

The text is exceptionally well done, both in arrangement, in coverage, and in style. The presentation is clear and fresh, the writing professionally polished. The author's researching is sound and shows a good knowledge of his subject, particularly in the birds, and he has successfully achieved a combination of the best features of the Peterson and Audubon guides, and added quite a bit of new material of his own.

The best I can say of the bird plates by Russell Francis Peterson (no kin) is that they are adequate. The birds in the color plates are stiff, wooden, and have a decoy-like aspect. The color reproduction is only fair. The color plates of the reptiles and amphibians, the fishes, and the invertebrates are far superior in every way to those of the birds.—O. L. Austin, Jr.

**65. The Bird World of the South Caspian Lowlands.** (Die Vogelwelt des Südkaspischen Tieflandes.) Ernst Schüz. 1959. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung. Stuttgart. 199pp. In the past the Caspian Sea was a wonderful refuge for water birds and a spectacular place to watch migration. After tracing the history of ornithological observation in this region, starting with Gmelin in 1770, Dr. Schüz tells of his own experiences there from February to May 1956. Most of the book is devoted to an annotated list of 327 species (210 of which nest) in the region between the south coast of the Caspian Sea and the Elburz Mountains. Ecology is discussed, as well as the migration picture, and the dangers confronting the birds, these dangers stemming almost entirely from human activities. The fall in the level of the Caspian Sea benefits only the flamingos, for they prefer shallow, very salty water. Oil on the water and the beaches takes a heavy toll, as does irresponsible killing of the birds. Dr. Schüz stresses the great and pressing need for education of the people in respect to wildlife and for the establishment of nature reserves. An interesting, thorough piece of work.—M. M. Nice.

**66. The Birds of the Saskatchewan River, Carlton to Cumberland.** C. Stuart Houston and Maurice G. Street. 1959. *Spec. Publ. No. 2, Sask. Nat. Hist. Soc.*: 1-205. This well-annotated list of a limited area in central Saskatchewan contains 259 species, plus 7 hypotheticals which appear in proper order but not in boldface. It adds Barred Owl to the Saskatchewan list and to the hypothetical list Greater Scaup, Eskimo Curlew, Little Gull, and Pine Warbler. In Nipawin alone breeding evidence is presented for 141 of the 241 species on the local list. The introductory material includes 17 pages of history and biography, 7 pages of description of the area, and 2 pages of banding summary. The AOU Check-List is followed faithfully, and binomials are used except in a few cases where subspecifically-identified specimens are cited. Each species account includes its status in each of five areas along the river, numbers of individuals recorded—concrete evidence of past and present abundance—egg dates, notes on nest material, food, habitat, and banding totals with recoveries and returns from these birds. Among the fascinating distribution items is the fact that, although the region is on Mountain Time and lies between the 101st and 104th meridians, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak are more common than their western counterparts, while Baltimore Oriole completely supplants Bullock's. Especially interesting to me were the accounts of the White Pelican, Trumpeter Swan, Canada Goose, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Whooping Crane, Forster's Tern, and Common Raven.—Thomas A. Imhof.

#### NEBBA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, 1958

The general account reflects a continuation of long issues of *Bird-Banding*, at the new, higher printing costs. Despite a further increase in income from dues and subscriptions, the operating deficit was greater than for the previous year. We expect slight reductions in the length of issues. Any reader who can persuade a friend to become a member will help us greatly in efforts to continue long issues.

The disbursement of \$265 from the Research Fund supported tern banding on Cape Cod (Massachusetts), on a small scale. For the 1960 season, we hope that a worthwhile program can be carried on with volunteer help, in June and early July. Anyone in a position to help is invited to get in touch with Dr. W. H. Drury, Jr., Drumlin Farm, So. Lincoln, Mass.

The NORS figures cover most of the second year of operation on Nantucket. The station was operated much longer than in 1958, and we plan another long season in 1960.

The net account did well again. Because of a further increase in demand for nets, these funds are just adequate to cover the needs of the business, with up to eight shipments on order at a time. Requests for information on prices and availability of nets should be directed to Mr. E. A. Bergstrom, 37 Old Brook Road, West Hartford 17, Conn. (because of a planned trip, it is likely that no shipments can be made or inquiries answered between June 20 and July 30, 1960).

This year we have included a brief summary of assets and liabilities of all the accounts. This can be misleading, as it lumps together funds for permanent or long-term projects with those for current expenses or short-term projects. However, the second subtotal under "Liabilities" does give some idea of the NEBBA's total funds, apart from such current obligations as subscriptions or nets paid in advance, accounts payable, or loans.

### NORTHEASTERN BIRD-BANDING ASSOCIATION

#### Income Statement

	Year ending	
	1958*	1959
<i>Receipts</i>		
Subscriptions and dues (current year)	\$2,578.00	\$2,798.07
Sale of back issues	36.75	84.48
Contributions	101.00	
Interest	66.95	71.86
	<u>\$2,782.70</u>	<u>\$2,954.41</u>
<i>Expenses</i>		
Printing of Bird-Banding	\$2,762.07	\$2,853.60
Mailing of Bird-Banding	237.15	339.08
Other printing, stationery, postage etc.	151.43	243.57
Massachusetts Conservation Council (donation)	10.00	10.00
North American Council of Bird-Banding Associations		20.00
Bank charges and miscellaneous	6.72	3.63
	<u>\$3,167.37</u>	<u>\$3,469.88</u>
Net Loss	\$ 384.67	\$ 515.47

#### Balance Sheet

<i>Assets</i>		
Cash	\$4,174.18	\$3,775.90
Back issues of Bird-Banding	1.00	1.00
Accounts receivable	36.00	17.25
	<u>\$4,211.18</u>	<u>\$3,794.15</u>
<i>Liabilities and Net Worth</i>		
Reserve for fourth quarter	\$ 634.31	\$ 676.75
Subscriptions paid in advance	133.50	193.25
Reserve for index fund	1,300.40	1,310.40
Reserve for research fund		5.00
Life membership fund	500.00	500.00
Net Worth	1,642.97	1,108.75
	<u>\$4,211.18</u>	<u>\$3,794.15</u>

<i>Index Fund</i>		
Reserve	\$1,450.00	\$1,300.40
Disbursements	149.60	
Contributions		10.00
	<u>\$1,300.40</u>	<u>\$1,310.40</u>

<i>Research Fund</i>		
Contributions		\$ 270.00
Disbursements		265.00
		<u>\$ 5.00</u>

<i>Life Membership Fund</i>	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	Mrs. James R. Downs, Treasurer	

\*Revised

<i>Index Fund</i>		
	1959	1958
Reserve	\$1,300.40	\$1,450.00
Contributions	10.00	
Disbursements		149.60
	<u>\$1,310.40</u>	<u>\$1,300.40</u>
Net Reserve		

<i>Life Membership Fund</i>	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
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<i>Research Fund</i>		
Received	\$ 270.00	
Disbursed		265.00
	<u>\$ 5.00</u>	
Net Reserve		

NANTUCKET ORNITHOLOGICAL RESEARCH STATION—1959

<i>Receipts</i>	
Balance forward January 1, 1959	\$2,789.61
Net Account (transmittal for insurance)	19.50
Donation	5,000.00
Savings Bank Interest	115.54
Federal Income Taxes withheld	403.16
Social Security Taxes withheld	113.96
Total	<u>\$8,441.77</u>

<i>Expenses</i>	
<i>Salaries</i>	\$4,358.33
Travel Expense	315.00
Income Taxes withheld	403.16
Social Security Taxes	222.92
Insurance	160.16
Supplies and Equipment	148.85
Bank charges	1.03
Telephone tolls	.90
Balance forward December 31, 1959	2,831.42
Total	<u>\$8,441.77</u>

John H. Conkey, Assistant Treasurer

## MIST NET ACCOUNT — 1959

*Profit and Loss Sheet*

	1958	1959
<i>Receipts (sale of nets)</i>	\$2,392.93	\$2,871.93
<i>Expenses</i>		
Cost of nets, postage, customs	2,475.52	2,323.38
Miscellaneous	86.23	82.50
Paid on loans	257.45	300.00
Total	\$2,819.20	\$2,705.88
<i>Net Operating Profit</i>	\$ 365.62	\$ 498.55

*Balance Sheet*

<i>Assets</i>		
Cash	\$ 327.87	\$ 370.81
Accounts receivable	178.61	335.92
Nets on hand (at cost to date)	633.23	215.10
Nets on order (at cost to date)	402.50	805.00
Other	7.00	10.00
Total	\$1,549.21	\$1,736.83
<i>Liabilities</i>		
Nets paid in advance	\$ 14.75	\$ 3.82
Loans	300.00	—
Reserve for customs duties	—	300.00
Reserve for contingencies	300.00	300.00
Surplus	934.46	1,133.01
Total	\$1,549.21	\$1,736.83

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

<i>Assets</i>	1958	1959
General (incl. life membership, index, research)	\$4,211.18	\$3,794.15
NORS	2,789.61	2,831.42
Net account	1,549.21	1,736.83
Total	\$8,550.00	\$8,362.40
<i>Liabilities</i>		
Paid in advance, accounts payable, loans		
General	\$ 767.81	\$ 870.00
NORS	—	—
Net account	314.75	3.82
Subtotal	\$1,082.56	\$ 873.82
<i>Other</i>		
General	\$3,443.37	\$2,924.15
NORS	2,789.61	2,831.42
Net account	1,234.46	1,733.01
Subtotal	\$7,467.44	\$7,488.58
Total	\$8,550.00	\$8,362.40