

institution, anyone with access to a nearby public library with the volumes, the reader who can consult them only on infrequent trips or by borrowing them by mail—each can use the index to determine in advance where to look, and save time and effort. Perhaps a university can use the index in branch libraries to facilitate use of a set of *Bird-Banding* in a central library.

The extensive reviews of ornithological literature are indexed in detail, thus concentrating in a single place references to many of the more important books and papers published anywhere in the world in this decade, particularly those relating to field ornithology. Reference to this one volume may be simpler than consulting indexes of individual journals, especially if memory does not serve to recall for sure which journal and which year were involved—and many journals have no complete index. Compared to any annual list or index, the reader looks in one place, not ten; also, he may benefit from the more detailed headings and subheadings possible for a ten-year compilation.

We are deeply indebted to Margaret B. Hickey, whose labors with the index made heavy demands on her time for years, and whose organizing ability and broad knowledge of ornithology have produced a volume which is far more than a routine list of authors and titles. We are also greatly indebted to Benjamin and Mary Shaub, whose experience with lithoprinting saw the manuscript through the difficult stages of final preparation of copy and actual printing.

Copies of the index may be obtained from Mrs. J. R. Downs, So. Londonderry, Vt., at \$3.00 (paperbound) or \$4.50 (hard covers) to present NEBBA members or *Bird-Banding* subscribers; or \$4.00 (paperbound) or \$5.50 (hard covers) to others. All prices include postage.

#### NOTES AND NEWS

At the NEBBA annual meeting, considerable interest was shown in a display of new banding pliers, which appear to be of high quality. These resemble the original Kennard pliers (see "Pliers for Bird Banding," by Frederic H. Kennard, *Bull. NEBBA*, 5: 105-108, July, 1929), which have not been available commercially for many years. Holes bored in flat-nosed pliers fit standard band sizes, so as to make it quite easy to get a perfect fit. This avoids the danger of lapped bands, which may injure the leg if not corrected, and which are troublesome to remove even with good tools. The new pliers differ from the Kennard type in having a split pin, which enables the user to open a band evenly with one operation. A spring on the side of the plier provides tension to keep the opened band in the plier while handling the bird. While new banders may welcome such pliers to increase their confidence in attaching the band, many experienced banders have shown interest in the pliers in order to handle birds more rapidly at peak times. One size will handle band sizes 0, 1, 1B and 1A (price \$6.00), the other will handle sizes 2 and 3 (price \$5.00); these prices include postage within the U. S. Orders should be sent to Mr. Roger N. MacDonald, 850 Main St., Lynnfield Center, Mass., who has developed and manufactured the pliers.

Dr. W. Ryzewski has been appointed Professor of Ornithology at the Wroclaw University and Director of the recently founded Laboratory of Ornithology. He expects to continue publication of *The Ring*. His new address is: Laboratory of Ornithology, Sienkiewicza 21, Wroclaw, Poland.

Dr. Lawrence Bartlett (Dept. of Zoology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Mass.) has been named chairman of a committee to prepare the index to *Bird-Banding* for the years 1951-60. An effort will be made to complete it in a shorter time than the 1941-50 index.

The five sizes of mist nets handled by NEBBA will take birds up to the size of the largest shorebirds or small hawks. Details may be obtained from Mr. E. A. Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford 17, Connecticut. We are prepared to ship these nets by surface or air parcel post, in small or larger quantities, to most countries where such shipments are not restricted by government regulations, and where payment can be made either in U. S. dollars or in freely convertible currency.