

"I have had very excellent success with the above in the Rome area, and the public has become most interested in my banding, with the result that people are anxious to report recoveries, etc., to me.

"In addition to the above, we need more swift banders to give a more complete coverage. I hope that many EBBA members will try their hand at swift banding next spring and fall. I have banded about 20,000 swifts in the last two years, and will be happy to pass along any help that I can to banders who are interested."

Mr. Hight included with his letter a number of clippings from the "Rome News-Tribune" which tell the local citizens of his banding work which he is doing, and mention is also made of the general value of Chimney Swifts to the human race. Of a number of birds recovered in 1952, which had been banded by other banders, individuals were taken at Rome, Georgia, which had been banded at Blind River, Ontario, Kingston, Ontario, Amherst, Mass., Ithaca, New York, Illinois, Memphis, Tenn., Chattanooga, Tenn., and Birmingham, Alabama. In addition, one bird, 38-87838, was banded May 19, 1940, at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, by Mr. R. W. Smith, and was recovered in the Rome Junior High School building, in September 1952, an elapsed period of 12 years and 4 months, but the bird must have been at least 13 years old, since it was obviously an adult at the time of banding, and this, according to Seth H. Low, constitutes a longevity record for this species, the previous longevity record for which is twelve years.

Additional evidence of favorable local publicity comes from Mr. Beecher S. Bowdish, of Demarest, New Jersey, whose work, and that of banding in general, was the subject of two full pages of text and pictures in the Newark (New Jersey) Sunday News. Not only does the article tell very accurately the history and purpose of bird banding, but it also very interestingly gives accounts of various activities of Mr. Bowdish. * * * *

OBITUARY

Word has been received of the death of Elaine Martin Drew (Mrs. Howard A. Drew) of Barre, Vermont, an EBBA member, on December 22, 1952. Although confined to her bed for the eighteen months preceding her death, she had identified by sight or sound 55 species of birds and

banded a few that had come to visit at her window. During twenty years, she had banded more than 10,000 birds, and pictures which she had taken had appeared in the 'National Geographic Magazine', and in 'Nature Magazine'. She was an associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, a member of the National Audubon Society, the Vermont Bird and Botanical Society, the Massachusetts Society, and EBBA, and a number of civic and charitable organizations. EBBA regrets the passing of such an active and worthwhile member.

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A BOOK ABOUT AN EBBA MEMBER

The following is from Dr. Harold B. Wood, 3016 N. Second St., Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, long active in EBBA affairs, and also father of EBBA Treasurer, Merrill Wood. Dr. Wood writes:

"In the 'Eagle Man', Mrs. Myrtle Jean Browley has just brought out an interesting book on the inspiring field adventures in banding Bald Eagles of Charles L. Browley, illustrated with many photographs. (Farrar, Straus, and Young, New York, 1952, \$3.50)

"Browley, by his banding of over 1200 young Bald Eagles in Florida and Ontario, has set a standard of notable accomplishment in ornithology which will long remain as superior. Mrs. Browley has produced a warm story of (his) achievement. She stresses the need of all states giving protection to the national bird whose numbers are rapidly decreasing.

"This book includes notes of other species and adventures with them. It gives the distant recoveries of eighty-four banded Bald Eagles; the causes of 476 nest failures; the history of the official usage of eagles by various countries; and the history of the mintage of Eagle emblems. The first official American use began in 1776 on the one cent copper piece. The American (Bald) Eagle was adopted as an emblem by the colonies June 20, 1782, and by the Federal Convention in Philadelphia, September 13, 1789."

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