

is given as the basic reason for the work. The idea is to watch the gulls at the airport and find out, from the dye color, where they have been breeding. (Gulls have not yet, to my knowledge, been a problem there, but still, the airport is almost in the middle of Boston Harbor, and there must be gulls about.) Then, if the majority seem to be coming from any particular area, steps will presumably be taken. What steps, is anyone's guess.

Well, it's a novel way of spending the taxpayer's money, and at least poison isn't being spread wholesale over a vacationland at the moment. Maybe something will be learned. I should add that only adult gulls are being dyed. They are caught by tricky net and trap devices. The artificial color invites attacks from the normal gull population, so that the experimental birds are driven away from their colonies; in which cases, if they are fortunate enough to survive, they won't prove anything but will only confuse the records.

One part of the program is for a cooperator to sit and watch a dump for hours. And while mentioning unsavory subjects, I might note that we discovered something new about the Herring Gull diet. As a rule, young Herring Gulls, belonging to a tough breed, are not enough disturbed by banding to part with portions of previous meals, as do Laughing Gulls and assorted Herons. However, one young gull upchucked forty (40) Japanese beetles.

Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

LINCOLN'S SPARROWS Mrs. Marie Dumont, of Pequannock, N. J., writes:
AT PEQUANNOCK, N.J. "I am interested to find out whether other banders have had the same experience I have, with the Lincoln's Sparrow. Going back over our banding records for the past 20 years - I have been banding since 1932 - I find that in 1940 we banded 5 in May; in 1941, one in October; ditto for 1942; then in 1943, 3 in May and so on until 1946 when none showed up at all. But in December 1947 we had one; in January and June 1948, one each; then none for the next three years. Then one in September of 1952; none at all in '53, '54 and '55. In 1956 we banded 5 in May and one each in July and September, a total of 7; then none until this June (1961), the 27th to be exact, when I trapped and banded one Lincoln's Sparrow."

(By way of comparison, in Montclair, N. J., your Editor banded two Lincoln's Sparrows in May, 1952 and one in September 1952; one in May 1953, 3 in May 1954, and one in September 1954. - Ed.)

1962 ANNUAL MEETING

Plan now to attend EBBA's 1962 Annual Meeting the week after Easter -- Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday April 27, 28, and 29 -- probably at Cape May, New Jersey. Exchanging bird and banding information with your fellow banders at one of these meetings is a most interesting experience -- one that can make your activities infinitely more productive and satisfying.