E B A N S
The Eastern Bird-Banding Association News Letton
August 1952
"Let Us Band Together"

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131 N. Whitehall Road, Norristown, Pa.

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In the last issue, the Editor requested that members communicate to him their ideas concerning the types of articles and other features which they would like to see in HERRA NEWS. To date, only three such letters have been received, together with a few additional comments appended to communications concerning other matters. Even from this small sample of opinion it is evident that HERRA NEWS is read by persons with a wide variety of differing interests and knowledge concerning banding. Therefore, pending further comments from members, it would seem that a variety of materials should be used so as to give each member at least one item of real appeal to him.

A half dozen or so members have sent in contributions for use in the new, but the back log of material is not sufficiently large at the moment to permit us to add an additional sheet of four pages each month. Please try to send the Editor some material so that he will be able to do this soon. Below, in a letter received by the Editor, you will see topics about which information should be useful.

In future issues, it is planned to present details concerning the construction and use of various types of traps. If any member has made any modifications in standard trap design which have proved superior to the original, the Editor would appreciate being advised of such changes so that they can be passed on to others. Of course, many persons who have been banding for a number of years may find such presentations repetitious, but it must be remembered that many new members of the Association do not have access to the plans for many traps such as the 'Kodak,' Pabbin, Middletown thrush, Veilbait, and others which many of us use regularly.

** ROBIN SYMPOSIUM **

It is planned to devote the entire November issue to a symposium on the Robin similar to those recently appearing on the Junco and White-throated Sparrow. The September issue, which should reach you about the tenth of the month, will contain detailed instructions, so meanwhile, why not look over your data on this interesting species?
BANDING STATION ESTABLISHED AT WASHINGTON CROSSING PARK

Dr. Paul H. Fluck, Lambertville, New Jersey, in a recent letter tells of his success in getting permission from the Park Commission in charge of Washington Crossing Park, three miles south of New Hope, Pennsylvania, to conduct a banding station in the Park. Bands will be issued to the Park, and work will be carried out under the supervision of Dr. Fluck. Your Editor and wife had the pleasure of visiting the site with Dr. Fluck, and they agree that the location is an excellent one.

Dr. Fluck writes, "On May 18th a platno of bird banders formally dedicated the new banding station. Drs. and Mrs. Harold E. Good, Jeff, Mimmo, and Pat Gill, Howard Drinkerter and family, L. A. Jarvis and family, Mrs. Pauline Buckingham, Mv. Nathaniel Wyckoff, and a number of others were there. The picnic was held on the site of the new banding station to the tune of a quartet of Corelian Warblers. ...ten minutes after we set up our first house trap, a Corelian Warbler flew in. Naturally, the door wasn't working!"

* * * *

AN INVITATION

The following invitation is extended by Mr. E. Alexander Borgerstrom, Editor of BIRD-BANDING:

"The fall field meeting of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association will be held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. E. Alexander Borgerstrom, 33 Old Brook Road, West Hartford, Conn., on Sunday, September 21, starting at 10 a.m. In addition to a backyard banding station with recent plantings for birds, we hope to have an extensive display of banding traps (additional exhibits will be welcome). A number of members of the Eastern Bird-Banding Association attended the last Connecticut field meeting (at Berlin in 1950), and we hope for more this year as the location is easily reached from either Boston or New York over good highways.

"From Boston, take the Wilbur Cross Highway (route 15), turn right on U.S. 44 in Manchester, diagonally left off U.S. 44 in

WEST HARTFORD (at the intersection of Mountain Road, with overhead blinker, a mile west of the intersection of U.S. 44 and Route 185), go one tenth mile north, and go one tenth mile farther.

"From New York, take the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways (route 15), turn left on Route 175 in Noroton, left on Asylum Ave. in West Hartford (2nd intersection), right at first traffic light (on to Route 165), left at next light (on to Route U.S. 44)."

"All those interested in banding are welcome."

* * * *

Howard Drinkerter, of White House, Raritan, Union County, New Jersey, supplies the following human interest story:

"About a week or ten days ago (June 6 to 9), a crew of railroad workmen who were dismantling an unused water spout along the right-of-way a short distance from my office made an interesting discovery. The spout which they were dismantling consisted of a standpipe and a long hollow tube counterbalanced by a hollow iron ball. As the ball was being moved by the crane, it was noticed that it held a nest and four young birds.

"The crane operators very carefully lowered the ball to the ground and then, with the rest of the crew, gathered around to decide what disposition should be made of the young birds.

"Their first thought was to remove them and bring them to my office. Fortunately, that suggestion was overruled and the birds were left in the nest and I was told about them later that afternoon.

"The following morning I checked the nest and found that they were young Sparrow Hawks and that the parents were caring for them. That afternoon I again visited the nest with my banding equipment and ringed the four nestlings.

"The train crews and the track laborers have been working in the
vicinity of the nest since the spout was dismantled and are taking
a great personal interest in the young birds' welfare. Each after-
noon I have received a report of their progress and today (June 16)
I was told that although the scrap metal is to be removed tomorrow
the iron ball will not be disturbed until the young have flown.

"I think that you will agree that an experience such as this adds
seal to the banding program."

CONCERNING CONTENT OF THE NEWS

Mrs. William Gary Irving, Van Buuren Fields, West Nyack, N.Y.,
in a very provocative letter has suggested the following topics as
ones which might profitably be discussed in EQHA NEWS. Your comments
or contributions relating to these would be very helpful.

1) What would be considered a good string of traps for different
types of habitat?

2) What kinds of baits are especially good for certain species?

3) Lists of books, together with price, publisher, etc., and
comments about, of topics of value to banders.

4) How to keep records efficiently for personal use.

5) List of special projects being worked on by various banders
who would like data from others working on same project.

6) How best to remove bands from smaller birds.

BRIEFS

The NEWS is sorry to chronicle the death of EQHA member, Miss
Jane Hathurst Hopkins, of Baltimore, Maryland, on April 22, 1952.

A new member whom we are happy to welcome into EQHA is

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Mr. J. George Hetchner, 56 Front Avenue, Pitman, N. J., New Jersey.

Dr. C. Brooke North's address is now as follows:
3, St. James Road, Bangalore, India.

From Bruce Adam, a 15-year old member of EQHA, of 9 Ears St.,
Daran, Ohio, comes the following observation:

"I thought you might be interested in an observation I made
recently at a Robin's nest which contained 3 Robin eggs and one Cob-
bird egg. I first discovered the nest June 20, the Cobbird egg hatched
before the Robin, and the baby Cobbird kicked one of the baby Robins
out of the nest. But it was interesting to note that after that, the
Cobbird did not completely take over and monopolize the nest the way
it is in cases of smaller birds such as warblers. The parent birds
have fed their own babies just as much as the Cobbird; at times they
would completely ignore his cries and feed their own babies. After
about a week and a half they left the nest, and for a short time after-
wards, I could see them fluttering around after the parents; again,
all three birds got equal shares of food."

Mrs. M. O. Holbrook writes: "Here's a hint on trapping bait for
this time of year—cooked oatmeal with raisins, Blue Jays, Ostriches,
Robins, Redmers, etc., are keen about it for feeding their young.
Put them in a container into the traps. I usually save the top of
ice cream containers for this purpose because they are a good size
for small traps and their light color helps to attract the birds.
Also, when they get money, they can be thrown away."—490 Fairfield
Avenue, Ridgewood, N. J.

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Changes of address should reach the Editor by the 25th of the
month to be effective with the next issue. If only temporary, arrange
with your local Post Office to have your copy forwarded to you.
YOU COULD MAKE YOUR OWN TRAPS
BUT WE CAN DO IT FOR YOU AT LOWER COSTS!

ONION-CELL
A good sturdy portable little job of all metal construction with galvanized floor and sliding take-out door. Our most popular model for feeding shelf or on the ground. Size 6 x 6 x 6

ONION-CELL
A good bush trap to be set in shrubbery or on a tree. Spring operated and all metal construction. Size 6 x 6 x 6

Each of these traps $2.00 plus 25¢ postage and packing.
Canadian dealers add $1.00 per trap to cover shipping and other charges. All traps available within 24 hours of receipt of order. Specify 1/2 or 1/4 wire mesh as desired.

GATHERING CAGE
A safe all-metal gathering cage with 100 mesh. Size 4 x 5 x 6 with sliding door. $1.00 prepaid in U.S.A.

Large traps of several designs available. For information write to:
Geoffrey Gill, 34 Overlook Drive, Huntington, L.I., N.Y.

Return to:
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Mrs. Dayton Stone
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Albany 10, New York