

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE FIFTY SECOND Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, Ill., during the week beginning Oct. 22, 1934.

The arrangements for the meeting will be in charge of the Local Committee on Arrangements comprising the following members: W. H. Osgood, Chairman, A. M. Bailey, Rudyerd Boulton, H. B. Conover, C. W. G. Eifrig, S. S. Gregory, W. I. Lyon and R. M. Strong.

The Union in entering on a new half century of progress, has selected Chicago as the place in which to hold its annual meeting where its first convention in the Middle West, twelve years ago, proved highly successful. The convention this year will afford an opportunity for members in the West, who find it impracticable to come East, to take part in a meeting and we trust that many Eastern members will be able to attend. The Union hopes also to have the pleasure of welcoming many representatives of the ornithological organizations in the Mississippi Valley such as the Wilson Ornithological Club, the State societies in Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska and Tennessee, and the various Audubon Societies and bird clubs of the Central States.

It is none too soon to make plans for attending. The Century of Progress Exposition will be open and members can take advantage of the special rates provided in this connection. The Local Committee is arranging several attractive features including excursions to nearby points of interest immediately after the close of the Sessions. A cordial invitation is extended to all members of the Union and others interested in birds to attend the convention. Those who expect to contribute papers to the scientific program should send their titles to the Secretary of the Union, 1939 Biltmore St., N. W., Washington, D. C., *not later than October 1*, and should submit with each title an abstract of not more than 200 words. Further information regarding the arrangements may be obtained from the chairman of the Local Committee, Dr. W. H. Osgood, Field Museum, Chicago, Ill.

THE FOURTH annual meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology was held at Alexandria, March 9 and 10, 1934. On the afternoon of Friday, March 9, there was a program of papers by members, followed by the second annual dinner at 7 P. M. Greetings were given by Dr. T. S. Palmer, Secretary of the American Ornithologists' Union, Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. Harold C. Bryant of the National Park Service, formerly a member of the Cooper Ornithological Club, from their respective organizations, and a brief talk was given by Mrs. Leo D. Miner of the Audubon Society of the District of Columbia.

On Friday night invitation addresses were given by Dr. Harry C.

Oberholser and Arthur H. Howell, of the U. S. Biological Survey. On Saturday morning the members took a field trip along the Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway from Washington to Mt. Vernon, seeing hundreds of water-fowl along the Potomac.

All officers were re-elected as follows: Ruskin S. Freer, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, president; Chas. O. Handley, Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries, Richmond, vice-president; Dr. Florence Hague, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, Secretary; John B. Lewis, Amelia, treasurer; Dr. J. J. Murray, Lexington, editor of 'The Raven,' the monthly bulletin of the Society. Mr. M. G. Lewis of Salem and Mr. A. O. English of Norfolk were re-elected members of the Executive Committee.

At the business meeting a resolution was adopted opposing baiting of wild-fowl within 100 yards "of any blind, battery or other device from which these birds may be taken legally."—RUSKIN S. FREER.

THE NINTH Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at San Diego, Calif., on March 30 and 31, 1934. There was a large attendance and an exceedingly interesting program. The meeting was under the auspices of the San Diego Society of Natural History and Clinton G. Abbott, president of the southern Division of the Club presided. The annual dinner was held on the evening of the 31st and there was a field trip to the Coronados Islands on April 1.

THE State Legislature of New York has passed two bills extending protection to seven birds not previously on the protected list: Rough-legged, Broad-winged, Red-shouldered, Sparrow and Duck Hawks; Great Blue Heron and Bittern. The bills were drafted and sponsored by the National Association of Audubon Societies.

Why cannot Pennsylvania and other states follow this example? The continued slaughter of these birds as has been pointed out again and again is due to ignorance for which there is no excuse, yet most sportsman's organizations and even State game commissions persist in a policy which will bring a sad day of reckoning sometime in the future.

A NEW Ornithological Society has been founded in Paris known as the "Société d'Etudes Ornithologiques" which publishes as its organ 'Alauda' a quarterly journal, the last issues of which are noticed on pp. 425-426 *antea*.

Requests for information regarding the Society or its publication should be addressed to M. Henri Heim de Balsac, 34 rue Hamelin, Paris, 16°, or to M. Henri Jouard, 3 boulevard Carnot, Dijon, Côte d'Or.

ON June 12, 1934, the museum staff of the American Museum of Natural History, numbering about eighty, together with several personal friends, tendered a luncheon to Dr. Frank M. Chapman on the occasion of his seventieth birthday. It was held in the main bird hall of the museum and was a complete surprise to Dr. Chapman. Brief addresses were made by Dr. Roy Chapman Andrews, Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn and Dr.

Witmer Stone congratulating Dr. Chapman upon his services to ornithology to which he replied in happy vein recalling his first visit to the museum and various experiences during his forty-six years as a member of the staff. Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy, who was in charge of the arrangements, read a number of letters and telegrams from friends of Dr. Chapman in other cities.

THE DEANE COLLECTION.—For nearly half a century Ruthven Deane had been collecting portraits of ornithologists. In January, 1934, two months before his death, he presented this collection to the Library of Congress with the understanding that it should be fully indexed and kept accessible for use by any persons who might be interested in it. The transfer of the collection had been the subject of correspondence for about eight years but not until the beginning of the present year was the Library in a position to carry out the wishes of the donor in regard to indexing.

The collection comprises about 1800 items representing more than 1000 individuals. Most of the portraits are photographs, many of cabinet size, but there are also halftones, woodcuts, lithographs, and reproductions from magazines and newspapers. In some cases there are eight or ten portraits of the same individual made at different times.

The collection has been built up mainly on the membership of the American Ornithologists' Union. It contains a nearly complete series of portraits of the Founders, Fellows, and Members of the Union with many of the Foreign Fellows and the more prominent Associates. There are also group pictures taken at some of the meetings. To these are added pictures of some of the older ornithologists and many others who were not members of the Union, including artists, authors, collectors, explorers, taxidermists, and persons in whose honor birds have been named.

Upon receipt of the collection each picture was carefully examined, accessioned, marked on the back with the Library stamp and a serial number, and placed in an envelope of standard size. A separate envelope is provided for each person and is marked with the full name and the dates of birth and death. Mr. Deane insisted that the names should be as complete as possible and the index cards should bear enough data to identify each individual. In the matter of names this condition has been met as 98 per cent of the names are complete.

Each envelope is accompanied by an index card giving not only the full name of the individual but also the exact date and place of birth and death whenever obtainable, and a reference to a published biographical sketch if any can be found. Other information includes the official position of the individual, college degrees if any, and brief items indicating his activities. In the case of authors, the titles of one or two publications are mentioned, in the case of artists, collectors, or taxidermists the nature of their work and sometimes where it may be found. Naturally an index on such a comprehensive plan will require some time and an immense amount of research for its proper elaboration, but much progress has already been

made. Through the coöperation of the A.O.U. Committee on Biography and Bibliography, of which Mr. Deane was an active member, the data collected by the Committee have been placed at the disposal of the Library and the work of indexing has been done under the supervision of the Chairman of the Committee.

The Deane Collection is deposited in the Division of Fine Arts and arrangements have been made whereby copies of the pictures may be obtained under certain conditions at cost of photographic reproduction. Information regarding these conditions may be had on application to Dr. Leicester B. Holland, Chief of the Division of Fine Arts, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.—T. S. P.

JUST as we go to press, June 18, we have received the second volume of Peters' 'Check-List of Birds of the World,' covering the Galliformes, Gruiformes, Charadriiformes and several smaller suborders. All ornithologists dealing with systematic research have been looking forward to the appearance of this volume and will be anxious to secure it. It should be ordered from the Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass., Price \$4.00. A detailed review will appear in the October issue of 'The Auk.'