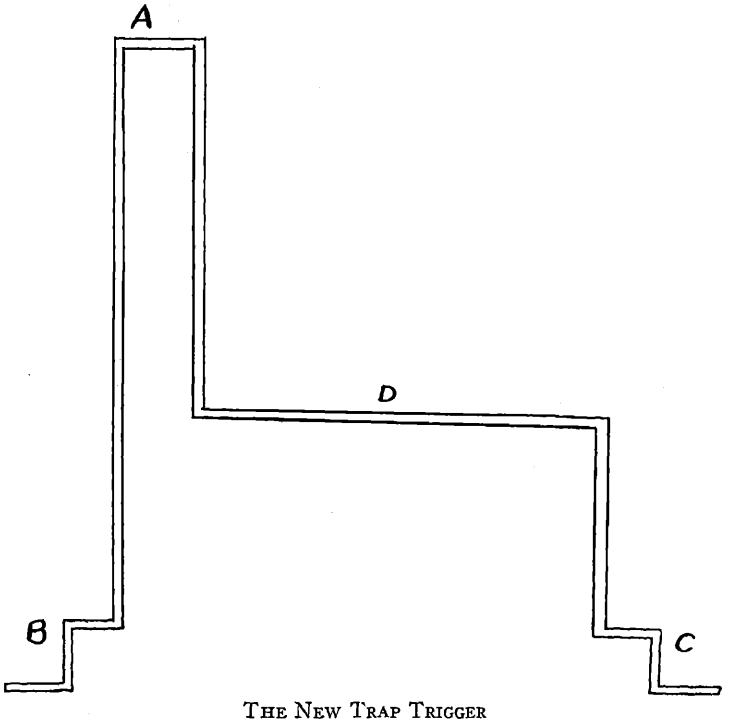
A New Trigger for Traps,—Since the advent of the Midget Trap, first described in *Bird-Banding Notes* 18, pp. 10-11, and again in the *Manual for Banding Birds, Misc. Pub.* 58, U. S. Department of Agriculture, we have devised a new type of trigger to supersede the false bottom. This trigger, which is made of No. 12 or No. 14 wire, may well be used on all types of swinging-door traps. Indeed, its possibilities are unlimited, as a few minor changes will adapt it for nearly any situation.



THE NEW TRAP TRIGGER

As shown in the drawing, it consists of a wire with a number of right-angle bends. Taking a piece of the wire selected, (size 14 iron wire is best) three bends are made as at B, then the wire runs straight for four or five inches to A, where a double right-angle bend is made. The wire is continued for two or three inches parallel to A B, followed by a right-angle bend, a short piece of wire, and another right-angle bend. The wire is continued to C, opposite B, where it is bent as at B. The trigger is then inserted in the mesh of the wire screen forming the trap. B and C will act as the axles of the trigger. The trigger wire from the door of the trap rests on the trigger at A, where a very delicate contact may be made by sliding the trigger up or down the trigger wire.

This type of trigger has many advantages over the false-bottom trigger. The struggles of the bird cannot scatter the bait. We generally nail a

cleat across the front of the trap as a threshold to prevent the bait from being pushed forward. There is no danger of the bird's getting injured, as it will have penetrated to D before coming in contact with the trigger. We generally place the bait back of the trigger in order to encourage the birds to cross the trigger.

We now make the new Midgets ten or twelve inches long instead of six inches as in the original Midgets. The longer trap allows the bird to enter farther before the door is dropped. It prevents the escape of birds when the hand is inserted to remove them, as they retreat to the rear of the trap. The escape of such birds as Chickadees is quite high and the longer trap reduces this to a comfortable minimum.—LEONARD W. WING, Museum of Zoölogy, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
February 8, 1932

A Red-tailed Hawk Recovery,—A Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo borealis borealis*) banded by me at Kingsville, Ontario, November 15, 1931, was caught in a steel trap set for skunks by Coker Scott at Dennis, Mississippi, February 12, 1932. Mr. Dennis plans to liberate the bird, now minus one leg.—JACK MINER, Kingsville, Ontario.

A New North American Ectoparasite for the Starling,—A series of birds' ectoparasites collected by me and sent to Mr. Harold S. Peters several months ago for identification contained three specimens of lice known as *Menacanthus spinosum* Piaget. These parasites were collected from an immature Starling (No. A206400) on July 16, 1930, and are now B15575 in the collection of the Bureau of Entomology. According to Mr. Peters, this probably constitutes the first North American record for this insect.

In his letter of January 28, 1932, Mr. Peters advises that in its native home the Starling is host for about eight species of lice, but apparently it did not bring them all to America. All of his previous records were for two species, *Myrsidea cucularis* and *Degeeriella nebulosa*.

It is of course possible that American Starlings may entertain additional parasites as yet undiscovered. The need of more intensive collecting of parasites affecting birds must be evident. Banders handling these or any other birds are afforded excellent opportunity to collect specimens of ectoparasites, and the Bureau will gladly furnish alcohol vials for use in the preservation of the insects to any bander who is willing to collect such material. Mr. Peters may be addressed at the United States Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C.—PAUL A. STEWART, Leetonia, Ohio.

Two Pairs of Tree Swallows Mated During Two Successive Seasons,—At my banding stations in Pomfret, Connecticut, and in Worcester, Massachusetts, two pairs of Tree Swallows (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) were mated during two successive seasons, in 1930 and in 1931. Their history follows: C20163 and C20164 were banded at my Connecticut station May 30, 1930. They raised five young, C48102, C48103, C48104, C48105, and C48106, banded on June 20, 1930. They were returns-1 in 1931 on June 21st and June 6th respectively, nesting in the same house as in 1930. In 1931 they raised four young, F17567, F17568, F17569, and F17570, banded on June 20th. After these young had flown the nest was sent to the Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C. The nest contained fifty-two *Protocalliphora splendida*, var. *sialia*, thirty *Mormoniella vitripennis*, and one hundred and sixty fleas.