

NOTES AND NEWS

The American Ornithologists' Union will meet 18-23 June 1968 at College (Fairbanks), Alaska, as guests of the University of Alaska and the Fairbanks Bird Club. Registration will be on the University campus in the lobby of Moore Hall from noon to 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, 18 June. Beginning at 8:15 a.m. Wednesday, 19 June, registration and information will be in the foyer at the east end of the Bunnell Building.

The first business session of the Council will be at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, 18 June in the Television Room on the main floor of Moore Hall. Fellows will meet at 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, Room 318, Duckering Building. Fellows and Elective Members will meet at 8:15 p.m. Tuesday, Room 318, Duckering Building.

Public sessions for presentation of papers will begin at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, 19 June and will conclude Friday afternoon, 21 June in the Schaible Auditorium of the Bunnell Building.

Field trips prior to and following the formal meetings are detailed in the "Circular of Information" which was mailed to the membership in February.

Chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements is Dr. Brina Kessel, Dean of the College of Biological Sciences and Renewable Resources, University of Alaska, College, Alaska 99735.

Do we have in our membership a lawyer with copyright experience who will offer his advice to the society?

The Auk has never been copyrighted. The scientific ideal of publication for free use and quotation runs counter to the restrictions that may be exercised under copyright ownership. On the other hand, failure to copyright surrenders all control, allowing others to reprint material without authorization or credit in contexts that the society and authors might not approve.

The editor will welcome legal opinions on this question.

John W. Aldrich, First Vice-President of the A.O.U., received the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor of the Department of Interior, from Secretary Stewart W. Udall on December 12, 1967. The citation emphasized Dr. Aldrich's "outstanding contributions in ecological and taxonomic research" and enumerated many contributions increasing "man's knowledge and understanding of his true role in the natural environment . . . author of technical papers . . . conservation education of the public with popular articles and lectures . . . effective servant of professional societies . . . expert testimony . . . staff advisor on research projects and broad conservation policies . . . [including] rare and endangered wildlife."

James L. Baillie, currently serving on the A.O.U. Council, has been singularly honored by the Government of Canada, which awarded him the Centennial Medal with a commendation for his "valuable service to the nation." Baillie was recommended for the citation by the Canadian Audubon Society for "his long-time encouragement of people to take up the study of natural science" and by the Canadian Museums Association for his efforts in getting Canada its first Great Auk specimen in 1965.

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy announces the appointment of Roger Tory Peterson, Past Vice-President of the A.O.U., to be the first Distinguished Scholar in Residence at Fallingwater, the famed architectural masterpiece of Frank Lloyd Wright, now a cultural and educational center in the suburbs of Pittsburgh. The appointment is an important step in the development of a long-range expansion of the con-

servation program at Fallingwater. Peterson will pursue his normal course of research, writing, and painting while in residence, and will present a series of lectures in the Pittsburgh area.

The Asa Wright Nature Center, located at an elevation of 1,200 feet in Trinidad's Northern Range, became a reality October 27 and was dedicated November 5, 1967. It consists of nearly 200 acres, partly in forest and partly in cultivation (citrus, cocoa, coffee, bananas). The latter nevertheless has the appearance of woodland because of the overstory of immortelles (*Erythrina*) and other tall trees. The oilbird (*Steatornis*) colony on the property is the most accessible one known.

The aims of the Center are: 1) the protection in perpetuity of the estate as a wildlife sanctuary and nature center, 2) the continued operation and improved efficiency of its agricultural potential in order both to stabilize habitat and to assist in making its operation self-sufficient, and 3) the continuance and development of its scientific and educational potential through full use of its facilities by amateurs, students, and professionals at the minimum practicable rates, and the use of such income entirely for improvements after costs.

Rates with meals are \$12 to \$15 per day per person. Students and those working on projects may apply for special rates. Two of the officers of the Center are on the faculty of the University of the West Indies. They plan to bring their students to the Center regularly for field work. American institutions are invited to arrange seminars on tropical biology and to facilitate field work by individual students there.

Arrangements should be made by writing *airmail* to: THE MANAGER, THE ASA WRIGHT NATURE CENTER, SPRING HILL ESTATE, ARIMA, TRINIDAD, W.I.

Your attention is directed to the paragraph appearing for the first time at the bottom of the inside front cover of this issue. The A.O.U. is indebted to the efforts of Alexander Wetmore and the generous cooperation of George Watson for providing us at long last with a permanent address, highly desirable for two reasons. First is the practical problem that with constantly changing sets of officers, misdirected letters stray to all points of the compass—the editor has recently received mail forwarded not only from Lawrence, Kansas, but from Chicago, from New York, and even from Lancaster, Pennsylvania (how far out of date can one get?)! Second is the legal aspect, in that at least one lawyer lately advised a client against making a bequest to us because we had no permanent address. It is particularly appropriate that our permanent address should be at the national center for researches and archives in natural history in this country, the Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution.

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