

NOTES AND NEWS

The seventieth volume of 'The Auk' is now completed, and I would like to express my gratitude to the many people whose assistance has been indispensable. The members of the Editorial Committee, and especially Dr. Berger, have read and assessed many manuscripts, read proof, and helped in many other ways. Mrs. Faith Gillespie, in addition to secretarial work, reading proof, and helping to prepare the index, has offered many valuable suggestions. I am also much indebted to Elsa Hertz for typing letters and manuscripts.

The technical aspects of Dr. Preston's valuable paper on the shapes of birds' eggs were carefully checked by Professor Robert C. F. Bartels of the Mathematics Department of the University of Michigan. Drs. Alden H. Miller, George W. Salt, and Harrison B. Tordoff have given valued advice on manuscripts, and Milton B. Trautman and William A. Lunk have redrawn several illustrations.

We are also indebted to the many members who have contributed abstracts of recent literature. Following is a list of those who assisted with this work. (Because some abstracts have appeared over the initials of the abstractor, I have included in parenthesis the initials of these persons after their names.) Dean Amadon (D. A.), Paul H. Baldwin, William H. Behle (W. H. B.), Jean Delacour, Harvey I. Fisher (H. I. F.), Herbert Friedmann, Joseph J. Hickey (J. J. H.), H. Hofer, Hildegarde Howard (H. H.), Philip S. Humphrey (P. S. H.), S. Charles Kendeigh, Ernst Mayr (E. M.), Harold D. Mitchell (H. D. M.), Margaret Morse Nice, Homer Wayne Phillips, A. L. Rand, Chandler S. Robbins, Henri Seibert, Robert W. Storer (R. W. S.), James T. Tanner (J. T. T.), Charles Vaurie, J. Dan Webster (J. D. W.), and Alexander Wetmore. I particularly want to thank Philip S. Humphrey for his work in sorting, standardizing, and assembling the abstracts for this section. The coverage of journals has not been as complete as we would like to have it. Anyone interested in contributing to this section is urged to write to the Editor.

As in former years, the Committee on Biography has been assiduous in the preparation of obituaries. Thanks largely to the efforts of Dr. A. W. Schorger (Chairman) and Dr. T. S. Palmer, we now have enough obituaries in manuscript for several issues.

Finally, I wish to thank Josselyn Van Tyne for his valuable advice in many matters concerned with the editing of this journal.

Two members donated substantial amounts of money to the publication costs of 'The Auk.' Their making possible an increase in the size of this volume will be greatly appreciated by all the members. The fact that these donations were made without restrictions of any kind is particularly gratifying to the Editor, who considers them both a compliment and an expression of confidence.

The Eleventh International Ornithological Congress will meet May 29 to June 5, 1954, in Basel, Switzerland. Excursions have been planned for both before and after the Congress. We have received a supply of brochures giving information on the Congress and the field trips and including a registration form and application to present a paper. Those interested in attending may obtain a copy of this announcement by writing the Editor (Robert W. Storer, University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan).

The International Committee for Bird Preservation will hold its Ninth International Conference at Scans, Lower Engadine, Switzerland, May 23 to 28, 1954. The program has been arranged to enable those who so wish to attend the XI International Ornithological Congress. Further information may be obtained from Richard H. Pough, The American Museum of Natural History, New York 24, N. Y.

An investigation of the relationships between certain weather elements and the nocturnal migration of birds in the eastern half of the United States is being conducted by Mr. Gilbert S. Raynor of the Meteorology Group at The Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, Long Island, New York. Observers willing to assist in this study are requested to send to Mr. Raynor any of the following data obtained during the spring or fall migrations of 1953: actual observations by sight or hearing of migratory birds passing overhead during the night, reliable observations of the arrival or departure of migratory species or individuals on a known night. The observations obtained will be correlated with the pertinent meteorological data in an effort to discover those factors having a decisive influence on migration.

In May, the Southwestern Association of Naturalists was formed "to promote the field study of plants and animals, living and fossil, in the southwestern United States and Mexico, and to aid the scientific activities of its members." At present, the geographic scope of the organization includes Mexico and the states of Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. Further information and membership blanks may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Herndon C. Dowling, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

Recent books received for review include "The California Condor" by Carl B. Koford, the western volume of Pettingill's "A Guide to Bird Finding," "Land Birds of America" by Robert Cushman Murphy and Dean Amadon, "Pheasant Breeding and Care" by Jean Delacour, and "The Birds of West and Equatorial Africa" (two volumes) by David A. Bannerman. Reviews of these works will appear in an early issue of 'The Auk.'

We have concluded an agreement with University Microfilms, authorizing the reproduction of a microfilm edition of 'The Auk.' Further information concerning this edition may be obtained by writing University Microfilms, 313 N. First Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Correction of review:

"Parental Care and Its Evolution in Birds," by S. Charles Kendeigh.

In my review of Dr. Kendeigh's important book (*Auk*, 70, No. 3, July, 1953: 377) I inexcusably cited the series erroneously. The reference should read: "Illinois Biological Monographs, 22, Nos. 1-3, x + 356 pp." The book is published, I should add, by the University of Illinois Press, Urbana, Illinois.

I offer my sincere apologies to Dr. Kendeigh and to the readers of the *Auk*.—
J. Van Tyne.

Letter to the Editor of the *Auk*

Dear Dr. Storer:

The library of the Edward Grey Institute of Field Ornithology at Oxford is now the most complete modern library on birds in Europe and is becoming increasingly used by zoology students and amateur ornithologists in Britain and by visitors from abroad. The most serious gap in the library at the present time is among the books on the birds of particular states of the U. S. A. It was therefore wondered whether readers of the *Auk* might have spare copies of some of these books which

they might care to give to the Institute. The Committee of the New York Zoological Society Program for Aid of Biological Research in Europe has given a grant to help in the purchase of such books, so that payment could be made. If anyone has such a book to offer, could they first write to Dr. David Lack, Director of the Edward Grey Institute, Botanic Garden, Oxford, to make sure that it has not already been obtained for the library.

Yours sincerely,

David Lack