

NOTES—HERE AND THERE

Conducted by the **Secretary**

The Western Section of The American Association for the Advancement of Science, holds a summer meeting this year at Salt Lake City June 22-24. The program is replete with features of interest to students of nature and it is hoped that our members in that section will join forces with the Inter-Mountain Chapter of The Cooper Ornithological Club to see that ornithology is well represented. Mrs. A. O. Treganza of Salt Lake City, is Chapter Secretary of The Cooper Club.

Professor Thomas L. Hankinson of Michigan State Normal College, Ypsilanti, announces that the summer school at that institution will include a course on "The Birds of Michigan," June 20 to August 4. Many other colleges now include such courses in their summer schools.

The Indiana Audubon Society held its twenty-fourth annual meeting May 12 and 13 at Indianapolis, in coöperation with The Nature Study Club of Indiana. A fine program had been arranged, which included motion pictures of bird-life and several interesting field types. Mr. Frank C. Evans of Crawfordsville, is Secretary.

Professor Dayton Stoner of the Department of Zoölogy, University of Iowa, is one of a party of six from that university which sailed from Vancouver, B. C., on May 14 for the Fiji Islands and New Zealand. A zoölogical reconnaissance of Viti Levu, Fiji Islands and of North Island, New Zealand, will occupy the time of the members of the party during the entire summer. Professor and Mrs. Stoner will devote their efforts mainly to the birds and insects.

There has been considerable activity in the past few years in the sale of second-hand books on ornithology and other branches of natural history. The writer receives catalogs and lists quite frequently from no less than half a dozen dealers who specialize in literature along these lines and will be glad to furnish the addresses to any members who may be interested.

Hawk and Owl Clubs are in vogue in several of our states, sponsored, we are told, by several of the ammunition companies. In the state of Virginia the detrimental results are being felt in the heavy damage to fruit trees occasioned by gnawing of the roots by a largely increased rodent population. The Biological Survey is authority for the statement that a million dollars would not cover the loss there during the past few years and that in the vicinity of Winchester alone at least \$250,000 worth of apple trees have been killed. Wilson Club members should be prepared to combat the organization or perpetuation of such clubs in their respective states.

Dr. Lynds Jones, our Editor, will take his usual transcontinental ecology trip this year, beginning June 23, and ending August 4 at Newport Beach on the Pacific Coast. Dr. Jones knows well the trail ere this and we can only wish him even greater success than in former years.

The Tennessee Ornithological Society gave an ornithological exhibit in the Art Hall of the Nashville Carnegie Library throughout the month of April. Its purpose was to illustrate the work being done by the Audubon Societies and to educate the public to the attractiveness of bird study as a recreation. A comprehensive exhibit included many hundreds of mounted birds, skins, nests, eggs, books, pictures and bird boxes. The T. O. S. is now closing its seventh year.

Approximately 15,000 binoculars and field glasses were recently sold at retail, by the Government at attractive prices, through The Ordnance Salvage Board, Frankford Arsenal, Philadelphia, Pa. Notice of future sales, if any, will be given in this column if the information can be gotten in time.

The Biological Survey is experimenting with the use of poison gasses, developed during the war, for exterminating noxious birds and rodents. Large roosts of English Sparrows exist in and about every city; the writer knows of one extensive hawthorn thicket, in the outskirts of his home town, which is used nightly, throughout the winter, by perhaps half a million sparrows, grackles and cowbirds. Marsh roosts of western blackbirds, prairie dog towns and fields infested with spermophiles are among the possibilities for this method of control.

The Secretary has just returned from a trip which comprised sixteen interesting days in the Cumberland Mountains and on the upper Cumberland River, in Tennessee. Active field work enabled him to record observations of considerable interest as well as to add some choice specimens to his collection. Incidentally, the trip is his alibi for the brevity of these notes.