

"SISTER" PEPPER'S LEAST TERN RECOVERY

A Least Tern, banded by William Pepper, Jr., of Philadelphia, Pa., on July 23rd, 1936 at Strathmere, Cape May County, New Jersey, was recovered November 5th, 1954 in British Guiana. In answer to his letter requesting more information on the recovery, Bill Pepper received the following reply (addressed to Sister William Pepper):

"Dear Sister,

your letter requesting information regarding the recovery of a bird has been received and its contents were carefully noted. I can imagine how happy you must have been especially when you must have heard about the solemn news regarding the recovery of your bird. I was successful in trapping the bird at the seashores of Guiana by hand with a net. It was about midnight - probably when sleeping. I can assure you that positively the bird was alive when trapped. As a catcher of birds, I have never caught any dead bird or birds.

"Months ago, I sent in eight bands of eight birds to the Fish and Wild Life Service, Washington, D.C. and to my surprise, I have not yet received any words of comfort, nor a gift. (reward). They have only written me for information and likewise I responded at their requests. No more words to be heard nor any reward. Further, about two years ago, I also sent in some more - but the penalty remained the same as it is - no reward - no hope. I feel personally that I should have been given something.

"Sister, I am also appealing to you and to anyone for help - for helping me at this my hour of desperation would definitely result to a gain

Yours, for the Master's Service,"

(signed) _____ ★ ★ ★

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