

vironmental biology, interest young people in concepts of conservation, help teachers to gain added experience in field work, hold classes in banding techniques, and undertake studies of bird migration, breeding and behavior. It is already one of the major stations in Operation Recovery.

Acceptance of the land and buildings, and operation of the Observatory, require adequate financial backing as well as the enthusiasm of volunteer workers. Both large and small gifts are needed. A broad membership base will not only produce an important part of the Observatory's current income but also strengthen the case for support by foundations and other large givers. Annual dues start at \$7. Membership information may be obtained from Miss Barbara Treat, Membership Secretary, Manomet Bird Observatory, 720 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, Mass. 02025. Questions about use of the Observatory should be sent to its director, Mrs. Paul T. Anderson, Wolf Trap Hill, R. F. D. No. 2, Winter St., Middleborough, Mass. 02346. The NEBBA Council has endorsed the objectives of the Observatory, and made a research grant of \$200 to it.

The Subcommittee on Collections, of the Committee on Research of the American Ornithologists' Union, is conducting a survey of collections of birds in the United States and Canada. In the past, many studies utilizing museum materials have been handicapped by ignorance of the existence of potentially important specimens. We hope, by means of this survey, to enable future workers to take full advantage of all available material. Survey forms have been sent to institutions and individuals known to have, or suspected of having, an ornithological collection. We request your assistance so that our survey will be as complete as possible. If you have received a survey form, please complete it and return it promptly. If you have a collection and have not received a form, or if you know of other persons or institutions who have collections but who have not received a form, please notify Richard C. Banks, Bird and Mammal Laboratories, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560.

NO MIST NETS IN JULY

As I expect to be out of town, we regret that NEBBA will be unable to ship nets (or furnish information or quotations on nets) from about July 6th through July 30, 1969. As this issue goes to press, orders for nets are running heavier than in any year past, but we have substantial stocks on hand and on order. We will make every effort to fill all orders received before July 6th, but ordering early will be helpful.

E. A. Bergstrom

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The behavior and migrations of the Whistling Swan (*Olor columbianus*) in the U. S. and Canada are being studied as a step toward solving the serious problem of collisions between these birds and aircraft. The birds are being marked at several locations by several methods—color dyes, plastic neck collars, and color leg bands (the leg bands carry numbers large enough to be read with binoculars, at times when the leg is visible during feeding or swimming). The work is being carried on with the cooperation of a variety of governmental and private agencies, but the help of field observers is badly needed. Reports of marked birds should be sent to (and further details may be obtained from): Dr. William J. L. Sladen, Johns Hopkins Univ., 615 N. Wolfe St., Baltimore, Md. 21205.

People who maintain a series of ten or more nesting boxes for Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) have been sending nesting information to Dr. Douglas James, Dept. of Zoology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701. The data are used to evaluate the annual population fluctuations of the species. Persons who qualify but are not now participating in the program are requested to write Dr. James for the project report form.

In 1967 and 1968, Common (*Sterna hirundo*) and Roseate (*S. dougallii*) Terns were banded by the Linnean Society of New York on Great Gull Island, seven miles ENE of Orient Point (N. Y.) at the mouth of Long Island Sound. Each carried three colored plastic bands; in 1969 at least some of the birds banded will

also be marked by color dyes. Observers are requested to send records of sightings of these birds, with date and locality, and exact color combination if possible, to Miss Catherine Pessino, Dept. of Education, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York, N. Y. 10024.