

citizen watchfulness, perhaps one giant step forward for environmental quality. But while implementing reasonable planning procedures on the Park and Pembina rivers, we may be dealing with projects that never would become controversial. A mechanism must be found to retract, regroup, and reorient on those projects that are both underway and underfire. Government agencies have the mandate now for citizen group interaction under PL 91-190, the National Environmental Policy Act. But unless the people force its provisions to be retroactive with respect to those controversial projects not yet built, then we Americans stand to lose a significant proportion of our quality environment before the cumbersome and ponderous bureaucracy of government can oil its joints sufficiently to get down to the level of the common man.



## Note

EARED GREBE NESTING COLONY, BURLEIGH COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA. On May 21, 1971, en route to the annual meeting of the North Dakota Natural Science Society at Walhalla, North Dakota, my wife Genevieve and I stopped to observe birds on Rice Lake, which is located about eleven miles north of Sterling in Burleigh County. In one portion of this lake we noted a nesting colony of 23 Eared Grebes (*Podiceps caspicus*).

On June 8, I again visited the area and found the colony had increased to 55 nests spaced compactly on only a small part of the lake. The total nesting site area occupied probably less than one-half of an acre, with some nests only two or three feet apart. A check of the nests revealed the following content: 3 nests, no eggs; 5 nests, 1 egg; 8 nests, 2 eggs; 22 nests, 3 eggs; 15 nests, 4 eggs; 1 nest, 5 eggs; and 1 nest, 6 eggs. Among the nests were also three broods, one with three chicks and two with two chicks each. *Birds of America* (1936, Doubleday, p. 6) lists the clutch size for Eared Grebes as 4 to 6. —William A. Buresh, 1527 N. 19th St., Bismarck, North Dakota.