

to note their justification of this decision by the same gambit they employed when adopting their non-Peters passerine sequence (see *Bird-Banding* 31: 234) — the vote of a packed and biased jury, in this case the 12 authors working on this and the remaining volumes. I don't know where you could find 12 people who personally have less need of or use for common names than this dozen of the world's leading taxonomists. I'm surprised their vote to drop vernaculars wasn't unanimous, but two voted to include them.

The critics who are thus being slapped, of whom I most certainly am one, were unanimous in welcoming the English names, and in deploring the careless, lackadaisical attention given them. The excuse that "to standardize and supply appropriate names for all species . . . would require cumbersome polls and other elaborate procedures beyond the scope of a scientific work" (p. iii) is pure hog-wash. All it would require beyond a bit of searching would be common sense and sound judgment. And so doing would have been a real service and made the Check-List useful to a far wider audience.—O. L. Austin, Jr.

NOTES AND NEWS

Edwin A. Mason (Massachusetts Audubon Society, Lincoln, Mass.) has for sale a set of the *Bulletin of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association* (1925-29), minus one issue, and a complete set of *Bird-Banding* (1930-63), including Indexes, all bound in green library buckram except for the past five years. The number of such sets coming on the market is very limited. Price \$214.

We are always happy to mention sets or long runs of *Bird-Banding* for sale, or readers' needs. With the increase in our circulation, and the growing needs of institutional libraries, it is difficult to take care of all requests. We hope that readers who no longer have a need of their copies can make them available to others by sale or gift. While NEBBA has a substantial number of back issues in stock, some issues are lacking or in short supply, including even as recent an issue as July, 1958. We are indebted to several members for gifts of back issues, notably a large number from Ralph Palmer recently. A list of back issues presently in stock may be obtained from the Treasurer, Mrs. Downs.

Bird-Banding is to receive a legacy, subject to life estates, under the will of the late Christian J. Goetz, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

In July the Post Office Department announced active use of zip codes for parcel post in 31 large offices, in addition to six already using the system. In many cases parcels can then bypass larger cities, with an appreciable savings in time particularly for parcels travelling over 300 miles. We welcome this improvement, offsetting recent delays from abandoning most handling of parcel post on Saturdays. Most of those ordering mist nets now list their zip code, and we recommend it to the others. The list of mist nets and prices in the July, 1963 issue is still up-to-date, except that type H has been added experimentally (resembling types A and F except that the mesh is 30mm. or 1-1/4"); prices are the same as type C). Orders, or requests for copies of the list, should be sent to Mr. E. A. Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford, Conn. 06117.

We note with pleasure the addition of Leon Kelso to the review staff, chiefly for reviews of articles in the Russian journal *Ornitologiya*.