

Ontario, Canada, on May 19, 1940, by R. W. Smith. As the bird was banded in May it must have been of at least 1939 hatch. This would set the bird's age at 13 years. The Banding Office, at Laurel, Maryland, advises that the above constitutes the oldest chimney swift in their records. The band, on this swift, was found to be badly worn in one spot and was removed and replaced by Band No. 52-72499. The remaining 6,964 chimney swifts were banded and released. I believe that this is the largest number of chimney swifts to be banded from a single chimney in a single day.—Gordon L. Hight, Jr., 16 Notasulga Drive, Rome, Georgia.

**An Unusual Accident to a Bronzed Grackle.**—On May 20, 1948, we caught in a drop-trap a Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*) which had suffered a rather strange accident. The hallux of the right foot was elevated so that it lay parallel to the tarsus, and the nail was firmly hooked around the tarsus so that it almost encircled it. When we released the toe, we found the tarsus scarred from rubbing, and the nail of the hallux was approximately 4 mm. longer than that of the left foot. The nails of the other three toes on this foot were found to be about 2 mm. longer than the corresponding nails of the other foot, and it was evident that the bird was unable to use the right foot in a normal fashion. Had we not trapped the bird at this time and released the toe, undoubtedly the nail eventually would have encircled the tarsus completely.

The bird, a female, was banded on the left leg with number 46-306903 and released.—Sally F. Hoyt (from the notes of Southgate Y. Hoyt), "Aviana," Etna, New York.

**Screech Owl and banded birds.**—Referring to the note by Andrew J. Berger in *Bird-Banding* (January, 1953, 24: 19), recorded recovery of bands in owl pellets may throw interesting light on different owls as predators, and enemies of various birds. Where the House or English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) is abundant, the Screech Owl (*Otus asio*) likely takes a good many. House Sparrows are not generally banded, but at one time I was interested in problems relating thereto, and banded a considerable number at Garden City, Long Island, New York.

A male House Sparrow (No. 51464) was banded on January 26, 1930, its band recovered on May 28, 1931, from a disintegrated owl pellet under an evergreen tree a scant half mile from the banding station. Though proof is lacking, the evidence left no reasonable doubt that this was a Screech Owl pellet.—J. T. Nichols, The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York 24, N. Y.

**Band Recovered in Pigeon Hawk's Gizzard.**—On May 7, 1952, I dissected an adult female Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*). The bird had been shot by a neighbor at Chadwick's Pond, Bradford, Essex County, Massachusetts. In the gizzard of the falcon, attached to a bird's leg, I found a Fish & Wildlife band No. 50-119757. I had previously placed this band on a female Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) on April 18, 1952, at my banding station at Brooks School, about three miles from where the Pigeon Hawk was killed.—Oscar M. Root, Brooks School, North Andover, Massachusetts.

## RECENT LITERATURE

### BANDING

(See also Number 65)

1. **Bird Banding in Greenland in 1949 under the guidance of Finn Salomonsen, Ph.D.** (Ringmaerkning af fugle i Grønland 1949 under ledelse af dr. phil. Finn Salomonsen.) 1950. Beretninger vedrørende Grønlands Styrelse, I: 81-85. From 1946 through 1949 operators in Greenland banded 11,919 birds of 39 species, from which 931 returns and recoveries had been reported at the time of writing. The totals banded and the numbers reported both in Greenland and elsewhere are listed for each species.—O. L. Austin, Jr.