

terest. If the bird had been saved, it would have been extremely interesting as a specimen of known age, developed under natural, wild surroundings. Data on this subject is extremely rare and most valuable from a plumage standpoint.

There are many other birds whose tagging would probably lead to interesting results. Bobolinks, from the fact that so many are killed in the southern rice fields, would be apt to turn up again, but are difficult to discover in the nest or to catch when adult. Perhaps one of the most fruitful fields would be among the gulls and terns where they nest in numbers. A nesting place visited, it is easy to tag many of the young, and they are also so often shot by would-be-sports and others that there would be fair chances of their being taken again in other parts of their range. A few chickadees so decorated would likely solve the question whether they migrate in the winter or not. Careful trapping in the shrubbery about the house might show whether the same birds migrate over the same path year after year or not. In fact there seems to be no other field that promises such important results with so little hard work as this does, and it is one that almost any one can do. I should like to see the corps of bird-taggers enlarged this year. If any of these readers hear of any bird being taken with the tags upon them I hope they will make every attempt to save the bird, or as much of it as possible; a wing or a head is often sufficient to identify the specimen, and forward the same to me at once.

P. A. TAVERNER.

¹ Since writing above the writer has received a part of wing of this bird.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION.

Accompanying this number of the Bulletin are copies of blanks calling for investigation upon the breeding habits of any and all of our birds. More of these blanks can be had upon application to Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Pa., or Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio. You are urged to keep one of these blanks where it will attract your attention each day, and to answer one or more of the questions which it asks you. The list of points has been made rather extensive not in the expectation

that any one person will be able to fill all of the spaces for a single species, but rather in the hope that you may find some point upon which you can give information. Any information at all relating to any species of our birds will be received with thanks and will be used somehow in the final report. Please do not neglect to return these blanks because there does not seem to be enough upon it to pay for the postage. If there is anything at all upon it let the compiler judge of its value. One question answered is well worth while.

Mr. Frank L. Burns has kindly consented to undertake the study of the life history of the Broad-winged Hawk, with your coöperation. He desires information past, present, and future concerning this species, upon all aspects of its life. The accompanying blanks for breeding notes can be used as far as they go in giving the life history of this hawk. You will confer a lasting favor upon Mr. Burns and upon the science of ornithology if you will not allow this appeal for notes to grow cold and so finally entirely escape your mind. Send him what you have now.