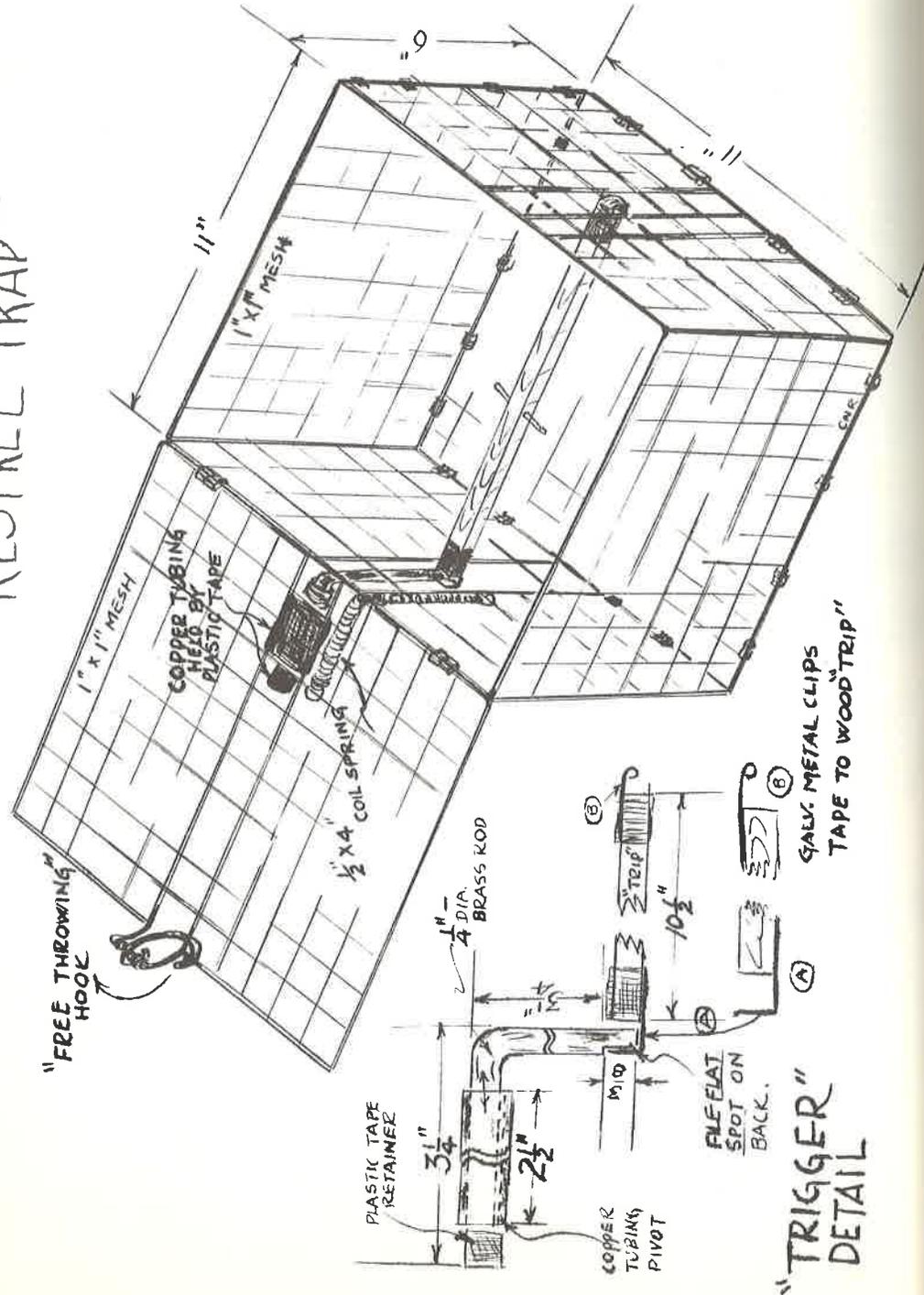


-KESTREL TRAP-



KESTREL TRAP

Designed by C. Howard Channing
 Drawings by Christopher N. Rose

Another of the traps which Howard Channing sent to EBBA News. His description of it follows:

For Kestrels, Sharp Shins and Shrikes. In larger size (than sample) have taken Sharp Shin, Jack Coopers and Short-eared Owl. Operation is obvious, I believe. Keeper cage is for mouse. Larger sized trap can be employed with English Sparrows for bait, using larger keeper.

This trap has caught over 100 Kestrels, 15 Shrikes, and two Sharpies. To remove caught bird, disengage spring from cover before opening top. Could be used for Jays, etc. with lighter spring and appropriate bait. Trap closes sharply and with much force, but has never yet hurt a bird.

Lid must obviously be depressed 180 degrees so brass rod can drop down to engage trigger stick. Hook must be hanging free so it will throw and engage itself when trap top closes.

Plastic tape may be used for hinges as in Snap Trap. It works well, installs easily, and lasts for years.

JAR--BAL CHATRI

Suggested by C. Howard Channing
 (not illustrated)

It sounds silly, but a Kestrel trap is fairly successful made with a quart jar. Do not use smaller jar as body heat of mouse or sparrow will fog the glass.

Use jar with mason ring screw top. Cut and insert firmly a circle of 4" hardware cloth. Take 15 to 20 prepared nooses of 8 or 10# test nylon filament and fasten to jar on top and two sides by fastening leader nooses to jar with four or five complete turns around jar with scotch tape.

Put bait in jar, and you're in business.

Jar is heavy enough so no weights are needed. Jar protects bait from wind and rain. Some birds shy away from glass -- some don't.

