



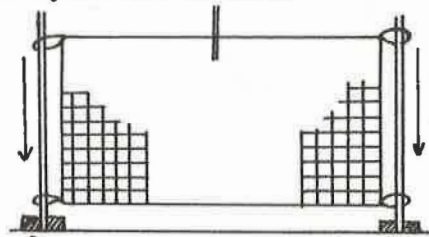
I would like to thank our previous editors, Mr. Frank P. Frazier, Jr., and his dad for a job well done. It was through their tireless efforts that EBBA NEWS became what it is today. Comparing issues of a decade ago with current issues, the improvement is noticeable in every possible way.

The work done by these two editors was well above the call of duty.



For years, I've been looking for an outfit which sells special pliers which could be used to open bands of all sizes. It seems that Frank Frazier and I are the only people who have so called "Bow Opening Pliers" which are sturdy, pointed pliers with a retaining spring, which open when the handles are pressed together. After much writing, looking through shop catalogs etc., I recently located these pliers in a catalog which I found at the Manomet Bird Observatory, while visiting there. I have written the company in question and ordered some to determine if these are indeed the same as I've been using with great success. If so, I shall report in the next issue, what my findings were, thereby advising you where they can be obtained and for what price. My pliers are, in my opinion, superior to any type opening devices used at the various stations I have visited. (Ed)

Mrs. Murray Olyphant, Jr., reported to us, that she has found a way to reduce "noise pollution" as caused by a trap slamming shut, thereby causing every bird in the vicinity of the trap to depart in great haste. The drawing below, is that of the front view of a potter trap door as it is closing. The bottom rings, which hold the door attached to the guide bars, will come to rest on small squares of foam rubber to dampen this sound. The squares are cut to fit around the base of the guide wires and if cut low, they should insure good closure. You might want to try it! The foam rubber is glued on and Mrs. Olyphant reports that such traps have been used successfully in wintertime. These traps had sheet metal flooring. On traps with wire mesh flooring, the foam could be tied on with thin metal wire or thin nylon wire or cord.



3/4 in. square of foam-rubber, approx. 1/2 in. thick.