

QUICK TRIP TO FLORIDA & NASSAU

By Frank P. Frazier

A quick trip Kit and I took to Florida and Nassau from January 28 to February 10 gave us the great pleasure of meeting and talking with banders whom we hadn't met before as well as seeing a great many birds, some of them new to us.

In the Bahamas we met and talked with Nassau's only bander, Brother Ignatius Dean, of St. Augustine's Monastery. We had a most interesting time with him. Brother Ignatius nets the local and migrating birds, but his special interest is in banding White-crowned Pigeons. We hope to get an article from him on the results of this activity -- he has received a number of reports of interesting recoveries recently.

We spent two fine days in the Everglades National Park, where we first met and talked briefly with EBBA member Dr. William B. Robertson, Jr., Park Biologist. At Flamingo, Richard Cunningham, Park Naturalist, gave us accurate directions on where to look for birds. We found Dick Cunningham's book, "A Field List of South Florida Birds," most helpful. (Other helpful books were, of course, Alexander Sprunt Jr.'s magnificent volume, "Florida's Bird Life," and "Where to Find Birds in Florida," published by the Florida Audubon Society.



Brother Ignatius Dean
Bahamas Bander

Near Del Ray Beach, where we were staying with Kit Frazier's sister, is the Loxahatchee Wildlife Refuge, where we spent many hours observing and photographing Sandhill Cranes, Loggerhead Shrikes, ducks, hawks, herons, ibises, and almost countless other birds.