

someone wanting to do a research paper involving this material will be frustrated, to put it mildly, that he cannot sit in a library and use this material intelligently. After a waiting period of a year in the Banding Office the information in English will be filed away on film or some other secret device. It costs money to go to Laurel to do research and the researcher will need a clerk to help untangle or decode the data.

Why the discrimination between the layman and the bander? Can't some mind come up with a satisfactory answer to this problem and unscramble the frustrated, hard working bander? Information valuable to science should not be stored away in obscure places in government buildings. It should be in libraries where anyone can use it. The four banding organizations in the U.S. and one in Canada are constantly training future ornithologists through back yard banding. See EBBA NEWS, Vol. 25, No. 1, page 24 (Frank Frazier) for definition of an ornithologist. With no intelligible recovery records are we going to hold the interest of these budding ornithologists?

If the Department of the Interior feels that they have all the information that they want on "dicky-birds" why don't they say so instead of beating us out of the bush with coordinates? On the other hand, if we are supplying useful information to them, why don't they treat their volunteer help with the same respect as their paid help? What indiscretions have the banders committed (the grapevine hints there are some) to rate this new unilateral system?

Please, Mr. Banding Office give us paper ruled in green ink, one entry to a line and every other space tinted green. Then some place on the recovery report write the name of the town in which the bird was recovered. Is that asking too much of your time and money?

These are my sentiments and those of many OLD time banders that need all the help they can get to make their declining years fun years instead of drudgery.

Eleanor Dater, 259 Grove St., Ramsey, N. J.

IBM RECOVERY REPORT FORMS Quite recently, your Co-Editor visited the Banding Office with these report forms in mind, and spent some time having the system explained. It appears that they may turn out to be not the calamity they seemed to be at first glance. Mr. Allen Duvall, head of the Banding Office, will be on the program at the Annual Meeting and we trust that he will give a thorough explanation of the new systems, and perhaps allay fears about these recovery reports and receive suggestions from banders.

-FPF Jr.
