

NOTES AND NEWS.

DWIGHT MEMORIAL FUND. A member of the A. O. U. who desires to remain anonymous, has given to the Union the sum of \$300 to be used in the publication of short articles in 'General Notes' on Gulls. The articles are not to exceed two pages in length, his idea being to keep Dr. Dwight's name associated with the group of birds in which he was most interested. Should the fund not be exhausted during the next ten years, the balance will revert to the general purposes of 'The Auk.'

Each of these contributions will be marked by a foot note "Published by the Dwight Memorial Fund" and we should be glad to receive at any time notes on the life history, plumage, systematic relation etc. of any species of Gull that will add to our knowledge of this interesting group of birds which formed the subject of one of Dr. Dwight's most important publications.

BIRD LOVERS will rejoice at the passage of the Norbeck-Andresen Bird Refuge Bill in the House on February 9.

The importance of this measure does not lie in the \$8,000,000 authorized for the purchase of marsh and swamp lands for migratory bird sanctuaries, but in the fact that the Government is now definitely committed to a policy of establishing a system of inviolate refuges for the persecuted wild fowl and insect-eating birds of America. The friends of Congressman August H. Andresen of Minnesota are congratulating him upon his successful handling of this important conservation measure.

This bill passed the Senate last April under the guidance of Senator Peter Norbeck of South Dakota, and until recently it reposed in the House Committee on Agriculture. It was generally regarded as hopeless to secure final action at this short session of Congress; furthermore, it was supposed that the Bureau of the Budget would not approve any new undertaking involving additional expenditures of public funds.

The passage of this bill followed one of the most intensive and best coordinated campaigns ever waged in the interest of any measure for the conservation of wild life. It is estimated that more than 200,000 supporting letters and telegrams poured into Congress from all parts of the United States during the past three weeks.

This Act provides that three Cabinet members, two Senators, and two Congressmen, and the Game Commissioner of the State concerned, shall decide on all areas of land and water to be purchased or leased by the Government as inviolate bird sanctuaries. The Department of Agriculture shall have permanent charge of such areas.

Authorization for making appropriations is as follows: \$75,000 the first year; \$200,000 the second; \$600,000 the third and \$1,000,000 annually for the next seven years, thereafter \$200,000 annually for maintenance.

By ORDER-IN-COUNCIL the Province of Ontario has made Abbey Dawn Sanctuary, near Kingston, a Crown Game Preserve taking in three hundred acres of very picturesque and diversified territory which is the site of "Abbey Dawn" where Wallace Havelock Robb, Poet of Canadian Birdland, carries on his unique activities for Canada.

MR. WILLIAM H. HOFFSTAT, 14 E. 55th Street Terrace, Kansas City, Mo., will be glad to mail to anyone who sends a self addressed stamped envelope a copy of his circular 'How to Build a Bluebird House.' He is interested solely in the welfare of birds especially the Bluebird.

✓ THE 'TEN YEAR INDEX OF THE AUK,' 1911-1920, will probably be ready for distribution within a few weeks after the appearance of this number of 'The Auk.' It forms a volume of about 340 pages and contains a detailed index by subjects and authors of the contents of the ten annual volumes. The edition is limited to 500 copies and the price is \$5.00 for cloth bound and \$4.00 for paper bound copies. Orders accompanied by remittances before July 1 will be filled at the rate of \$4.50 for cloth and \$3.50 for paper bound copies. All orders should be addressed to the Treasurer, W. L. McAtee, 200 Cedar Street, Cherrydale, Va.

THE FIRST PART of the new (fourth) edition of the A. O. U. 'Check-List' is now in the hands of the printer and while the proof will be held for some time in order to give it a wide circulation and to make the details of the ranges of the species as accurate as possible, the work should be ready for distribution by the close of the year.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Cooper Ornithological Club will be held in San Francisco and Berkeley, California, on May 17 and 18, 1929. A large attendance of California ornithologists is expected and the Committee will welcome members from the East. We earnestly hope that any eastern ornithologists contemplating a trip to the Coast will arrange to make it at this time as the personal contact of "bird men" from the two sides of the continent is always helpful and enjoyable.

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Baird Ornithological Club was held on March 21, 1929 at the residence of Dr. H. H. T. Jackson, in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Officers elected for the ensuing year were: President: Dr. Alexander Wetmore; Vice President: E. R. Kalmbach; Secretary: Frederick C. Lincoln; Councilors: Dr. C. W. Richmond and Dr. T. S. Palmer.

After a series of short notes contributed by several members, Dr. Wm. M. Mann, Director of the National Zoological Park, gave a most interesting account of the bird collections in his care, adding many experiences of his own with different species in the field. Seven hundred species have been exhibited in the National collection, and Dr. Mann dealt with the success attained in acclimating representatives of the different groups, for show purposes.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Secretary*.

THE DELAWARE VALLEY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB held its thirty-ninth annual meeting at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia on January 3, 1929, with thirty-five members present. The usual sixteen meetings were held during 1928, with field trips on Washington's Birthday, Good Friday and Memorial Day.

Officers for the ensuing year are: President: John D. Carter; Vice President: Samuel C. Palmer; Secretary: Julian K. Potter; Treasurer: Henry T. Underdown.

THE Forty-seventh Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held in Philadelphia October 22-24, 1929, with a business meeting on Monday the 21st, and a field trip to Cape May, N. J. on Friday the 25th. A visit to the Zoological Gardens will also be arranged for one of the afternoons.

The scientific sessions will be held in the lecture hall of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Logan Square (Nineteenth and the Parkway), while the business meetings and dinner will be at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, (Chestnut and Ninth Streets) which will be the headquarters.

It is none too soon for members to make arrangements so as to be free from business engagements during the week of October 21 and thus able to make the trip. Philadelphia is centrally located and a large attendance is expected which always ensures an enjoyable meeting. Those who have not hitherto attended an A. O. U. meeting are especially urged to be present. They will then realize the tremendous influence of these gatherings in stimulating ornithological work and the opportunity that they afford of making friendships and receiving inspiration.