

BIRDS RECOVERED AT OR NEAR SUMMERVILLE, S. C., BANDED ELSEWHERE			
	<i>Banded</i>	<i>Where Banded and by Whom</i>	<i>When and How Recovered</i>
Robin			
B320245	Aug. 16, 1932	William Pepper Philadelphia, Pa.	Mar. 11, 1937 killed
Red-winged Blackbird			
B271336	Aug. 1, 1934	O. L. Austin North Eastham, Mass.	Dec. 25, 1934 shot
Chipping Sparrow			
35-6124	Sept. 13, 1936	W. E. Smith South Chatham, Mass.	Mar. 11, 1937 trapped
Vesper Sparrow			
B112814	Oct. 14, 1930	O. L. Austin North Eastham, Mass.	Mar. 13, 1933 trapped
White-throated Sparrow			
B123698	Oct. 7, 1932	R. M. Hinchman Milton, Mass.	Mar. 27, 1933 trapped

Groton, Massachusetts.

### THIRD PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DISEASE STUDY PROJECT

By CARLTON M. HERMAN

IN 1937 a cooperative project was launched for the study of bird diseases (*Bird Banding*, VIII: 109-113). The plan was to have banders and other ornithologists send all dead birds to cooperating students of bird diseases for examination. The project has steadily grown, two progress reports have already appeared (*Bird Banding*, IX: 101-102 and *idem*, X: 35-38). At first only a few pathologists on the eastern seaboard were approached and bird banders have responded so enthusiastically that now the project has become national in scope. It, therefore, seems advisable at this time to publish a list of the pathologists cooperating and to point out some of the information that has been brought to light by this study. It is hoped that many more banders will be stimulated to send in dead birds to their regional cooperator and thus aid in adding to this knowledge.

The present list of investigators is:

#### NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND REGION

Dr. E. E. Tyzzer, Harvard Medical School, Department of Comparative Pathology, Boston, Mass.

\* This bird was released, after banding, at St. George, S. C., a distance of about 30 miles. It was taken as a return on Feb. 2, 1936, and again released at St. George, the above recovery record being made over two months later.

## SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND REGION

Dr. Irwin Jungherr, Storrs Experiment Station, Storrs, Conn.

## NORTHERN NEW YORK REGION

Dr. Gordon M. Meade, Associate Director, Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, N. Y.

## SOUTHERN NEW YORK REGION

Laboratory and Hospital, New York Zoological Park, 185th Street and Southern Boulevard, New York, N. Y. Dr. Leonard J. Goss.

## NEW JERSEY REGION

Dr. F. R. Beaudette, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N. J.

## PHILADELPHIA REGION

Dr. C. Brooke Worth, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa., or Penrose Research Laboratory, The Zoological Gardens, 34th Street and Girard Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. H. L. Ratcliffe.

## WASHINGTON (D. C.) REGION

Dr. J. E. Shillinger, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

## SOUTHEASTERN REGION

Dr. Elon E. Byrd, University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.

## MICHIGAN REGION

Dr. Earl C. O'Roke, University of Michigan, College of Forestry, Ann Arbor, Mich.

## MINNESOTA REGION

Dr. Robert G. Green, University of Minnesota, Medical School, Minneapolis, Minn.

## PACIFIC COAST REGION

Biological Research Institute, San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif. Dr. Frank D. McKenney, or Los Angeles Wildlife Disease Research Station, 203 Administration Building, Union Stock Yards, Los Angeles, Calif.

Since the last report the greatest number of birds for study have been received in the Philadelphia, New Jersey and New York regions. Dr. Worth reports the examination of over 185 birds during this period, Dr. Beaudette 71, and over 54 have been examined at the New York Zoological Park. At the other stations the birds examined have numbered only 10 or less and further co-operation of the banders is needed to increase the value of this undertaking in those regions. The total number of birds examined since the project began is approaching 500, and as this number increases it is hoped that we may obtain valuable information on the relative occurrence of diseases in our wild birds. All the co-operators agree that valuable information can be expected only through the examination of great numbers of specimens.

Already some very interesting findings are being uncovered. As early as the October, 1938 meetings of the American Ornithologists' Union, Dr. Worth and the author reported the occurrence of a canker-like disease in Mourning Doves from some of the eastern

states. Since that time we have received either reports or specimens with this disease from as far south as South Carolina and north to Massachusetts. Cases also have been noted from other parts of the country. This disease is being further studied by the author.

Two of our cooperators, Dr. Beaudette and Dr. Tyzzer, have been actively interested in the occurrence of equine encephalomyelitis in wild birds and have published several papers (see bibliography). This is a virus disease primarily of horses, and during recent years cases of a similar nature believed by many workers to be the same disease have been reported from man. From time to time in medical history scientific workers have attempted to incriminate wild birds in the dissemination of diseases of humans and domesticated animals. Sometimes these suspicions have been authenticated, sometimes disproved. For many years it was considered that various species of sparrows were a factor in the spread of coccidiosis among poultry, but Boughton (1937), and others, have definitely disproved this belief. Bird banders should be vitally interested in assisting to obtain the true facts in each case, as well as learning more about the causes of death among their trap visitors.

The cooperating pathologists are collaborating with each other and workers who specialize in particular groups of parasites or other disease organisms. The material you send in is studied in every detail possible, with the facilities and knowledge available. Often birds are received in such poor condition that they are not only valueless to the person performing a necropsy, but an annoying waste of time. Every effort should be made to get the birds to the cooperators as quickly and as fresh as possible, and the lack of sufficient data to make a diagnosis should not discourage us from continuing with this project. Even individual birds have added to our knowledge of what might be occurring in nature. Several of us have seen diseases in individual birds which will be published when more evidence and information is obtained from further specimens. Worth (1940) has reported an anatomical abnormality of the bill of a Slate-colored Junco which was undoubtedly the cause of a heavy infestation with bird lice. Beaudette (1940) has reported a case of pseudotuberculosis in a blackbird, the first report of this disease in a free-flying bird in North America. He has also reported, for the first time, the occurrence of a trematode worm (flake) from the subcutaneous tissues of a Purple Finch.

Continued cooperation of bird banders and field ornithologists will undoubtedly reveal many more such interesting cases. Be sure to send all sick or dead birds to the nearest cooperator listed at the beginning of this note.

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## RETURNS FROM BANDED BIRDS: RECOVERIES OF SOME BANDED BIRDS OF PREY

By MAY THACHER COOKE

THE first paper in this series (Lincoln, Frederick C., Recoveries of Banded Birds of Prey, vol. 8, 1936, p. 38-45) dealt with hawks and owls. Since then the number of these birds banded has nearly trebled with a comparable increase in the number of interesting returns. Considering also the present interest in this group, another paper about it seems justified.

The banding of large birds, especially hawks and owls is quite a different matter from the handling of small birds. Several co-operators have rather specialized in this phase of the work, and each has worked out his own technique. For several years, Richard H. Pough of the National Audubon Society has taken a great interest in this work and co-operators under his supervision have banded more than a thousand birds, the returns from which have provided many valuable data.

Birds of prey have popularly been considered long-lived birds and have often proved so—in zoos. However, few of our banded birds have survived more than a year or two and the records here presented give ample evidence of the indiscriminate war against hawks and owls in recent years. How indiscriminate this is can be further shown by a few figures. Excluding the vultures, about eleven percent of the hawks and owls banded have been of the species classed as harmful. But the recoveries for the beneficial