

We have received recoveries on three of the eleven birds. All three were wearing only the locking band when recovered. One of the Bald Eagles lost the butt-end band within 33 days after banding.

The returns are listed below:

#A-712631. A nestling Great Horned Owl banded May 13, 1956 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was found dead about March 14, 1957 south of Grafton, Wisconsin.

#A-712627. A nestling Bald Eagle banded July 11, 1953 near Lake Tomahawk, Oneida County, Wisconsin, was "found dead . . . May have been shot" on January 2, 1954 at Richland, Wisconsin.

#235651. An immature female Bald Eagle was trapped and banded on October 29, 1954 at Cedar Grove, Wisconsin. We released the bird on October 31, 1954. It was found unable to fly on December 2, 1954 nine miles south of Fairmont, Martin County, Minnesota. The bird was subsequently nursed back to health and released.

We recommend that locking bands be used on all raptors requiring bands of size No. 6 or larger.—Daniel D. Berger, Cedar Grove Ornithological Station, Cedar Grove, Wisconsin, and Helmut C. Mueller, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison 6.

A Hummingbird in Difficulty—On the morning of June 4, 1959, attracted by the barking of my Labrador Retriever, I discovered on the ground, just outside my fenced yard, a male Ruby-throated Hummingbird, *Archilochus colubris*. As I approached, he rose into the air about three feet and flew, with evident difficulty, about five feet, then dropped to the ground again. I could see that something was trailing from him, and upon picking him up, I found a mass of matted spider-web tangled about one foot and hanging from it. Apparently the weight of the filmy web was too much for the Hummer. Although a few strands were lightly attached to the tip of one wing he was able to use his wings, and it seemed to be entirely the weight of the web which was his undoing. I untangled and removed the strands from his foot, whereupon he flew off with normal flight. Unfortunately I was not able to save the torn bits of this web, but a similar-appearing mass of cobweb weighed just under 0.01 gram.

The labels on two male Ruby-throats in the Cornell University collection indicate their weight when collected: one was 2.4 grams, the other 3.5 grams.—Sally F. Hoyt, "Aviana," Etna, New York.

RECENT LITERATURE BANDING

(See also Numbers 21, 26, 47, 52, 59)

1. **The Origin of Winter Visitors to the British Isles.** M. J. Goodacre. 1959. *Bird Study*, 6(2): 37-50. This is the first of a new series of papers, based on analyses of the now quite voluminous data in the B.T.O. and British Birds banding schemes, to determine the source of birds wintering in the British Isles. This first paper, on the Blackbird (*Turdus merula*), analyzes all the recoveries abroad of birds banded in the British Isles during the winter, the winter recoveries in Britain of Blackbirds banded abroad, and all the recoveries of Blackbirds trapped during migration at the British Bird observatories. The raw data are omitted, but the salient features are shown in the series of 16 maps and broken down to show the breeding range of the wintering British Blackbirds and the wintering distribution in Britain of populations from various parts of that breed-