

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE next annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union will convene in Philadelphia, the week of November 14, 1921. It is important that all members should make a note of the date at once so that preparations may be made to be present. If the matter is ignored until after the summer vacation the time is all too short and many find themselves unable to make arrangements for the trip.

There are hundreds of members who have never attended a meeting and who therefore do not know what they have missed. Why not make this meeting a memorable one in point of attendance? An A. O. U. meeting is always an inspiration and the greater the attendance the greater is the mutual benefit.

An innovation planned for this year is to have the program issued in advance, but this, while of the greatest benefit to all, can only be accomplished by prompt action on the part of those who have communications to make. Many already have papers in view and they will facilitate the arrangements if they will inform the Secretary, Dr. T. S. Palmer, 1939 Biltmore Street, Washington, D. C., of the titles of their papers and the length of time necessary for delivery, at the earliest possible moment. No paper should require more than forty-five minutes for delivery and as much less as possible; furthermore an actual test should be made so that the speaker may be sure to finish within the allotted time.

The committee of arrangements appointed by the President consists of George Spencer Morris, William L. Baily, and George H. Stuart, 3rd, together with the Secretary and President of the A. O. U. ex-officio. An additional local committee representing the Ornithological Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club has also been appointed to cooperate with the above, including: J. Fletcher Street, Dr. Spencer Trotter, James A. G. Rehn, Dr. William E. Hughes, Wharton Huber, and Samuel Scoville, Jr. Further details of the arrangements will appear in later issues of 'The Auk'; the thing to do now is to make arrangements to be present in November.

STEWARDSON BROWN, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1895, died at his residence in Germantown, Philadelphia, on March 14, 1921, in the fifty-fourth year of his age. Mr. Brown, who was unmarried, was born in Germantown on April 29, 1867, the son of the late Amos P. Brown and Frances Brown, and one of a family of nine. One of his brothers was the late Amos P. Brown, Jr., well known as a geologist and mineralogist, who held the chair of Geology in the University of Pennsylvania.

Stewardson Brown was educated in the Germantown Academy and was employed for some years in the offices of the Lehigh Valley Railroad.

His main interest had, however, always been in natural history, and in 1891 he joined the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, where he at once became active in the botanical department, and in 1900 accepted an assistant curatorship, in charge of the herbarium, which he retained until the time of his death. He was largely responsible for the organization of the Philadelphia Botanical Club, which he served for many years as Secretary, and later as President, being also editor of the Club's journal, "Bartonia." He was lecturer on botany on the staff of the Ludwick Institute and was Professor of Botany in the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, member of the Torrey Botanical Club, the Botanical Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was author of 'The Alpine Flora of the Canadian Rockies' and (in association with Ida A. Kellar) of 'A Handbook of the Flora of Philadelphia and Vicinity,' as well as of several minor publications. Mr. Brown's interest in ornithology was only second to that in botany. From 1883 to 1889 he was closely associated with the writer in keeping a record of the migration of birds at Germantown for the U. S. Department of Agriculture and in making a local collection of bird skins. He joined the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club in 1891 and was prominent in all of its activities, serving as Treasurer, Vice President and President. Mr. Brown carried on an extended study of the flora of the Middle States and also made trips in the interests of the Academy's herbarium to British Columbia, the Florida Keys, Bermuda, Jamaica, Porto Rico and Venezuela. While these expeditions were mainly devoted to botany he never failed to bring back much valuable ornithological data as well. He was always deeply interested in horticulture and during the last years of his life, when impaired health made field work impossible, he derived great pleasure from this pursuit and in the study of the birds which came to his garden.

Mr. Brown was associated with many activities in Germantown, where his entire life had been spent, and was a vestryman of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. He was of an exceptionally cheerful and generous disposition and made close friends of all who came in contact with him.—
WITMER STONE.

JOHN BURROUGHS died on March 29, near Kingsville, Ohio, on the train on which he was returning home from California, where he had been ill for the past six weeks. While not a technical ornithologist and at no time, we believe, a member of the American Ornithologists' Union, Mr. Burroughs held a prominent place in the development of American ornithology. His field was rather the interpretation of nature and his name is naturally associated with those of Thoreau and Bradford Torrey. Mr. Burroughs combined remarkable powers of observation with absolute accuracy and his writings possessed a charm that required no exaggeration or spectacular effort to heighten their power. It would be

impossible to estimate the number of persons who have been drawn, through his works, to an appreciation of nature and to enter the field of ornithology which would otherwise have remained closed to them.

John Burroughs was born at Roxbury, New York, close to the Catskill Mountains, on April 3, 1837, where he developed his love for nature, but showed no early evidence of the literary ability. In 1863 he went to Washington, D. C., and for some years filled a clerical position in the Treasury Department of the Government. It was at this time that he wrote his first book, 'Wake Robin.'

Later, in 1878, he established himself in a rural home on the Hudson River, just above Poughkeepsie, where most of his life was spent—either in the house itself or the little cabin "Slabsides," which he constructed in the woods not far away, where many of his admirers have visited him. Mr. Burroughs was a friend of Walt Whitman, Theodore Roosevelt, and John Muir, and with the last he collaborated in 'A Study of Our National Parks.'

Some of his other more important writings are 'Winter Sunshine,' 'Locusts and Wild Honey,' 'Fresh Fields,' 'Indoor Studies,' 'Birds and Poets,' 'Signs and Seasons,' 'The Light of Day,' 'Literary Values,' and 'Ways of Nature.'—W. S.

DR. ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, formerly of the Brooklyn Museum, has been appointed Associate Curator of Marine Birds in the American Museum of Natural History, and will devote himself to a study of the rich collections of Neotropical and Subantarctic water birds which the Museum possesses.

MR. WHARTON HUBER, who spent the greater part of last year collecting in New Mexico in the interests of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, has been appointed Assistant Curator of Birds in the Museum of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

MR. ALFRED M. BAILEY, formerly of the Museum at New Orleans, and later connected with the U. S. Biological Survey, has been appointed Curator of Birds at the Denver Museum and is about to leave for a trip to Alaska in the interests of the Museum.

PAUL KOLLIBAY, a well known Ornithologist of Neisse, Germany, died in November, 1919. He had a notable collection of birds and made extensive exchanges with museums and collectors in all parts of the world.

COMPLETE SETS OF 'THE AUK.'—Since the publication of the list of complete sets of 'The Auk' in the number for April, 1920, pp. 348-352, several sets have been transferred, a few have been completed, and others have been reported. As a result of these changes the number of complete sets now known has been increased from 154 to 175. Only nine of the additions are in public libraries and the number of those in the West and

South has been increased by three in California, and one each in South Carolina, Florida and Oklahoma, while Canada has gained two. The volumes missing in the sets in the libraries of Adelbert College, Cleveland and Columbia University, New York, have been supplied and these sets are now complete. Four transfers have been reported, including the Brewster set now in the library of the Charleston Museum, the Henshaw set transferred from Washington, D. C., to Norman, Okla., where it is now in the library of Mrs. M. M. Nice; the Osgood set now in the possession of H. B. Conover, Chicago; and the H. H. Bailey set erroneously credited to the Public Library at Newport News, Va., which has been moved to Miami, Fla. During the past year two owners of sets, Walter Faxon and John H. Flanagan, have died.

The additions to the list are as follows:

CALIFORNIA

Emerson, W. O., Haywards (one volume incomplete) Ingersoll, A. M., San Diego.
Hoffman, Ralph, Carpinteria.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Smith, H. M., Washington.

ILLINOIS

Field Museum, Chicago. University of Chicago.

MARYLAND

Jackson, R. W., Cambridge.

MASSACHUSETTS

Mass. Audubon Society, Boston. Kennard, F. H., Newton Centre.
Estate of Walter Faxon, Lexington. Townsend, C. W., Boston.

MICHIGAN

Grand Rapids Public Library. Barrows, W. B., East Lansing.

NEW YORK

Crosby, M. S., Rhinebeck. Woodruff, Lewis B., New York.

CANADA

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. De Lury, R. E. Ottawa (one volume incomplete).

ENGLAND

Zoological Museum, Tring.

FRANCE

Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

SCOTLAND

Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

SWEDEN

Royal Swedish Academy of Science, Stockholm.

As might naturally be expected the sets are distributed very unevenly. The District of Columbia has 24, Massachusetts 23, New York 22, Cali-

ifornia 16, Illinois 11, 21 other states have less than 10 each, the Philippine Islands 1, Canada 11, Great Britain 6, and France and Sweden 1 each—total 175.

T. S. PALMER

Washington, D. C.

A MANUAL OF THE BIRDS OF AUSTRALIA.—Messrs. H. F. & G. Witherby will publish immediately Volume I of the above work edited by Gregory M. Mathews, (Author of "The Birds of Australia") and Tom Iredale. It will be very fully illustrated with coloured and monochrome plates. It is expected to form four volumes of about 300 pages each. Price £3. 3s. per volume.

IN the last report of Mr. Samuel Henshaw, director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, he states that on July 31, 1920, the collection of birds contained representatives of 2204 of the 2647 genera of recent birds listed in Sharpe's 'Handlist,' and we are informed that the number has been considerably increased since then.