

Suggestions for activities of the newly formed NACBBA were discussed and it was the sense of the meeting that the gathering of the material for a bird banding manual, to be issued by the Bird Banding Office, was the first and most important project.

Mr. Bergstrom then reviewed the history of the old Bird Banding Manual (now not only out of date but out of print) and described the activity to date (which included his suggested outline) on a new manual. Mr. Bergstrom was appointed chairman of the Council's Committee on the Preparation of a New Bird Banding Manual. Mr. Bergstrom's Committee is to include one person from each of the four U.S. bird banding groups.

Mr. Bergstrom stated that he would update his outline for the proposed new manual and send a copy to each of the bird banding associations for the purpose of getting their suggestions on changes and additions and on who might be the best persons for preparing the material for the several subjects. The aim of the committee will be to get at least some material ready by January 1, 1959, to submit to the Banding Office for approval.

It was further decided that each bird banding association would pay dues of \$5.00 to defray the cost of correspondence, mimeographing, etc. ★ ★ ★

#### THE FRONT COVER

Mary Schmid, of Greenwich, Connecticut, is the lady holding the Black-billed Cuckoo for photographers. The picture was made at Island Beach during Operation Recovery by Mary's husband John. Both Mary and John Schmid spent three weekends at Island Beach helping everyone at the nets, in the weighing and measuring activities and in a hundred other ways. Both took pictures -- Mary in black and white (see some of them in the center spread) and John in color (we hope to see his slides at the next EBBA annual meeting).

Mary Schmid is the person who is giving most generously of her time and energy to the preparation of an Index of EBBA NEWS for the past ten years. We hope to be able to publish the Index early in 1959.

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**BANDING NESTLINGS** When banding a nest full of young birds and the birds refuse to be returned to the nest, don't keep climbing up and down the tree in the hope that they will stay put. Take a carrot basket for birds such as robins, a smaller basket for smaller birds and place the nest and the birds in the basket and tie the whole thing in place up the tree as near the original nest site as possible. The parent birds will continue to feed the young in the basket after the fuss subsides. By the time the young can clamber out of the basket they will be larger and in better shape to avoid ever present danger from cats and dogs. ★ ★ ★