

**52. Birds of France.**—(Oiseaux de France.) 1955. No. 11. 40 pp. Association pour l'Étude dans la Nature des Oiseaux de France et leur Protection. 129 Blvd. St. Germain, Paris 6, France. 100 francs. Following a concise but skilfully prepared illustrated paper on the field identification of the various woodpeckers written jointly with J. Hubert, Mr. F. Spitz features an introductory study of the various biotypes in France. He establishes eight major classifications, such as forests, marshes, man-made habitats, and lists a total of 65 minor types, together with the dominant bird-life of each. Constructive for the student is M. Deramond's article on making and recording observations on sex, food, and general behavior. Well taken is his accent on recording "positive" actions—what the bird does, and advice to omit "negative" comments—what the bird does not do. In the case of the cautious, *trained* scientist, however, some negative comments may well possess value if for no further reason than that of pointing out the need for additional study.

Mr. Julien reprints a fascinating paper on banding at the island of Ouessant, the westernmost point of France. This study appeared originally in "PENN AR BED," No. 4 (see *Bird-Banding*, 26(3): 122). While the lighthouse is the most powerful one in the world, game birds are, emphatically, not endangered. Mr. Julien elaborates on the wide range of species picked up exhausted at night and released the following day after banding. He does not mention mortality, to make a comment of the "negative" type mentioned above. In the daytime excellent trapping conditions prevail at a nearby vale and beach. Banders employ both Japanese and Italian nets. While the accent is on migrants, nesting birds are also banded. In this issue (to be completed in the next) Mr. Julien presents full information on banding records of the island for *Puffinus puffinus*, *Sula bassana*, *Alca torda*, *Vanellus vanellus*, *Limosa lapponica*, and *Scolopax rustica*.—Wendell Taber.

## NOTES AND NEWS

We are pleased to announce that the Blake leg gauge (*Bird-Banding*, 25: 11-16, January, 1954; also 76-82 of this issue) is now available commercially, in lucite plastic with an engraved scale, made by Mr. Parker Reed, of Lexington, Mass. They may be obtained from the Massachusetts Audubon Society, 155 Newbury St., Boston, Mass., at \$1.25 each, including postage within the United States and Canada.

The general note captioned "Memphis-banded Chimney Swift in Peru," in this issue, is reprinted from "Mid-South Bird Notes" (of December 9, 1955), mimeographed notes by Mr. Coffey. In general, *Bird-Banding* will not carry any paper or note which has already appeared in print elsewhere, but an occasional exception will be made for material of special interest that originally appeared in a periodical which is not widely available.

As this issue goes to the printer, in early February, our Review Editor, Dr. O. L. Austin, Jr., is still in the Antarctic. He was mentioned in the *New York Times* for having collected a Ross's Seal the day the icebreaker U.S.S. *Glacier* reached the Ross Sea, and in *Newsweek* (for January 16, 1956) for having banded some 500 penguins. We are looking forward to his return by the end of April, and therefore correspondence on reviews should once again be sent to him rather than to Dr. Farner—to whom our thanks are due for his help meanwhile.

The favorable Treasurer's report of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association for the year ending October 31, 1955, appears below. We are particularly happy at the appreciable increase in income from subscriptions and dues, and hope for a further increase this year. Help from present readers in securing new ones can be reflected quite directly in longer issues, since the cost of printing more copies is far less than the cost of the basic print order, per copy.

Longer issues also depend on the supply of papers and general notes, which, as this issue goes to the printer, is not adequate. While we know of a number of papers being prepared with a view to publication in *Bird-Banding*, the next papers which are actually finished and accepted for publication will appear in the October issue—a much shorter interval than in the past two years.

# NORTHEASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION

## INCOME STATEMENT

	Year Ending October 31	
RECEIPTS	1954	1955
Subscriptions and dues (current year) .....	\$2,068.37	\$2,288.80
Sales of back issues .....	119.68	169.33
Contributions .....	300.00	100.00
Interest .....	11.85	12.73
	\$2,499.90	\$2,570.86
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Printing of <i>Bird-Banding</i> .....	\$1,487.92	\$1,607.91
Purchases of back issues .....	59.88	87.50
Other printing and stationery .....		113.09
Postage and clerical help .....	133.91	86.75
Expense of Annual Meeting .....	28.50	
Massachusetts Conservation Council (donation) ..	10.00	
Bank charges and miscellaneous .....	10.93	7.75
	\$1,731.14	\$1,903.00
Transfer to reserve for index .....	1,136.50	
	\$2,867.64	\$1,903.00
Accumulation of income for year .....	\$(367.74)	\$ 667.86
Accumulated income at beginning of year .....	887.62	519.88
Accumulated income at end of year .....	\$ 519.88	\$1,187.74

## BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS		
Cash .....	\$2,877.71	\$3,542.52
Back issues of magazine .....	1.00	1.00
	\$2,878.71	\$3,543.52
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable .....	\$ 328.58	\$ 322.57
Subscriptions paid in advance .....	155.25	158.21
Reserve for index .....	1,500.00	1,500.00
Life membership fund .....	375.00	375.00
Accumulated income .....	519.88	1,187.74
	\$2,878.71	\$3,543.52

DANIEL P. JOHNSON  
*Treasurer*