

legible, but has robbed the dramatic picto-maps by Bob Hines of much of their clarity and detail. It is a pity that in their zeal to keep down costs the publishers could not have spent a few dollars to correct the typographical errors in the list of scientific names in the appendix. The subject matter, culled from the works of many authors in technical journals and the Fish and Wildlife files (the partial bibliography is included), is presented in popular, readable style, and worthy of far wider distribution than it could possibly receive from government handling. In its present form it should reach and interest in birds and banding a host of readers who would otherwise never "get the word." We hope it has a wide sale. It will certainly be picked up and read by the many people who buy books off store counters, but who would never trouble to write the Superintendent of Documents, even if they knew of the better and cheaper original edition.—O. L. Austin, Jr.

JAMES LEE PETERS

It is with very deep regret that I inform the members of the Association that James Lee Peters died on April 19, 1952, after a short illness. Mr. Peters had been a vice-president of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association from 1938 to 1952 and was editor of *Bird-Banding* from 1939 to 1950. I found him ever a source of wise counsel, often wittily expressed. Probably few members ever realized how much he contributed in his quiet and self-effacing way to the work of our Association. The gap he leaves cannot really be filled.

Mr. Peters held a banding permit from February 2, 1922. He was a selective rather than a large-scale bander. That he should have banded for many years is but one of many evidences of his interest in the whole bird rather than just the skin in a museum drawer. His wide and detailed knowledge of all sides of bird life was freely at the disposal of serious inquirers.

At the time of his death, Mr. Peters was Curator of Birds at the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, President of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, President of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, and a permanent member of council of the American Ornithologists' Union. Seven volumes of his *Check-list of the Birds of the World* have been published and will stand as an enduring record of his remarkable knowledge and sound judgment.

The depth of our own sense of loss is the gage of the sincerity of the sympathy we extend to Mrs. Peters.

Charles H. Blake

A SECOND COOPERATIVE STUDY OF NOCTURNAL BIRD MIGRATION

Readers of *Bird-Banding* will recall a review, in the January issue, of George H. Lowery's "A Quantitative Study of Nocturnal Bird Migration" (University of Kansas Publications, Museum of Natural History, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 361-472). This paper describes the very interesting data obtained by an analysis of counts of birds passing before the disc of the moon. These data compel us to revise some of our time-honored concepts of nocturnal migration. This study was possible because of the cooperation by 200 observers who, in the spring of 1948, watched the moon for varying periods through small telescopes at 30 stations scattered over the North American continent. The progress already achieved is only a modest indication of what may be accomplished with this promising new approach. During the past decade I have carefully examined scores of papers from many countries on many aspects of migration. There can be no question that the methods and techniques developed by Dr. Lowery and his associates represent one of the very significant advances of this period. Although information on individual species cannot be obtained, the method has produced, and will continue to produce, much important information on the basic aspects of nocturnal migration common to many species.

The method, being one that yields results of a statistical nature, requires great quantities of data in order to produce tenable conclusions. In 1948, the mathematical processing of the raw counts was such a time-consuming undertaking that it seriously limited the scope of the entire project and in many important instances, prevented decisive results. Since then, Dr. Lowery informs me, improved techniques have been developed, permitting the handling of data in unlimited quantities.

Accordingly, a second cooperative effort will be staged in 1952, to gather information about nocturnal migration in fall. An attempt is being made to saturate the country with observers. Interested persons who have access to a small telescope, or who can work with a group possessing such a telescope, are urged to notify Robert J. Newman at the Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La. Details regarding the observational technique, which is an extremely simple one, will be forwarded promptly, together with other information about the study.—Donald S. Farner.

NOTES AND NEWS

The fall field meeting of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Alexander Bergstrom, 37 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) on Old Oak Road, left on Old Brook Road in a tenth of a mile, go another tenth of a mile. From New York, take the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways (route 15), turn left on route 173 in Newington, left on Asylum Avenue in West Hartford ("T" intersection), right at first traffic light (onto route 185), left at next light (onto U.S. 44). All those interested in banding are welcome.

The annual meeting of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association will be held in Cambridge, Mass., the afternoon and evening of November 15, 1952. Members who desire to present papers should send to the Secretary, Richard M. Hinchman, 75 Fairbanks Road, Milton 86, Mass., before September 15, 1952, the title of the paper, a short abstract, time needed for presentation, and statement of projection equipment needed.

Good general notes continue scarce, and those received are printed promptly. We would like to be able to print more in each issue than in any recent issue, and the files of any banding station should contain excellent material for at least one such note.