

West Hartford (at the intersection of Mountain Road, with overhead blinker, a mile west of the intersection of U.S. 44 and Route 185) on Old Oak Road, left on Old Brook Road one tenth of a mile later, and go one tenth mile farther.

"From New York, take the Merritt and Wilbur Cross Parkways (Route 15), turn left on Route 173 in Newington, left on Asylum Ave. in West Hartford ("T" intersection), right at first traffic light (on to Route 185), left at next light (on to Route U. S. 44).

"All those interested in banding are welcome."

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Howard Drinkwater, of White House, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, supplies the following human interest story:

"About a week or ten days ago (June 6 to 9), a crew of railroad workmen who were dismantling an unused water spout along the right-of-way a short distance from my office made an interesting discovery. The spout which they were dismantling consisted of a standpipe and a long hollow tube counterbalanced by a hollow iron ball. As the ball was being moved by the crane, it was noticed that it held a nest and four young birds.

"The crane operators very carefully lowered the ball to the ground and then, with the rest of the crew, gathered around it to decide what disposition should be made of the young birds.

"Their first thought was to remove them and bring them to my office. Fortunately, that suggestion was overruled and the birds were left in the nest and I was told about them later that afternoon.

"The following morning I checked the nest and found that they were young Sparrow Hawks and that the parents were caring for them. That afternoon I again visited the nest with my banding equipment and ringed the four nestlings.

"The train crews and the track laborers have been working in the

vicinity of the nest since the spout was dismantled and are taking a great personal interest in the young birds' welfare. Each afternoon I have received a report of their progress and today (June 16) I was told that although the scrap metal is to be removed tomorrow the iron ball will not be disturbed until the young have flown.

"I think that you will agree that an experience such as this adds zest to the banding program."

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CONCERNING CONTENT OF THE NEWS

Mrs. William Gary Irving, Van Houten Fields, West Nyack, N.Y., in a very provocative letter has suggested the following topics as ones which might profitably be discussed in EBBA NEWS. Your comments or contributions relating to these would be very helpful.

- 1) What would be considered a good string of traps for different types of habitat?
- 2) What kinds of baits are especially good for certain species?
- 3) Lists of books, together with price, publisher, etc., and comments about, of topics of value to banders.
- 4) How to keep records efficiently for personal use.
- 5) List of special projects being worked on by various banders who would like data from others working on same project.
- 6) How best to remove bands from smaller birds.

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BRIEFS

The NEWS is sorry to chronicle the death of EBBA member, Miss Anne Bathurst Dobbin, of Baltimore, Maryland, on April 22, 1952.

A new member whom we are happy to welcome into EBBA is