

menced, when it ceased. . . James Bond tells me female wrens of So. American species are known to sing. . . . I recall no published records of singing of our female House Wrens."

Editor believes his own observations and the above establish an answer to the question raised in our June-July issue. —Anyone have more to say?

A Free (this once!) adv. —Terrill's Aquatic Farms, Oshkosh, Wis. will sell you aquatics for all types of pools to serve as duck-attractions. Their plants cover a line which fits (they say) all types of pools, marshes and running waters. Some of us might develop this idea for attracting nesters and migrants for banding.

Two members have written in suggesting that the EBBANEWS Question (largely one as to cost): Six issues per year, or Twelve? Be put up to a membership postcard census. Mail in a postcard to the Editor with your opinion on it. —Sign your name! —And did you send in many notes for publication during past twelve months????

### SPECIAL ATTENTION TO A BAND NUMBER

Will anyone using a band with number resembling 41-28190 on a Cliff Swallow or similar species, please advise Ben. B. Coffey, Jr., 672 N. Belvedere St., Memphis 7, Tenn. of banding details?

The above number, used on a Chimney

Swift at Memphis, Oct. 13, 1940, was reported found on a water-logged "swift or swallow" in the southern edge of Yukon Territory. This area is beyond the range of the Chimney Swift, and no swifts were reported seen there by an ornithologist who was in that area and at the point of recovery on the date of recovery. The band was apparently lost in the mail and the number evidently recorded incorrectly in the letter to the F&WS. Please report to the above bander any possibility of this having been one of your banded birds!

### SOME CHIPS OUT OF A WEEK'S POST

Comes a photo of member Emerson Stoner's new House Trap, (Benicia, Calif.) which, he says, holds at that moment 14 Waxwings. It's 4x4x5; two openings along bottom close when you pull a rope from inside the kitchen. — Seems easier to snare Waxwings the farther you get away from the Atlantic Ocean.

A "first banding record" from Mrs. John Dater of Ramsey, N. J. is a good one: "Species 28, Total banded 619, Returns 17, Recoveries 2". —Wait 'til she's been at this game a couple of years!

Alexander Bergstrom of West Hartford, Ct. calmly mentions being in on a bank swallow project for 5 years. —Well, tell us all about it! Got any novel data?

"About D.D.T. —there's a very comprehensive article in July issue of 'Florida Naturalist' published by Florida Aud. Society, Daytona Beach." (W. M. Davidson)

"I believe that the banding of Hummingbirds was politely forbidden by F & WL Service a while back. It is said to have caused the Service more trouble than it was worth." —Says Oscar Hawksley, of Cornell's Lab. of Ornithology. "Almost no Recoveries, probably!"

Author of following item says it appears also in July 'Auk': "Late in afternoon, Sept. 17, 1948, I saw a Praying Mantis poised on a zinnia. When a Hummingbird flew to the flower, the mantis seized the bird. I hastened to the rescue but after both had been removed to the ground, the mantis would not release its hold. As they were forcibly separated, bits of feather held by mantis were torn from the bird. Only blood to appear was from the bill of the bird, a female. . . . in same issue of 'Auk' is described a similar incident. . . . "From Christella Butler, Bucks Co, Pa.

Mrs. Butler goes on to say: "Why doesn't EBBA try to have a postage stamp printed in recognition of Bird Banding. . . . It would help to make our conservation work more public. . . . —And, of course, say we, help to get more banded-bird reports sent in! Isn't this some sort of a BIG IDEA! Who's for it?"

"As to D.D.T., see copy of TIME MAG. for August 8th, summarizing an article in The Scientific Monthly. (Date not named) . . . "Light dosages may kill insects and have little effect on birds." Quotation from letter of that same Bergstrom Bander. "Yes, but how about a bird eating 25 doped insects!!!!"

Mrs. Dater about Juncos: "After March 20, 1949 no repeats from my 175 banded

that winter. But, from April 1 to 17, I banded another 35. —Indicates that the Winter flock left about the 20th and new group came in about last of April." "Does every bird-lover know about the 35¢ edition of Roger Peterson's 'How To Know The Birds'? —Great to pass around at Xmas." (Editor)

About those commercial "sparrow traps" Mrs. G. A. Dumont, Jr., Pequannock, N. J. remarks: "I for one very much disapprove of its use, and so expressed myself over six months ago to a N. Y. City gentleman who I heard advocating trapping of English sparrows by the public (over the radio). He suggested a central place be established where such trapped sparrows be taken for disposal. Never heard from him. —I'm writing the F & WL Service, as suggested."

Turn to April 1949 EBBA NEWS: Bergstrom wants to know "What holds the door open?" (in the trap sketched) —Well, Berg, the bird alights upon the forked twig in the crotch of which the end of the wire from the opened door rests. The door is set almost vertically and its slight weight holds the wire into the crotch with a very light touch. Bird alights on twig, twig drops, down comes door! —There's a clock-spring or a file-blade spring pressing against door above.

Editor saw recently —somewhere —review of a book "about feeding, rearing, caring for, and wing-and-bone setting techniques for all sorts of birds and small animals." Just published. —Won't some reader tell the Editor the title and pub-

lisher of that BOOK! We all ought to have a copy. —How difficult it is to take care of orphaned nestlings or stray, injured birds which people bring you confident that you, a bird-lover know all about how to treat it. Editor was exceedingly careless not to clip the notice soon as he read it!

That high voltage wire, full of ideas, Mrs. Butler says: "On the Return Cards, why shouldn't always the bander note on card the date (or dates) of the last Repeat on that bird? I brought this up at last Meeting, and was told (by whom, Mrs. B.?) this last-repeat date should be inserted. Now, if banders don't keep records of their repeats, they don't have a true picture of the bird's stay or its absence from Station." This seems a really important point for all banders to note —and to follow.

—And she has something else to say: "Couple of years ago I wrote and asked a lady-speaker on our local radio station to please mention (during the hunting season) about reporting bands noted on killed birds. . . . explaining that it was legal to shoot banded birds not otherwise protected by law, therefore that there was no legal danger in reporting the number to any local bander or bird society. (WOR in N. Y. City and WIP in Penna. sent this out.)

Somehow my appeal to EBBA NEWS to suggest similar activities to all members near a radio station did not get printed." —Here's a fine idea! Why do

not all of us begin right now to make a practice of writing or phoning to our nearby radio stations with requests that their announcers repeatedly refer to the banding and the reporting of bands? And, of course, making contacts with editors of local and near-by newspapers suggesting that they repeatedly carry references to bands and their reportings.

As he stated here a few months ago, Editor broadcasts (over WALL, Middletown, N. Y. —1340kc) except in mid-summer, a program based on Nature lore Biology, etc. —15 minutes a week now. —Could be more and/or oftener —the Station would welcome it. Of course he spreads the banding idea. . . . Isn't it possible for several of our members to get in on this highly important activity? Editor feels absolutely sure that any local station would jump at the offer. As for "Sponsorship, With Pay" from some advertiser —well, that factor would easily come into the job as soon as the Station felt that a speaker had built up a listening "following"! Such active propaganda is of the essence of both Science and Conservation. —GET BUSY, OUT THERE!

Just where is Port Credit, Ontario, Canada. —Mrs. McDougall please write!

Do all our N. J. members know they can get from their Agricultural Experiment Station 'Bird Bulletins' free as printed from time to time? —Said to be "of unusual value and interest." . . .