

NOTES AND NEWS

The Eighty-fourth Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union was held at Duluth, Minnesota, 5-9 September 1966. Harold F. Mayfield was elected President and John W. Aldrich, Second Vice-President. Continued in service were the following: Thomas R. Howell (becomes First Vice-President), L. Richard Mewaldt (Secretary), Burt L. Monroe, Sr. (Treasurer), Robert M. Mengel (Editor of *The Auk*), and Robert W. Storer (Editor of A.O.U. *Ornithological Monographs*). The following were elected to special classes of membership: Karel Hendrick Voous, *Corresponding Fellow*; Keith L. Dixon, Don R. Eckelberry, Amelia R. Laskey, L. Richard Mewaldt, Martin H. Moynihan, Kenneth E. Stager, *Fellows*; Richard C. Banks, James Baird, Robert I. Bowman, Jean W. Graber, Burt L. Monroe, Jr., George E. Watson, *Elective Members*; Frank A. Hartman, *Patron*.

Eugene Eisenmann accepted the Chair of the Committee on the Classification and Nomenclature of North American Birds. George A. Bartholomew received the Brewster Memorial Medal and Award. Elected to three-year terms on the Council of the A.O.U. were Harvey I. Fisher, Philip S. Humphrey, and Wesley E. Lanyon. A complete account of the meeting will appear in a subsequent issue of *The Auk*.

His many friends and admirers, here and throughout the world, will doubtless wish to applaud the wisdom of the British Ornithologists' Union in awarding, at their Annual General Meeting on 3 April 1966, their highest honor, the Godman-Salvin Medal, to Reginald Ernest Moreau. An appropriate tribute to the recipient serves as frontispiece to *The Ibis*, vol. 108, no. 3, July, 1966.

The Eastern Bird Banding Association is offering an award of \$100.00 to a junior or senior (with at least a "B" average), or to a graduate student (must major in ornithology and use banding as part of his thesis), at a United States college or university who uses banding in an ornithological study. The Association would like to publish the results, but this is not mandatory. Applicants should write to be considered, describing the project contemplated and how it relates to banding. Letters should be signed by the head of the college department concerned and arrive before **28 February 1967**. Address ALBERT SCHNITZER, CHAIRMAN, MEMORIAL AWARD COMMITTEE, 155 WILD HEDGE LANE, MOUNTAINSIDE, NEW JERSEY 07092.

As is now history, the Scottish Bird Study Cruise, Greenock to Edinburgh (16-22 July 1966), and the XIVth International Ornithological Congress, Oxford (24-30 July) were outstanding successes. Approximately 900 enthusiastic ornithologists and other admirers of birds participated in the cruise aboard M. S. "Devonia," and were rewarded with what was said to be superb weather. Birds were numerous and obliging, the highlight of the trip, to many, being the ascent to the top of the sea-bird cliffs on Noss, where numerous nesting Arctic (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) and Great (*Catharacta skua*) skuas harried the climbers en route.

The Congress at Oxford was similarly successful, if more sober in tone, an interesting sidelight being the bestowal of an honorary Oxford doctorate upon splendidly berobed Brewster Medalist Ernst Mayr on Saturday, 30 July.

The hospitality to overseas visitors was splendid at both events. Professors Lack and Tinbergen, President and Secretary-General of the Congress, respectively, and their numerous helpers, did everything humanly possible to make the event the

outstanding success that it was. In no way, however, could the efforts of mortals exceed in zeal the almost religious fervor with which the Scots, under the indomitable leadership of Dr. and Mrs. George Waterston and their staff, showered hospitality upon their charges. In case any doubt remains in the minds of these hosts, let them be sure that the frenetic scene at the night train from Edinburgh to Oxford (recalling a similar one in *Doctor Zhivago!*), the only hitch in an intricately complex schedule and not in the least their fault, did nothing to blemish the profound gratitude—amounting to awe—with which their efforts will be remembered. It must be added, finally, that according to the many who were able to attend, the meetings of the International Council for Bird Preservation at Cambridge, also held before the Congress, were worthwhile and eminently successful.

In concluding volume 83, it is the Editor's sincere pleasure to acknowledge the continued, effective, and cheerful service of the entire editorial staff and Editorial Committee (see title page and p. 298 of volume 83 for a list of personnel). Also, during the past calendar year, or earlier but previously unacknowledged, the following friends and members of the A.O.U. have rendered generous and invaluable help of various kinds: Raymond K. Anderson, Jon C. Barlow, George A. Bartholomew, Tom J. Cade, William C. Dilger, Donald S. Farner, Hildegard Howard, Joseph R. Jehl, Jr., Richard C. Lewontin, Robert H. MacArthur, Harold F. Mayfield, Ernst Mayr, Robert J. Newman, Robert A. Norris, Frank A. Pitelka, William B. Robertson, Jr., Robert K. Selander, Charles G. Sibley, Paul Slud, and H. B. Tordoff.

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

Robert Mengel has announced his intention to resign as editor of *The Auk* with the completion of Volume 84 (1967) and his fifth year in this position. In selecting his successor, we are keenly conscious that this is an assignment of the greatest importance to the Union and to science. Therefore, we are deeply concerned that no ornithologists both capable of and interested in rendering this service are overlooked while candidates are being considered.

Your suggestions will be welcome. Please permit me to point out that an editor needs good library facilities and the means of conducting extensive correspondence. Ordinarily this implies the full support of the institution to which he is attached. The editor also should have a broad knowledge of ornithology, a feeling for lucid expression, an ability to get others to help him, and particularly, he should have enthusiasm for the anonymous and often thankless task of refining the work of others for publication.

You may write me confidentially if you choose. To be most helpful, your thoughts should reach me by April 1 (no jokes, please), 1967, at the very latest.—HAROLD F. MAYFIELD.