

President

MRS. JOHN Y. DATER, 259 Grove St., Ramsey, N.J.

Secretary

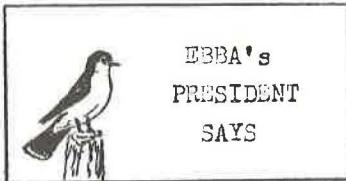
MRS. JOHN C. SCHMID
24 Bowman Drive
Greenwich, Conn.

Treasurer

MRS. STANLEY S. DICKERSON
222 DeVoe Avenue
Spotswood, N. J.

Editor - Frank P. Frazier, 424 Highland Ave., Upper Montclair, N.J.
Co-Editor - Frank P. Frazier Jr. (temporarily in Army)

EBBA NEWS is published six times a year 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 per year.



In an effort to make the annual meeting as pleasant as possible I have asked each person with whom I have corresponded for suggestions. Without exception the reply has been: "Keep the papers short and the speakers within the time allotted." That is easier said than done. Another suggestion concerned the pictures. Pictures should relate to the subject in a

definite manner. Scenic pictures should be avoided when time is so limited.

I know of no better way to keep everybody happy, interested and awake at the meeting than to ask each speaker to spend a little time in practicing reading his paper aloud with an alarm clock as monitor. It's unbelievable how fast the minutes tick off. Then correct the paper to fit the time.

The paper session will be held in the morning. The afternoon will be devoted to a business meeting and work shop. The workshop is under the chairmanship of Miss Mary Rebecca Cregar. Plans for the workshop appear elsewhere in this issue and subsequent issues will carry more detailed information.

More on the Net Bill

Congress reconvenes on January 10, 1962. Soon after that date Representative Widnall as assured me that he will endeavor to place R.H.6682, a bill which provides for exemption of mist nets from duty, on the floor of the House for passage. It has passed the Ways and Means Committee. It will then go to the Senate.

In order to assure passage of the bill every member of EBBA is requested to write to his Representative and Senators urging favorable action. This should be done the week of January 10, 1962. All four U.S. banding associations are making this request.

Anyone who wishes to have a copy of the Ways and Means Committee on the bill may have one by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Eleanor E. Dater, Box 242, Ramsey, N.J.

Acorn Crop Collapses

In many sections of New Jersey and New York there is no acorn crop of any kind this year. This is due to a heavy frost in May of 1960 when the pin, red, and black oaks were in bud or blossom. The same thing happened this year at the time the white oaks were in bud or blossom.

It takes two growing seasons for the pin and black oak families to mature their acorns. They blossom every year; thus both immature and maturing acorns are on the tree at the same time. The white oaks mature their acorns in one season.

It seldom happens that the failure occurs in the white and black oak simultaneously, but this is one of those years. It is highly possible that there will be no pin and black oak acorns again in 1962, as there was a heavy frost in May of this year, as noted above. I can find no immature acorns locally.

In areas close to large bodies of water frosts did not damage the buds. For example, there are sections of Greenwood Lake, N.J., close to the lake that have acorns; a short distance away from the lake frost hit hard. In Blooming Grove, N.Y., there are no acorns of any species according to a report from Martha Earl.

Two species of birds, the Grackles and Blue Jays, are dependent on the pin oak in particular for a great portion of their winter food. The paucity of acorns caused a general exodus of Blue Jays in September and early October. I haven't seen or banded a jay since the first week in October. Martha Earl reports that they had a large migration of Blue Jays from the middle of September into early October.

Squirrels and other rodents will undoubtedly be affected by this crop failure. It is sincerely hoped that the squirrels will emigrate and get lost. Whether there will be enough slump in the other rodent population to affect the wintering owls and hawks only time will tell.

Are other sections of the Northern States similarly affected? How about Pennsylvania and the New England States? Can you add to this picture in any way?

Eleanor E. Dater, Box 242, Ramsey, N.J.

ANNUAL MEETING

Remember to reserve April 27-29, 1962, the weekend after Easter, for the Annual Meeting at Cape May, New Jersey. It will be well worthwhile. See page 152 for a new feature of the meeting. More meeting details will appear in the next issue.