

electric current. This in turn sets a vibrator into motion. Through a suitable optical system these vibrations are photographed on a rapidly moving roll of film. This strip of film, when developed, gives a permanent record of the sound. The duration, relative amplitude, frequency, and wave shape can be measured directly from the film.

This, I think, should be the next development in the study of bird sounds. We know very little of the frequencies at which birds sing. Only a trial of this instrument will show whether it is applicable to the entire range. However, at the present rate of technical progress, it can only be a question of time before the complete audible band of frequencies can be recorded. The disadvantages of the instrument are few and can be overcome. Skilled engineers will be necessary to operate it. Its great cost will prevent the ordinary ornithologist from using it, but there are a number of large, well-endowed biological laboratories which could take it up. I believe the results will put the study of birds' songs and calls on a scientific basis and will be well worth the time, trouble and cost.—ANDERS H. ANDERSON, *Route 2, Box 386, Tucson, Arizona.*

Correction. Through an unfortunate error Topsell's name for the Towhee on the plate accompanying Mr. Christy's article in the July 'Auk' was misspelled. The spelling is correct in the text and from it the reader will appreciate the effort to imitate the call of the bird; a similar attempt is responsible for the names 'Towhee' and "Chewink"—Ed.