

(Letter from Mrs. Knorr, Continued)

three years, I haven't sent much in for EBBA NEWS. Nevertheless, banding is still very much a part of my life!

Perhaps other banders who may not be currently active for one reason or another, could get involved the way I have.

Although I have been giving line bird programs and banding demonstrations for Scouts for many years, it wasn't until this year that the general public found out about it.

It started when I was asked to be the guest speaker at Union College, Cranford, N.J., for the dedication of the David Fables Wildlife Sanctuary. My speech that day generated a lot of favorable newspaper publicity.

The Asbury Park Press read those clippings and asked to do a feature article on me (Copy enclosed). After that article appeared in their Sunday edition I was swamped with requests to give lectures. So now I am very involved in lecturing about bird banding to Garden Clubs, Women's Clubs, D.A.R., etc.

The question and answer period that I conduct at the end of these lectures has proved to me that the general public really is interested in banding!

Last week I set up an extensive exhibit on banding as part of a two day Flower Show in Asbury Park (A number of mounted birds placed against appropriate background, bird houses, feeders, nets and much info on banding). I spoke to hundreds of visitors at the exhibit and they were all enthusiastic. Most were amazed to learn that Hawks and Owls eat rats and mice. I had a Bal Chatri trap on exhibit baited with a toy wind-up mouse. The response was amazing!....

.....Perhaps other banders could do the same in their own areas.....

(The letter goes on into greater detail, but with space at a premium, the above excerpt surely gets the message accross! I feel that the EBBA Education Committee should take this method of public relations as well as banding classes, under study, to find a way to establish satellite groups in the various outlying areas that could meet in similar educational efforts. The nearby locations are already served in this way by the banders at Island Beach State Park, Tobay Sanctuary, Fire Island Research Station, Kiptopeke Banding Station and all those that draw many visitors during the Fall banding operations. F.S.Schaeffer, Ed)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Birds which weigh too much to be measured on any single available Pesola, can often be coped with by using two (or any number of) Pesolas used in parallel (not, repeat not, in series!). Simply suspend the bird (in tube or bag) from two or more balances simultaneously; read off the weights and add them together. It is often convenient to hold the two Pesolas in different hands, and to raise or lower one hand to get an exact reading on one balance (e.g. 100 gm.), then to add to that value the reading then showing on the other balance. (From C. Thorne, Cambridge, England in BTO Ringers' Bulletin)

When we saw a tabulation in an American journal of the numbers of ringed birds in the USA and Canada, we could not keep from making a comparison:

	Number of Banders	Total individuals Banded in 1971	Total per Bander
U.S.A. + Canada	@ 2030	± 1.300.000	± 640
Netherlands	@ 290	± 200.000	± 690

Possibly our Dutch colleagues are the hardest working banders in the world, however, they've got more time to give to banding when one considers that most Dutchmen enjoy 4-5 weeks vacation per year, against the average of 2-3 weeks Americans do. Nevertheless, congratulations are in order for this dubious distinction (Data obtained from "OP HET VINKENTOUW", organ of the Dutch Bird-Ringing Centre in Arnhem, Holland).

We hear that our Kit Price (Mrs. Francis S. Price) of Island Beach Banding Station, the site of the 1973 EBBA Annual Meeting, has stepped down from the post of Director of that station as of 1 May 1973. The station's leadership will be taken up by Herman "Bud" Cooper, park naturalist at IBSP. Kit has to be complimented on a job well done, a job which is very difficult at best. She'll continue to band at IB but on a less frequent basis. Her contribution to EBBA has been invaluable. We wish Bud good luck.

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of a great bander. Alex Bergstrom, Vice President of the North-Eastern Bird Banding Association, departed from our mids on March 21, 1973. Alex was best known to all of us as Editor of Bird-Banding for 21 years during which time he also managed the sale of mistnets for the association.

While we realize that the above note has no place in "News in Brief", we received this notification shortly before bringing this issue to the printer. This was the only place left in the magazine where this item could be placed on short notice. Editor.