

The Federation of Ontario Naturalists provided financial support for this project.

## REFERENCE

- WILLIAMSON, K. 1954. The Fair Isle apparatus for collecting bird ecto-parasites. *British Birds*, 47: 234-5.—James Woodford, and Frank T. Lovesy, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto 5, Ontario and 220 Gowan Ave., Toronto 7, Ontario.

**Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) Netted; Band Size**—Three of these birds have been taken in mist nets so far this spring (1960). Two were netted between 8:30 and 9:00 p.m. on April 5 and 9 which at this season and latitude is after dusk has fallen but prior to full darkness. The third was in a net at first inspection just after dawn (5:30 p.m., May 11). Size 3 bands, as recommended by the Fish and Wildlife Service, are too large, sliding off over the toes. A size 2 band is satisfactory. The tarsal diameter of all three birds was 4 mm.—R. O. Bender, Cobbis Mill Road, Bridgeton, N. J.

**Deformed bills—Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)**—On Sept. 12, 1959, a Catbird taken in a mist net was observed to have a very abnormal upper mandible which extended 5 mm beyond the end of the lower mandible. The terminal 5 mm was bent downward in a decided hook, the top of which was 4 mm below the under surface of the lower mandible. This bird, 56-127996, weighed 34.3 gms, which may be a trifle low for a fall bird, yet it appeared to be in good condition. It was seen in the vicinity three times in the succeeding four days. A careful examination did not disclose any indication of an injury, hence it seems possible that the deformed bill was the result of a mutation.

**Catbird 59-174207** appeared to have suffered a broken upper mandible at some previous time. The apparent break, about 8 mm from the feathers, had healed, but had left a raised area across the bill about 2 mm in height. When this bird took my finger in its bill, the upper mandible bent very noticeably at the point of the presumed break. The bird weighed a normal 36.7 gms.

**Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) 553-27368**, taken in a clover-leaf trap on March 5, 1960, had an upper mandible 4 mm shorter than the lower which was very thin right out to the tip where there was a bulge which did not resemble a normal tip. No evidence of recent injury could be observed, but the irregular surface of the thin section suggested a previous injury. The bird was rather light, 81.0 gms, but occasionally other individuals with normal bills have been weighed at as low as 76.2 gms.—R. O. Bender, Cobb's Mill Road, Bridgeton, N. J.

## RECENT LITERATURE

## BANDING

1. **Recoveries of Ringed Birds. Mediterranean Islands.** Wladyslaw Rydzewski. 1960. *Rivista Italiana di Ornitologia*, 30 (Series 2): 1-77. In publishing this carefully and laboriously assembled compilation of banding data, the editor and founder of the *Ring* has performed another great service to banding and to ornithology. Here are listed with available data the Mediterranean island recoveries reported to date from the some 36 ringing schemes in Europe. With the exception of a few annual lists of "recoveries of foreign bandings" published by several European countries, and a few analyses of waterfowl recoveries by states and by "flyways" published in this country, practically all recovery data have been published according to place of banding. I hope that the value of this pilot assemblage from the recovery locality standpoint will encourage the publication of similar compilations for other well defined geographical regions. Students of faunistics and distribution have heretofore largely neglected these valuable data because of the difficulty of finding and assembling them from the widely scattered literature. A similar breakdown of recoveries from various parts of Africa would be most useful, and in this country a compilation by islands of the rapidly mounting recoveries from the West Indies, now reposing quietly in the Patuxent files, would well repay someone's efforts to dig them out, sort them, and publish them.—O. L. Austin, Jr.