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EBBA NEWS is published semi-monthly by the Eastern Bird Banding Association. Applications for membership should be sent to the treasurer. The dues: Active Members \$2 per year; Sustaining Members \$5.

EBBA'S PRESIDENT SAYS:

The September-October 1958 issue of EBBA NEWS contained an appeal from a post graduate student in the Department of Conservation at Cornell

University for information on the Black Duck and Mallard which he needed for his PhD dissertation. It was directed to "persons who band large numbers of both species." Inasmuch as the same appeal appeared in the recent Inland Bird Banding News and as only a few of the professional banders are members of any of the associations, it seems reasonable to assume that this appeal was directed particularly to the volunteer cooperators.

Such as study is undoubtedly worthy of our full cooperation. But it may come as a surprise and shock to the student, The Editors of IBBA and EBBA and our members that, in the personal opinion of your President, these appeals to the volunteer cooperators were actually wastes of space!

Those who are acquainted with the pertinent literature or who have personally perused the banding recoveries from waterfowl (ducks and geese) will readily recognize the names of Edward A. McIlheny, Frank W. Robl, and Hugh S. Davis as volunteer cooperators whose bandings of large numbers of waterfowl contributed very substantially to our present knowledge of the migration and distribution of several species. Can anyone name three contemporary volunteer cooperators who are banding large numbers of waterfowl today? In Canada - yes, in the United States - no.

What has become of the former banders named above? The participation of each was involuntarily terminated. It seems that the banding and hunting activities of one were deemed to be potentially incompatible; one was found to be holding and caring for a crippled Sandhill Crane, and the third was an employee of a zoo which was alleged by a discharged employee to have sold a cardinal that had been hatched and reared in captivity.

Why do not volunteer cooperators band waterfowl today? Since World

War II the trapping and banding of waterfowl has become almost completely the province of the professional banders and the volunteer banders have largely been excluded from participating.

Thus, Mr. Student, you will have to turn to the professional banders; but we regret that we must advise you that during the fall even the professionals are not in a good position to help. From two weeks prior to the opening of the waterfowl hunting season until it closes again the trapping and banding of waterfowl are taboo - even at stations located well within sanctuaries, refuges, parks and other areas in which no hunting is permitted.

As in this case, it is not the banders who are the real losers but those who need, for purposes of research and management, the data which would accrue from such banding.

RD 2, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

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HAROLD B. WOOD, M.D.

As we go to press we received the sad news of the death, December 1, of Dr. Harold B. Wood, of Harrisburg, Pa., a former president of the Eastern Bird Banding Association.

A bander for more than thirty years, Dr. Wood authored numbers of articles in EBBA NEWS, BIRD-BANDING, THE AUK, WILSON BULLETIN and elsewhere. Always ready to encourage his fellow banders, to advise and make welcome the newcomer to banding, he will be greatly missed. (See EBBA NEWS Vol. 19, No. 1 for further information about this cheerful, lovable bander.)

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## CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

Members who desire to present papers at the Annual Meeting at State College, Pa., April 11-12, 1959, should advise EBBA's vice president, Mrs. John Y. Dater, 259 Grove St., Ramsey, New Jersey.

Please state the length of time required and what equipment will be needed, such as slide or motion picture projector (and the size of film to be shown), blackboard, etc.

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THE FRONT COVER EBBA's President Seth H. Low is holding up two newly banded birds he netted during Operation Recovery at Cape May, N.J. His audience was successive groups of the more than 500 New Jersey Audubon Society members who flocked to Cape May for their annual meeting over the Columbus Day weekend. President Seth Low had over 40 nets up over the weekend and a number of banders to help him. Photo by Millicent E. Selsam, of New York. \*\*\*