

a few inches from the last action. Then, the swing was reversed on the next bow and swing of 45 degrees.

This continued until they had travelled about 18 or 20 feet and out of my sight. I should have followed them, but I was afraid of scaring them away.

My question, "Was that a nuptial dance?" All of the 'big shots' at the museum were at the meeting where I told about it, and none could answer. I know in my own mind that it was, but what I want to know is has anyone else seen the same thing and followed it to its conclusion? --Mrs. John Y. Dater, Jr., 259 Grove St., Ramsey, N.J.

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#### CAPSULE BIOGRAPHIES

Before the present editor took over some three years ago, there was published a series of biographies of EBBA members. With the thought that members might like to see some more biographies of their fellows, we are presenting here sketches of two EBBA members. Your comments as to this type of material or contributions for use in future issues will be appreciated.

Mr. A. J. FLETCHER  
Denton, Maryland

My wife and I have been interested in wildlife since childhood, and it is now our primary interest in life, counting making a living only a necessity and secondary. We went to the same college, taught in the same school, and, when our boy was born, unconsciously dedicated him to the same ideal which we have. This last event removed Mrs. from teaching, but it gave her an opportunity to concentrate on nature. Since that time, I have begun working for the local health department as sanitarian and get over a segment of Maryland territory, which helps in observations.

Since our home is on a lake, we have many visitors to our feeding station which would not be found at less favored locations. We are not yet organized enough to have detailed objectives, but these will develop as our activity grows. We have assisted in the organization of a local bird club, and all of our activities together are intended to help our locality to appreciate more the bountiful wildlife which we

have inherited. The building of a new bridge across the Chesapeake Bay threatens our wildlife, and education is needed to prevent abuse and to encourage improved methods of assistance to wildlife.

CHARLES J. SPIKER

Born April 3, 1895, Liberal, Mo. Reared in Iowa; Ottumwa High School, 1914; A.B., Morningside College, 1926; M.A., Syracuse University, 1930. Taught 12 years, last at Michigan Normal College at Ypsilanti. Field man for Roosevelt Wildlife Experiment Station at New York College of Forestry at Syracuse, 1927-1934, with special assignments in Summer. Built airplane parts in Mercury Aircraft, Hammondsport, N.Y., for seven years during and after the war. At present living on a 65 acre farm and running a hardware store in Hammondsport. Residence here since October 1933. Second hobby music; organist in both Branchport churches for last 14 years, playing Episcopal service at 9 a.m. and Methodist at 11. Banding since June 1924. Never married.

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NURSING INJURED BIRDS BACK TO HEALTH

by Anna M. Wanek

The problem of nursing injured birds back to physical fitness puzzled my husband and myself and still does although an experience we had last year with a female Cardinal which had lost its power of flight taught us that under certain favorable conditions birds will regain their health if left to their own resources.

The Cardinal was trapped early last Summer and banded on the left leg. When released, the bird was unable to fly. Not wishing her to fall into the grasp of a predator, she was recaptured. This was easily accomplished even without benefit of a trap. She offered the usual resistance, emphasizing her loss of dignity with a few nips. She was placed in a cage, but she would not calm down. Rather than risk additional injuries to her, she was released in a wooded area opposite our house, where she remained only for a short while. She reappeared in our yard and settled herself near the food supply. In the evening, she left for the wooded area, crossing the street on foot the first few days. In the morning, she would again reappear in our yard. That ritual was followed for two weeks, but in the meanwhile, on the fourth day, she was capable of flying to low branches of trees, and gradually