

2. An expression of appreciation and thanks (moved and seconded by many members) for the leadership and untiring service of the retiring President, Mr. Groskin, was passed with acclaim.
3. That the Association extend its appreciation to the Local Committee on Arrangements, Mr. Frank Frazier, Chairman, for its work in planning and arranging the meeting.
4. That the Association extend its thanks to the American Museum of Natural History for acting as host to the Annual Meeting.

After a brief social period, the Association reconvened at the Henry Hudson Hotel for a delicious dinner.

After dinner, Angelo D'Angelo showed his extraordinary motion pictures in color of "Bird Life in Northeastern New Jersey."

On Sunday, March 30th, EBBA members visited the New Jersey banding stations of Mrs. H. G. McEntee, Mrs. John Y. Dater, Mrs. Marie Dumont (where Mr. and Mrs. Dumont provided coffee, cakes and other goodies to add to the box lunches), and Mr. Beecher Bowdish. At each of these banding stations EBBA members saw a wide variety of traps and plantings of trees and shrubs suitable for attracting many different species.

Frank Frazier, Secretary

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#### PLASTIC NECK-BANDS ON CANADA GEESE

Canada geese have been banded with plastic collars during the past winter at the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge located on the outer banks of the North Carolina coast. Collar bands of red, green, yellow, and white, have been used and can

be readily observed with field glasses at distances of a quarter of a mile. The colors represent individual trapping sites at Pea Island. If anyone has been fortunate enough to see one of these marked geese, please report the place and date of observation to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Maryland.

Though the marking of waterfowl with plastic collars has been used in the middle west by Messrs. H. H. Dill, L. R. Jahn, J. B. Gallup and others, it has not been tried previously on the Atlantic seaboard. This neck-banding of birds at Pea Island is part of an over-all study on ecology and disease of Canada geese in which some 500 geese have been repeatedly trapped approximately 900 times. Plastic collars are not a substitute for the conventional aluminum leg band. Rather it is a temporary method for marking birds for sight observations. The length of time that these neck-bands stay on geese depends largely on the individual. Some collars last for only a few hours while others stay on for two months or longer.

During the investigations at Pea Island specific efforts were made to perfect collar banding of Canada geese. Leather-like plastic material was used. The most suitable width was one and a half to one and three quarters inches. Collars of greater width sometimes irritated the neck. The length of the collar-band varied in accordance to the size of the neck of the goose, but it should be loose enough to allow a rod seven-eighths of an inch in diameter to pass freely under the band without causing pressure on the goose neck. This will allow ample space for passage of food.

Records thus far obtained indicate that the geese from Pea Island are following the Atlantic seaboard on their northward migration.

John H. Steenis  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Patuxent Research Refuge  
Laurel, Maryland

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