

REPORT OF 1955 E.B.B.A. MEETING AT HAWK MOUNTAIN  
by Eleanor Dater, Secretary

Eighty-four people, all banders or their better halves, registered on Saturday morning, April 16, at the hall at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. The weather was perfect and the people the best.

Council met to hear the reports of last year's activities. Merrill Wood, Treasurer, reported the financial and membership condition of the organization.

A discussion on the formation of a national banding council met with favor among all Council members. On motion of Arthur Fast, it was voted that a committee, with power to act, be appointed to meet with such committees from N.E.B.B.A., I.B.B.A., and W.B.B.A. The organization of such a council is not in any way to restrict the identity or activities of the individuals organizations.

President Frank Frazier appointed the following committee: Eleanor Dater, Chairman, Merrill Wood, William Pepper, Dr. Carlton Herman, and Frank Frazier, ex-officio.

On motion by Arthur Fast, it was voted by Council that the treasurer send out a questionnaire with the next dues notice to inquire as to hobbies, occupation, etc., that will enable the officers to select people to help with the running of the organization.

At 10:55 a.m., the regular meeting was called by President Frazier. Howard Drinkwater acted as host in the absence of Dr. and Mrs. Maurice Broun. A letter of greeting from Maurice Broun, written in New Zealand, was read by Albert E. Conway.

The following papers were presented:

MORNING SESSION

Arthur H. Fast, "The Banding of White-throats in Arlington, Virginia" (illustrated); Frank P. Frazier, "Banding 400 Blue Jays - Notes and Behavior"; Mrs. John A. Gillespie, "Vacations with Towhees" (illustrated); Raymond J. Middleton, "Song Sparrow Trapping"; John A. Gillespie, "Three Weeks Banding in San Luis Obispo"; and Allen J. Duvall, "The Bird Banding Office and Private Cooperative Bird Banders".

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Horace Groskin, "Returns from White-throated Sparrows at Ardmore, Pa."; Seth H. Low, "Some Figures on New Birds Banded, and Their Banders, in EBBA Area"; Dr. Charles H. Blake, "A New Conception of the Meaning of Bird Weights"; Dr. Paul H. Fluck, "Educational Banding at Washington Crossing Park, Pa." (illustrated); John V. Dennis, "Fall Land-bird Migration at Nantucket and the Guiding Line Concept" (illustrated); and James Baird, "Cooperative Land-bird Banding Project".

## BUSINESS MEETING

The Nominating Committee, Raymond J. Middelton, Chairman, presented the following slate: the incumbent officers; President, Frank P. Frazier; First Vice President, Geoffrey Gill; Second Vice President, Joseph M. Cadbury; Third Vice President, Dr. Paul H. Fluck; Secretary, Eleanor Dater; and Treasurer, Merrill Wood; and the retiring Council members, Mrs. Howard G. McEntee, Dr. Maurice Broun, and Arthur H. Fast. It was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed, and the officers were elected for one year and the council members for three years. A report of the Council meeting was asked for, and presented, as reported above.

In addition to the Council Members who were reelected for terms expiring in 1958, present members of Council include: William O. Astle, John L. Bull, and Stephen C. Fordham, Jr. (terms expiring in 1956); and Orville Crowder, Gordon L. Hight, Jr., and Raymond J. Middleton (terms expiring in 1957).

## PANEL DISCUSSION

"Band Sizes"- Leader, Mrs. John Y. Dater, EBBA Secretary.

## EVENING SESSION

"Circle of Information"- Leader, Mr. Seth H. Low. A round-table discussion of the banding activities and problems of each of the members present.

This program brought out some very interesting facts about birds and their banders. Past President Horace Groskin gave everyone a good laugh with his story of trapping 47 raccoons. Gordon Hight told of banding 9000 Swifts in one day and of taking 1200 returns from one

chimney on the same day. Rev. Garrett Detwiler dubbed himself pastor of a flock of Starlings. Each bander present, about 70, gave an account either of the past year's banding and most interesting 'take' or his total number banded since going into the business.



OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE  
EASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION,  
HAWK MOUNTAIN SANCTUARY, APRIL 16, 1955

Standing, from left to right; Raymond J. Middleton, Merrill Wood, Treasurer; William O. Astle; Joseph M. Cadbury, Second Vice President; Gordon L. Hight, Jr.; and Arthur H. Fast. Seated, from left to right: Elinor McEntee (Mrs. Howard G. McEntee); Frank P. Frazier, President; and Eleanor Dater (Mrs. John Y. Dater, Jr.), Secretary.--Photo by Joseph J. Malek

## SUNDAY, APRIL 17

At nine a.m., a dozen carloads of members met at the spillway of Lake Ontelaunee, about ten miles northeast of Reading where Dr. Earl L. Poole, Director of the Reading Museum was waiting to conduct a tour



of this famed waterfowl and shorebird observation spot. This not being a good time of year for either group of species, the list of birds seen was not as spectacular as it might have been, but members were thrilled at touring the area with Dr. Poole who knows the area better than any other person.

A scheduled afternoon trip to the lookout, with Al Nagy as leader, was rained out except for an informal climb in the rain by a few hardy souls.

\* \* \*

#### MORE ABOUT SUNDAY'S ACTIVITIES

by Elinor McEntee

This is the Sunday story of the renegades, or non-conformists, of the EBBA who spent seven long, cold hours from five a.m. to noon net-trapping instead of joining the field trip which Howard Drinkwater had so thoughtfully arranged. Our apologies to Dr. Poole and Mr. Drinkwater!

Sunday, April 17th, the second day of the 1955 Annual EBBA Meeting, dawned dull, grey, and very cold, just the sort of morning to turn over for another snooze instead of heeding a 4:30 a.m. call. But we didn't! Piling on all the warm clothing we had brought (and wishing for some nice long underwear), we made the early dawn trek from Mrs. Weber's in Wanamakers to the Lutzes' near Kempton where Seth Low and Tommy, Chan Robbins, and Gordon Hight already had the nets set up. Shortly, other cars showed up - Frank Frazier and young Frank, the boys from the Millbrook School and their instructor, Mr. Williams, the young farmer who sat near me at dinner but whose name has completely escaped my memory (Ralph K. Curtis-Ed.), and Malcolm Lerch and his wife and son who had also stayed at the Lutzes' were out early, too.

I don't know where the two hours between five and seven went, but almost before we knew it, it was time for some of us to go back to Wanamakers for breakfast. Afterwards, Mr. Drinkwater led us over to the farm he had mentioned at dinner the previous evening as being such a fine example of how intelligent conservation of all natural resources can be practiced and how, in a few short years, the influence of Maurice Broun's teachings has spread throughout much of the area. The farm is owned by Al Nagy's father, and Al, now the Assistant Curator at Hawk Mountain, was there to show what had been accomplished by a series of dams forming several small ponds, planting to provide food and shel-