

## REPORT OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE FOR 1963-64

*Van Tyne research grants.*—Ten applications were received for support of research and four awards made for a total of \$650.00, as follows: Mr. J. David Ligon, \$250.00 for a comparative study of North American species of *Dendrocopos*; Mr. John D. Newman, \$150.00 for a study of behavior in the genus *Spizella*; Mr. Jack Kammeraad, \$100.00 for a study of bird depredations in blueberry fields; Mr. Terrence N. Ingram, \$150.00 for a study of the Red-tailed Hawk in Wisconsin. A balance of \$20.00 remains in the fund to be applied to next year's awards.

*Survey of current research in ornithology.*—Information received from the Science Information Exchange Service and from a questionnaire circulated to American research workers has been collated and organized for distribution as "a partial list of research projects in ornithology currently in progress" (see *The Auk*, 82: 319-320, April 1965).

*Review papers for The Auk.*—A second review paper, "Some aspects of field ethology," solicited by the Committee, was prepared by Drs. Robert and Millicent Ficken and is under study by the Editor of *The Auk*; some further revision may be called for before it is deemed ready for publication.

*Ornithological information storage and retrieval.*—A subcommittee, chaired by Paul Baldwin, continued its study of the feasibility of organizing a special scheme for the storage and retrieval of ornithological information as a service to ornithologists everywhere. Aided by an appropriation from the A.O.U. Council, a grant from the Chapman Memorial Fund, and assistance from Biological Abstracts, Inc., visits were made to "information centers" in Pennsylvania and Rhode Island to investigate the effectiveness of established information programs and their applicability to the problems of ornithology.

As a result of their studies, the subcommittee has concluded that there are several ways to facilitate access to published ornithological information, but that this is not the time to embark on an expensive and all-inclusive effort to set up a mechanized information service. The findings resulting from this study have been incorporated in two reports: (1) a 66-page manuscript on "The Status of Ornithological Literature, 1964," prepared at the invitation of Mr. Miles Conrad of Biological Abstracts for publication in "Studies in Biological Literature and Communications," and (2) a mimeographed report with suggestions to be distributed to Council members at their annual meeting on August 30.—JOHN T. EMLÉN, Chairman, *Zoology Department, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.*