

NOTES AND NEWS

At press-time we must report with much sadness the death of E. Alexander Bergstrom on 21 March 1973. As most readers will recall Alex served as editor of *Bird-Banding* for 21 years and his additional services to NEBBA were manifold—vice-president and assistant treasurer of NEBBA, efficient and faithful in handling of mist net sales for 16 years. His passing is a loss beyond measure to NEBBA, the scientific community, and to his family and many personal friends.

All mist net orders and inquiries should be directed to Manomet Bird Observatory, Manomet, Mass. 02345.

The **Spring Meeting** of NEBBA will be held at Massachusetts Audubon Society's Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield on 8-10 June 1973. Details of the meeting will be available in a separate mailing.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

The Bird Banding Laboratory is re-editing, bringing up to date, and expanding Merrill Wood's *A BIRD-BANDER'S GUIDE TO DETERMINATION OF AGE AND SEX OF SELECTED SPECIES*. This will be Volume II of the Bird Banding Manual, but component parts will come out as they are done, beginning with *Fringillidae*.

Will anyone with more recent information, emendations to, or criticisms of material as published in Wood please send them to ERMA J. FISK (Mrs. BRADLEY), 17101 SW 284 Street, Homestead, Florida 33030.

Many, if not most, birders have had the experience that a captured bird suddenly died in the trap or in the net. Autopsies of such birds usually do not reveal any real cause and the statement that such deaths are equivalent to human heart attacks are based on little more than a guess.

A research team at Harvard Medical School is now examining cases of sudden death in animals and would be willing to examine such birds provided they are in fresh condition. They would have to be deep-frozen almost immediately after death.

Anyone who encounters such a case of sudden death in a trapped bird, and would like to learn the cause, may send the deep-frozen specimen to Dr. JACOB FINE, *Sears Laboratory, Harvard Surgical Unit, Boston City Hospital, Boston, Mass. 02118*.