

These are Chandler Robbins, Maryland and Virginia area; Dr. Gerhard Hubner, Western New York; Mrs. Elinor McEntee, Northern New Jersey; and Merrill Wood, Western Pennsylvania. A representative from the South has not been appointed as yet.

If you see more and more pictures in EBBA NEWS, you are not reading Life Magazine - it is the Editor's photo contest. This will be a regular feature with prizes for each edition and a prize for the best picture of the year.

As you will note, all the Vice-Presidents have moved up a step. John Ewen has joined that group and handed his secretary's books to Mrs. Mary Schmid, who will be delighted to answer any and all questions you may have. Mrs. Elise Dickerson continues as a most efficient Treasurer.

Two new members of the Council are Mrs. Richard Cole of Towson, Md. and Charles Mohr, director of Swiss Pines Park, Charlestown, Pa. He was formerly with the National Audubon Society at Greenwich, Connecticut. Mrs. Cole will be membership chairman this year, and Mr. Mohr will head a committee to hunt for a permanent location on the coast (New Jersey) where banders can conduct Operation Recovery every year. Seth Low automatically becomes a Council member for two years as ex-President, replacing Dr. Fluck.

#### THE 1960 ANNUAL MEETING AT ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

By Frank P. Frazier, Jr.

**FRIDAY RECEPTION** While the meeting of the Council was held at the Charterhouse Motel on Friday evening, a reception was given at the Maryland State House by the arrangements committee. Registration was open for those members who had arrived, and guided tours were given through the building, and exhibits and a movie shown.

**COUNCIL MEETING** The EBBA Council met at 8:00 P.M. Friday, April 22, 1960, at the Charterhouse Motel. The Treasurer's report was reviewed, and a committee was appointed to study the possibilities of donating funds for scientific purposes. Mrs. Dater was commended for her work in importing and selling nets for EBBA; Frank Frazier was appointed Editor of EBBA NEWS for another year, and Frank Frazier Jr. was appointed a co-editor. The series, "Who is Banding the Most of What?" was discussed and the suggestion was made that it be discontinued if more members do not participate. It was moved that the new President appoint a committee to investigate those netting locations along the East Coast which are in danger of loss by development, and attempt to interest conservation groups in acquiring those areas.

**MORNING SESSION** At 9:00 A.M. the annual meeting began in the House of Delegates room of the Maryland State House, a rather more elegant meeting room than EBBA members are accustomed to! The meeting was

opened with a welcome by Mr. Edwin M. Barry, of the Maryland Game and Land Fish Commission.

The first paper was given by Robert T. Mitchell of the Fish and Wildlife Service, on "Returns from Floodlight Trapping at a Winter Blackthroated Bluebird Roost". Aside from the maps and data discussed, Mr. Mitchell provided illustrations and explanation of the very effective trap that was used. Numbers of birds banded were not limited by numbers caught, but rather by numbers which could be banded in the time available. The bulk of the catch had to be released unbanded.

Mrs. Mabel Gillespie spoke on "Long Distance Flyers" - a discussion of Osprey recoveries, which appears elsewhere in this issue.

Dorothy Bordner discussed her experiences with Evening Grosbeaks during winter at State College, Pa., particularly interesting because of the numbers of recoveries and foreign retraps she has had. Six tons of flower seed produced quite a profitable crop in her case.

Dr. Carlton M. Herman gave an illustrated paper, written by him and by Gordon Clark and Louis Locke of the Fish and Wildlife Service, on "Infections in birds, a subject of interest to all banders, who are bound to come upon such cases of infection from time to time."

After some announcements and directions from our program chairman, Mrs. J.E.M. Wood, the balance of the morning session was devoted to a symposium of methods of record-keeping for banders. The moderator was Chandler Robbins, and the speakers were E. Alexander Bergstrom, Elise McEntee, John Given, Raymond Middleton, Elise Dickerson, and Seth Low. The symposium was the less for the absence of Elise Dickerson, who was unable to attend the meeting, but her paper, advocating some standardization of record-keeping systems, was ably read by Stanley Dickerson.

For lunch, most of the members attended a "Maryland Fish Fry" held out of doors near the State House.

**AFTERNOON SESSION** As is customary, the afternoon session opened with the business meeting. The proceedings of the Council meeting were reported (and are summarized above). A new slate of officers was elected, headed by President Eleanor Dater. Other officers were: First Vice-President, Merrill Wood; Second Vice-President, the Rev. G.S. Detwiler; Third Vice-President, John R. Given; Secretary, John C. Schmid. Three new Council members were elected: Mrs. R.D. Raymond J. Middleton, and Charles E. Mohr. Elise M. Dickerson was elected Treasurer.

E. Alexander Bergstrom gave a report on the progress of the new Banding Manual, a project which seems well on its way.

Allen J. Duvall, head of the Bird Banding Office, described damage caused by a fire in the Banding Office last June. No irreplaceable records were lost, but a good deal of the IBM cards were destroyed, among other things, with resulting upset to the normal office routine, and great expense in replacing lost material and equipment. Although it was possible for banders, in many cases, to examine the records they would have wished to when visiting the Banding Office on Sunday, it appeared generally that a very creditable job is being done to replace destroyed equipment and in the process, to institute new and more efficient systems of processing records.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ballentine described Operation Recovery banding in Ocean City, Maryland last fall. Their film included a number of fine pictures of birds in the hand.

Chandler Robbins gave a very interesting paper on the use of mist nets in studying bird populations: he described the use of nets placed symmetrically in an area of woods, in several different patterns, to study the local distribution of birds within this area. Comparisons were made with a breeding bird census made at the same time, by the conventional method of observation, going largely by singing males. Donald D. Stamm, who could not attend the meeting, was a co-author of this paper.

Vernon D. Stotts of the Maryland Game and Inland Fish Commission showed a motion picture along with a paper on the Black Duck, to wind up the afternoon session.

**BANQUET** The annual banquet was held in the hall of the volunteer fire department of Arnold, near Annapolis, and was one of the best our reporter can recall, of the past 12 meetings. When the membership could find no more room for turkey, the "roll call" was taken - an operation which seems to be assuming the stature of a tradition in our banquets. Charles E. Mohr gave a talk on sanctuaries, with many pointers on how to maintain, acquire, or make more useful various types of wildlife sanctuaries.

**FIELD TRIP** This year, the field trip was on an independent basis. The **SUNDAY** Bird Banding Office was open to visitors most of the day, and in spite of the inaccessibility of much of the records, a very edifying visit was had by all who came. Bennett K. Matlack held forth there, and later at Seth Low's farm, on the Bal-Chatri trap for hawks. Seth and Anne Low held open house at their farm from daybreak throughout the day, and maintained upwards of twenty mist nets in operation.

In closing, it must be noted that much of the success of the meeting was due to the efforts and work of Capt. and Mrs. J.E.M. Wood, who headed the arrangements committee.