

## NOTES AND NEWS

The American Ornithologists' Union will meet 5-9 October 1970 in Buffalo, New York, as guests of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, the Buffalo Ornithological Society, and the Buffalo Audubon Society. The headquarters hotel will be the Statler-Hilton; scientific sessions will be held in the Buffalo Museum of Science. Chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements is Harold D. Mitchell, 238 West Royal Parkway, Williamsville, New York 14221. Program Chairman is Dr. David W. Johnston, Department of Zoology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

The regular business sessions will be preceded by a special meeting of the Fellows at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, 4 October, for discussion of changes proposed by the ad hoc Committee on By-laws. Information on the proposed amendments will be in the hands of the Fellows well before the meeting to allow ample time for their study.

*Two A.O.U. members honored.*—On 26 May 1970 Haverford College conferred an honorary ScD on **John T. Emlen, Jr.**, Life Fellow, and an honorary LLD on **Richard H. Pough**, Life Elective Member. The citations honor Emlen as a "scientist and teacher of renown and concern, tireless custodian of man's planet," and Pough as an "ecologist in all seasons, defender while there is still time of our priceless heritage from nature."

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (Op. 904, Bull. Zool. Nomencl., 26: 225-226, 1970) has ruled in favor of *Sterna caspia* Pallas, 1770 (often called *Hydroprogne caspia*) as against *Sterna tschegrava* Lepechin, 1770 (published in a paper not consistently binominal). It validated *Motacilla pleshanka* Lepechin, 1770 (now *Oenanthe pleshanka*) as against *Motacilla leucomela* Pallas, 1770, presumably on the ground of predominant current usage and support from ornithologists in the region where it mainly occurs, by exercise of the Plenary Powers.—E.E.

In my study on the systematics of the five subspecies of the White-tailed Ptarmigan, I have examined over 600 specimens in the major museums. I found the populations from Colorado, Alberta, and mainland British Columbia well represented in museums, but not the populations of Alaska, Yukon and adjacent Mackenzie District, N.W.T., Montana, Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Vancouver Island. I would be grateful to learn of specimens from these areas deposited in museums or collections that I have not previously contacted. Please submit promptly to DR. CLAIT E. BRAUN, *Game Research Center, P. O. Box 567, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521.*

*Information wanted.*—Request data on body and/or feather weights in California Quail and Ring-necked Pheasant for Ph.D. research topic. Especially want data from limited circulation or unpublished sources. Can also use similar data on other phasianid species. If possible, please list individually with date, location, sex of bird, age of bird if determinable, and name of collector. Send to CARL PHILLIPS, *Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, British Columbia, Canada.*