

## CORRESPONDENCE

## QUANTITATIVE ORNITHOLOGY

THE EDITOR OF 'THE AUK':—Bird-banders have long been aware that they were accumulating far more material data than they could possibly digest with their present facilities. It has occurred to me that much could be done by setting forth the principles of quantitative statistical analysis for such people, and also for some others who are not banders.

I am collecting and attempting to compile some of the material on field techniques of quantitative ornithology, limiting myself to the numerical aspects. I would appreciate correspondence with all individuals who may have information or ideas on the subject.—AUSTEN FOX RIGGS, II, *Lowell I-44, Cambridge, Mass.*

## NOTES AND NEWS

The American Ornithologists' Union has recently suffered the loss of Dr. Thomas Barbour and Major Allan Brooks, Fellows; Mr. Clinton G. Abbott and Frank L. Burns, Members; and Mr. Henry E. Tuttle and Allen Frost, Associates. Dr. Barbour died in Boston on January 8; Mr. Abbott, in San Diego on March 5; Major Brooks, at Courtenay, British Columbia, on January 4; Mr. Burns, at Berwyn, Pennsylvania, on February 7; Mr. Tuttle, at New Haven on March 8; and Mr. Frost, at Poughkeepsie, New York, on January 10.

Mr. Jean Delacour is in receipt of a letter from Dr. Georges Dementiev of the University of Moscow, in which it is stated that the library and collections with which Dr. Dementiev is associated are safe and in good condition. He has been on two expeditions to the Transcaspian region, one of which concerned the Karakum Desert. Of particular interest is the statement that a general work on the birds of the USSR is in preparation. This book will occupy six or seven volumes and will be similar in treatment to Witherby's 'Handbook of British Birds.' One volume is already in manuscript and will appear this year; two volumes are promised for next year.

Dr. J. J. Murray writes that: "Members of the A. O. U. will be interested in knowing that Dr. N. Tinbergen has come safely through the war. He and his family are well. The Germans closed the University of Leiden in 1940, but some work was kept up until 1942. At that time twenty professors of the University, including Tinbergen, were taken as hostages and kept in a German camp until liberated by the Canadians. He writes that Dr. Peter G. Van Tienhoven and Mr. J. Drijver, known to many of us for their conservation work in Holland, are also well."

Mr. Delacour advises that he will be pleased to transmit orders for copies of the 'Monographie des Pies-Grièches du genre *Lanius*' by Georges Olivier, reviewed in *The Auk*, 62: 645-646, Oct., 1945; price \$4.00. Mr. Delacour may be addressed at the American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York City.