work of a corps of energetic banders must not be wasted. There must be a depository in the West where all the occurrence data that is being collected in banding work will be assembled and maintained in a manner that will make it available to students who want to dig out its problems. The deeper aspects of these problems can best be analyzed by workers who have had direct contact with western topography and its faunas. If the West is to maintain its place, therefore, in the development of banding work, it must provide the best equipment for its workers.

Moreover, banding work, more than any other ornithological activity, demands cooperative organization. It is work in which each will contribute his bit to round out the whole. Individual observations and experimentations will continue to yield