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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: In the September-October 1958 issue of EBBA NEWS is printed in full the very important and fine paper "It's Later than You Think" which William Pepper presented at our last annual meeting. Any bander who did not hear it first hand or has not read it since should make a particular point of doing so now.

Some years ago your President was stationed in a state where at that time the participation together in the same field trip of as many as three resident bird watchers was a historical and momentous occasion. In that region banders were and still are rarities. One lady for many years trapped and banded birds in such numbers that today, even with nets, most banders do not match her efforts.

Her station records and field notes would be a major contribution to the ornithological history which has yet to be compiled and written for her state. Efforts of appropriate persons to secure her records and notes from the surviving members of her family have been of no avail. When your President stopped by in an official car and they learned that he was from the home office of the banding program, it only convinced and prompted the heirs to up the price tags which they had attached to the traps and records.

Lest your heirs do likewise and attribute some completely unrealistic cash value to your equipment and records, each bander should specifically provide for the disposition of these items. Preferably donate them to your local ornithological club, state Audubon society, regional banding association, or even the banding office. If circumstances are such that a reasonable cash value needs to be realized for the estate, stipulate that the determination of their reasonable value and the responsibility for their sale be delegated to an appropriate organization or individual.

By all means, as Mr. Pepper advises, have it understood right now with your family and your lawyer that upon your death or in the event of an incapacitating accident or illness you wish a particular fellow bander to be called in to complete your records and to prepare and forward to the Banding Office all reports that have not been submitted.

No cash value ought to be attached to one's banding records and field notes. Equipment, reference library, periodicals do have cash values. If these are to be sold, it is well to realize that your heirs might just as readily underestimate the fair value of your Auks, Condors, Bird-Bandings, et al as to exaggerate their value and might dispose of them for far less than was fair and reasonable. Here again designating a competent individual or organization would protect the interests of your estate.

Remember the lady mentioned above. Her traps are rusting away and disintegrating; now of no value or use to anyone. Silver fish are consuming the remnants of her notes and records. In the forthcoming bird book for her native state, her name will be seldom mentioned when it should appear on every other page as the authority for many significant and important records!

E.B.B.A. ANNUAL MEETING

At University Park, Pennsylvania, on April 11 & 12, 1959

The meeting will be held in the Assembly Hall of The Hetzel Union Building (HUB) on the campus of The Pennsylvania State University, adjacent to the borough of State College. Registration is 9:00 to 9:30 A.M., with the program beginning at 9:30 A.M.



The Hetzel Union Building