



THE
PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE

Evolution is proceeding at an accelerated pace. At least, it is in the realm of bird banding. With Earl Baysinger's promotion out of the Banding Laboratory to better things, non-game bird banders have to face the possibility that his successor may have different priorities for the use of funds allotted to the banding program.

Most importantly, as U. S. taxpayers, and secondly, as interested banding permittees, all of us would like to have our own feelings impressed on the banding program. How can we make our voice heard when we have no moneyed

lobby representing many votes, as the hunters do?

One suggested method is the use of a new bird banding journal, combining the present newsletter-type publications (such as EBBA News), and not including Bird-Banding, which is a technical journal. There would not be a merger of the various banding associations; each would retain its autonomy. This one journal could make it possible to give all banders some contact with what other banders are doing. A shockingly large number of banders do not receive any banding journal at all.

It is possible that such an enlarged publication might amplify our tiny voices to the point where Patuxent, and maybe even Washington, could at least hear what we are saying.

The Officers and Councils of the banding associations are studying this proposition.

-- Emil J. Berger, Jr., President.