

and poplar trees. In the morning I noted among others a Cape May and some Parulas, and I was hoping they would stay about until afternoon as I expected some guests "to see a demonstration of bird banding". My wish was granted, for the birds stayed here all day.

At 3.30 P. M. a male Parula Warbler was captured in my pull-string open-top trap (with water drip), and fifteen minutes later we banded a male Cape May Warbler. Thirty minutes later we secured another male Cape May, and as we had kept the first one to show our guests, we carefully compared them and discovered that A34582 was less bright than A34581, but both were unmistakably males. At five o'clock another Parula was banded. The two Parulas were not compared, but they also were both males, even though they had only a faint black band on the breast.

The cherry trees are twelve feet from the veranda where we were observing the birds, and the open-top trap stands on the ground under a plum tree twenty feet farther away. These Cape Mays were the first of this species banded here, my total species banded now standing at fifty-one.—(Mrs.) MARY E. F. HUBBARD, New Haven, Conn., June 3, 1927.

Distribution of the April 1927 Bulletin.—Readers of the *Bulletin* doubtless noted our change of policy as set forth under the heading "Announcement" in the last number, namely to open our pages to any one wishing to publish articles or notes calculated to advance the science of Ornithology by bird-banding methods. In order that bird-banders in this country and in Canada should be advised of this fact, arrangements were made with the Bureau of Biological Survey to distribute copies of that number to all banders in the Eastern, Inland and Western Bird Banding Associations, the *Bulletin* going out under government frank with an accompanying letter from Mr. W. C. Henderson, Associate Chief of the Bureau. About ten hundred and fifty copies were thus distributed to the three associations mentioned, this Association supplying them gratis.

A Query Regarding Purple Finches.—It is a remarkable fact that during five nesting seasons at two banding stations where opportunity to observe Purple Finches at short range is perhaps unsurpassed, I have never seen an olivaceous bird of this species, an immature male, courting another olivaceous Purple Finch. If, as it is believed, this species mates when the birds are in their first winter plumage, it is strange that no case of the kind referred to has ever been recognizably seen by me. Furthermore, I have never heard to my knowledge an olivaceous Purple Finch sing the familiar, ecstatic warble of the "rosy" male. Many times, both in Peterboro, New Hampshire, and in Cohasset, Massachusetts, on hearing such a song, I have searched out the singer and have invariably found him to be an adult bird. Mrs. Whittle has on the contrary on one or two occasions seen instances of a courting olivaceous bird and has heard such birds sing the ecstatic warble of the old male. That many olivaceous birds presumed to be immature males sing is obvious. Before nest building begins, such birds sing all about my Cohasset banding station, on the ground, shelf and feeding tray, but the song is very different from that of old males, a simple song, of six or eight notes, familiar to many, a song much less frequently heard about my station during nesting time.

The question I would like answered is: Why, since the number of living