

AUSTIN STATION SAVED

We record with great pleasure the purchase of the buildings and land (300 acres) of the world-famous O. L. Austin Ornithological Research Station (North Eastham, Mass.) by the Massachusetts Audubon Society.

Upon the death of Dr. Oliver L. Austin, Senior, in 1957 (*Bird-Banding*, 29: 71), the station formed part of the estate left to his widow. It appeared that the station would have to be sold for real estate development; however, the Society, under Allen H. Morgan, Executive Vice-President, raised enough money to buy the premises, and is now endeavoring to raise endowment. They hope to operate a multi-purpose demonstration wildlife sanctuary, with special emphasis on research.

As this issue goes to press, it is not known whether the Society can raise funds in time to have the station in full operation by the summer of 1959.

We are therefore inviting contributions to the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, for a new Research Fund. Its first objective is \$1,000, to ensure continuity in the field work with adult terns, in the 1959 season. This will cover salary and expenses of two or three men for the short season during which the adults can be trapped. The work is hard, with long hours, and volunteer efforts are not enough to cover the ground. A regular staff does, however, furnish an excellent nucleus around which the efforts of volunteers can be planned.

We think that contributions to this fund will give unusually high returns:

- (a) a high proportion of the adult terns carry bands (the AORS banded over 650,000 Common Terns), so that trapping yields data of immediate value;
- (b) the regular staff will be housed at the station, with no charge for rent;
- (c) the NEBBA has no overhead expenses to be paid out of the fund, and
- (d) we expect to hire college students who will find the work of interest professionally, and be earning part of their expenses for the coming college year.

If you would like to help, please mail your contribution *now* to NEBBA's Treasurer, Mr. Hugh E. Harlow, 47 Scotland Road, Reading, Mass., designated for this fund. Such contributions are deductible from income subject to tax.

NOTES AND NEWS

At a meeting in New York City on October 15, 1958 (in conjunction with the A.O.U. meeting), delegates of the four regional bird-banding associations voted to form a new Council of North American Bird-Banding Organizations. Its purpose is not to replace the existing associations, but to set up some simple machinery to make it easier for them to cooperate on projects and problems common to all.