

SUMMARY

1. Successful observation of colored band combinations on Herring Gulls varies with the power of binoculars and with local conditions.

2. Bird students have contributed 84 per cent of all sight recoveries (up to about December 12, 1937).

3. The migration of first-year Herring Gulls southward appears to be fairly complicated. Birds from the St. Lawrence River and Gulf, and the Bay of Fundy, reach Long Island and New York City shortly after the Maine Coast Gulls arrive. Recoveries are insufficient as yet to permit a complete analysis of these movements.

4. In the New York City region a majority of recoveries have been made on garbage dumps, and successful observation has depended on some knowledge of the habits of local gull flocks.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

EATON, R. J.

"The Migratory Movements of Certain Colonies of Herring Gulls in Eastern North America." *Bird-Banding*, IV: 165-176 (1933); V: 1-19; 70-84 (1934).

GENERAL NOTES

Some Detailed History of Herring Gull 37-652822.—From the five hundred young Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*) banded at the Isles of Shoals, New Hampshire, in July, 1937, one bird has already been identified several times by means of the colored bands.

This gull was raised as a campus pet at the Summer school of the University of New Hampshire at the Isles of Shoals. It was not confined at any time.

On August 28, 1937, this bird was first identified at Rye North Beach, New Hampshire near the place of banding. It was on the ground, where it was stretching its neck and calling, acting as though it was trying to swallow something but was unable to do so. The discoverer walked to the bird and was surprised in being allowed to pick it up. The bird's throat was stroked, in an effort to correct the trouble. The bird soon became quiet and stopped calling. It was then tossed into the air that it might fly away, but it rose only about twenty feet, making a circle, and alighted at the captor's feet. It was then taken out on some low rocks by the seashore, where it was left. Soon another gull swooped down near it, giving a call, and both flew away together.

At its next place of recovery, 37-652822 became well known. Here, in Ipswich Bay, Massachusetts, many fishermen learned to await its appearance, catching it easily when it alighted on their fishing-boats. The fishermen fed it sand-worms, sand-eels, fish-bait, and fish-refuse. It could be easily caught, and would take food from the hands of the mackerel fishermen readily and fearlessly. It remained at least through the 3d of September. It was also reported a mile and a half east of Plum Island.

This gull was next reported from Gloucester, Massachusetts, at Pavalion Beach. Its tameness was continued here, where, the last time heard from, it followed its captor about the beach for an hour or so, while he worked on his boat. When released on September 9th it still wore its conspicuous bands, two of red celluloid and a numbered aluminum band. No report has been received since the bird was last seen at Gloucester on the above date, when it was observed as it flew away.

At the Isles of Shoals 37-652822 began early in August to fly down to the ocean, coming back to the laboratory building at night, never leaving the immediate

vicinity of the building, save for its forays to the water, where it was observed several times feeding with the wild gulls of the vicinity.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, East Westmoreland, New Hampshire.

A Pair of White-breasted Nuthatches Mated for two Winter Seasons.—On October 25, 1937, I trapped a female White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) bearing band 194226. Five days later (October 30, 1937) I trapped a male bearing band 194229. Both of these birds have since repeated several times and are to be seen together almost constantly nearly every day (December 11th).

The female was originally banded by Ralph W. Goodale on November 21, 1936, and five days later (November 26, 1936) he also banded the male bird. Both were banded at his station which is less than a mile distant from my own.

Although the fact that the female preceded the male to the trap by five days in each instance is probably only an interesting coincidence, it is quite evident that we have here two birds which have been closely associated, possibly as mates, for almost a year.—G. HAPGOOD PARKS, 141 Branford Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

RECENT LITERATURE

(Reviews by Margaret M. Nice and Thomas T. McCabe)

The articles have been selected and arranged under subjects of importance to students of the living bird, and also for the purpose of suggesting problems, or aspects of problems, to those banders who wish to make the most of their unique opportunities.

Headings in quotation marks are the exact titles of articles or literal translations of such titles. Except in the case of books, which are always reviewed under their titles, headings not in quotation marks refer to general subjects, or are abbreviated from titles in foreign languages. References to periodicals are given in italics. Reviews by Mr. McCabe are signed with his initials.

MIGRATION STUDIES

"Physiology of the Migration Drive."—Discussion of migratory restlessness in relation to metabolism based on experiments on Whitethroats (*Sylvia communis*) and Redbreasts (*Erithacus rubecula*) in Breslau. The author believes the migratory urge is due to increased thyroid secretion. His birds showed restlessness only after they had reached a maximum weight; it disappeared after they had lost weight, but reappeared when they had gained weight. This is a matter on which banders can give us information by weighing their birds; the native sparrows that I have caught did not show high weight in the fall, nor did White-throated Sparrows (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) gain weight during stays of five to twenty-six days.

"Release of Spring Migration Restlessness through Warmth in Caged Redbreasts, *Erithacus rubecula* (L.)."—On March 21st the temperature was reduced to 5° C., then raised on March 30th to 20° C.; lowered on April 3d and raised again April 6th. The sudden warming of the room brought on migration restlessness in all the birds.

"The Migration of Birds."—A review of recent theories. M. Dupond disagrees with the ideas of Stimmelmayer and Cathelin, but quotes with approval Wachs and Rowan. On the subject of "way-finding" he mentions the notable experiments of Rüppell and Stresemann. He criticizes the glacial theory of the origin of migration, believing that life originated near the equator and spread to the north, the cold of winter causing a yearly retreat in the case of the birds. He cites Mayr's study of the Serin (*Serinus canarius serinus*), a permanent