

## Requests for information

**Survey of Stonechats in Wales.**—A survey of the breeding population of the Stonechat *Saxicola torquata* in Wales is being carried out during 1968. County recorders are acting as local organisers in most areas (see list in *Brit. Birds*, 61: 191) and observers are asked to send them all records of Stonechats present in the nesting season, with details of breeding if possible, by 30th August. Further information may be obtained from the organiser, **Dr. R. G. Gibbs, Department of Agricultural Zoology, University College of North Wales, Bangor, Caernarvonshire.**

**Food of the Barn Owl in Britain.**—A recent paper by David E. Glue (*Bird Study*, 14: 169-183) discussed prey taken by Barn Owls *Tyto alba* in England and Wales. This survey is now being extended to cover the whole of Britain and, in particular, such aspects as prey taken in relation to availability, habitat and region, and the sexes and ages of the small mammals involved. Pellets, analyses of pellets or records of prey seen taken or found at nests of Barn Owls anywhere in Britain will be most welcome. Pellets (packed in polythene) and other data, with habitat, locality and date, should be sent to **David E. Glue, 17 Golden Hind Park, Dibden Purlieu, Hampshire**; postage will be refunded.

**Rehabilitation of oiled seabirds.**—It is proposed that an Avian Physiology Research Unit be set up later this year at the Department of Zoology, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, to study the problems involved in the rehabilitation of oiled seabirds. Those concerned are anxious to collect as much information as possible about the experience and opinions of people who have engaged in work of this kind. A detailed questionnaire has therefore been drawn up on species and numbers handled, success rate, time in captivity, removal of oil, re-establishment of water-proofing, medicinal treatments, mortality and causes of death, diet, behaviour, release, general management and other aspects. Copies of this questionnaire may be obtained from **R. J. Kennedy, Department of Zoology, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU.**