

## ERECTING A NET IN FIVE MINUTES

By Harold E. Burt

The basic equipment includes two 8' posts of one-half inch thin-walled electrical conduit. To support a post, a 2' piece of one-half inch cold rolled steel, pointed at one end, is driven into the ground for about half its length. The conduit fits snugly over this steel rod and remains upright without a guy-rope. The 9-meter net has on each end the usual five large rubber bands - inner tube or the largest regular bands obtainable from the bookstore. The posts are set at such a distance that the bands are stretched and remain in position without other support: no hooks. However, the bands may be slipped up or down the post. To simplify transportation, and also to facilitate rolling up the net, the 8' post is cut at the middle and the two sections joined, when in use, by a "straight coupling". This is obtainable from the same source as the conduit. It is merely a hollow cylinder  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " long with two set-screws.

Taking down the net will be described first because this is done in such a way as to expedite putting up the net. Slip the rubber bands down to the upper end of the lower section of a post. Space them about an inch and snap wooden spring clothespins onto the post between them - six clothespins. This keeps the bands from getting tangled and keeps them in the right sequence. Do this for both posts. Remove the top sections of the posts.

It is desirable, though not mandatory, to hold the net more compactly at several places so it will roll up more neatly. Take narrow strips of cloth a foot long and loop them around the folds of the net and tie in a half-knot (not even a bow-knot is necessary). Five of these will suffice. Now take a section of newspaper - a dozen pages or so. Use it full page size. Lift one of the posts from the steel rod and lay the portion with the rubber bands and clothespins near one end of the newspaper, with the post parallel to the short dimension of the page. Then roll the paper around the post. The bands and clothespins are inside and as the rolling continues the net begins to wind up on the roll of newspaper. If the bands are near one end of the post there will be two feet or so of post sticking out of the newspaper roll as a convenient "handle".

Twirl this handle in the hands while walking toward the other post at such a rate that the net is taut and the bands on the other post stay in place between their clothespins. When about a yard of net remains, lay the roll on the ground. Take another section of newspaper and roll up the other post with its bands and clothespins in similar fashion. Continue until the two rolls are touching. Then pull the two steel rods out of the ground and that's it.

Putting up the net is just the reverse of the above. Drive one of the steel rods into the ground. Take the post and newspaper roll that has the smaller amount of net on it, unroll the net and slip the bottom

of the post over the rod. Take the other post and roll and walk in the appropriate direction letting the post rotate in the hands. When it is all unwound lay it on the ground and drive the other steel rod into the ground about a foot beyond the end of the net - depending on how much the bands are to be stretched. Then put the post over the rod. Install the top section of each post by inserting it in the coupling, which was left attached to the lower section, and tighten the set-screw. Remove the strips of cloth and the clothespins; and move the rubber bands to the appropriate height to spread the net.

Minor variations in sequence may be made to minimize walking back and forth. After a little practice, five minutes is more than adequate to put up or take down the net. The nets, of course, are more bulky than if removed from the posts and rolled up in a ball, but in the latter case things often get snarled. A goodly number of 4' posts with the net rolled around the newspaper at one end can lie on the back seat of a car. If one carries a considerable number, it might be well to stack them with newspapers between.

Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

\*\*\*

PROGRESS  
in  
CONGRESS

Congressman Wilbur D. Mills, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, writes our president, Eleanor Dater, that his committee have reported favorably on H. R. 6682, the bill introduced by Congressman William Widnall, which provides for the exemption of fowling nets from duty. He states that he expects consideration to be given to it early in the next session of Congress. \*\*\*

MIST NETS  
NOW AVAILABLE

Remember - EBBA wants Sustaining Members - if you use six or more nets a year, it pays to become a Sustaining Member!

Regular nets are four shelves - 120 meshes - deep. The prices:

	<u>Active Member</u>	<u>Sustaining Member</u>
5 Meter	\$ 1.25	\$ 1.25
9 Meter	2.50	2.00
12 Meter	2.85	2.35

Postage paid on orders over \$5.00. Purchaser must have net permit. Remittance should accompany order.

Send to: Mrs. John Y. Dater, Box 242, Ramsey, N. J.