

NOTES AND NEWS.

Prof. Herman Schalow and Honorary Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, and Honorary President of the German Ornithological Society, died on the night of December 9, 1925, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. A notice of his life and work will appear later.

THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS will be held at Copenhagen, Denmark May 24-26, 1926. The President of the Congress is Dr. Ernst Hartert who has worked hard to form a new International Ornithological Committee of 106 members representing thirty-five countries in all parts of the world. The Executive Committee, consists of representatives of six countries as follows: America, Jonathan Dwight and Alexander Wetmore; Denmark, E. Lehn Schiöler and C. Wesenburg-Lund; Germany, E. Stresemann and Herman Grote; France, A. Menegaux and Heim d'Balsac; Great Britain, W. L. Sclater and H. F. Witherby; and Sweden, A. Lönnberg and Nils Gyldenstolpe. The Secretary is P. Bovien, 4, 6 Uraniavej, Copenhagen, Denmark, with whom all those who contemplate attending the congress should communicate. There will be five sections of the Congress before which communications will be made: I, Systematic Ornithology; II, Anatomy, Physiology, Heredity and Evolution; III, Biology, including Ecology and Bird Migration; IV, Oölogy, Nidification; V, Bird Protection and Aviculture.

THE BUREAU OF BIOLOGICAL SURVEY of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has made a count of the Whistling Swans wintering on Chesapeake Bay, Back Bay, Va., and Currituck Sound, N. C., in which spots practically all of the Swans of eastern North America are congregated in the winter. The total count was 14,567 of which 6,920 were on Chesapeake Bay. The ten year closed season terminates in December, 1926, but the birds will continue to be protected unless regulations are promulgated by the President allowing an open season. During the past ten years the birds have undoubtedly become much tamer and bolder in the presence of man, but there are no data upon which their increase or decrease can be estimated.

DR. AND MRS. A. W. ANTHONY of New York have deeded twenty-six additional acres to the Thornerag Reservation of the Stanton Bird Club at Lewistown, Me. making possible the conservation of a wild tract in the center of what will soon be an industrial city.

THE RESEARCH WORK carried on by Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin at Hillcrest Farm, Gates Mills (near Cleveland), Ohio, has been organized under the name "The Baldwin Bird Research Laboratory."

Mr. S. Charles Kendeigh of Oberlin, Ohio, who was assistant to Mr. Baldwin last season, will return to the work for this season. Mr. Rudyerd Boulton will come from the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, and will be at Hillcrest Farm after April 15 for the season.

Mr. T. Walter Weisman who made the movie film, "The House Wren," with Mr. Baldwin last season, will probably be at Hillcrest Farm a part of this season.

Ornithologists who can visit Cleveland this summer will find a cordial welcome from Mr. Baldwin and his assistants, if they visit the Research Laboratory.

THE RIDGWAY MEMORIAL.—As already announced in the last number of 'The Auk,' the American Ornithologists' Union, in cooperation with the Cooper Ornithological Club and the Wilson Ornithological Club, is actively forwarding plans for a suitable memorial to the work and services of Robert Ridgway, the dean of American ornithologists. This memorial will, it is proposed, take the form of a sanctuary for birds and other wild life. A tract of land comprising eighteen acres, situated near Mr. Ridgway's home at Olney, in southern Illinois, and named by him "Bird Haven" on account of its attractiveness to bird life, is admirably adapted to this purpose. Its varied topography of little hills, ravines, streams, woods, and open grasslands accounts for its remarkably large number of different trees, bushes, and flowering herbaceous plants, and for its variety of bird life. Nearly 150 species of birds have been recorded from this area.

Mr. Ridgway has offered to donate this property for a wild life sanctuary if a fund sufficient for its maintenance can be obtained. This is therefore an unusual opportunity to save this area for the preservation of birds and plants, and at the same time to erect a fitting memorial to America's great bird lover.

In pursuance of the desire of the American Ornithologists' Union, as expressed through a unanimous vote at its last meeting, a committee has been appointed to raise a fund of \$35,000 to carry out this project.

This committee consists of Dr. Harry C. Oberholser, of the United States Biological Survey, Washington, D. C., chairman, representing the A. O. U.; and Mr. Percival B. Coffin, 39 South La Salle Street, Chicago, representing the Wilson Ornithological Club. The Cooper Club's representative will be announced later.

All bird lovers and all persons and organizations interested in conservation are urged to cooperate in raising the fund necessary to establish the *Bird Haven Wild Life Refuge*.

Remittances should be made to the "Ridgway Memorial Fund," and may be sent to any member of the committee above mentioned, or to the First National Bank, Olney, Illinois, which is acting as trustee.

IN REPLY to inquiries regarding the entry into Canada of members from the United States to attend the annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union, to be held in Ottawa, October next. We are informed by Mr. F. C. Blair, Acting Deputy Minister of Immigration that "There will be no difficulty at all in delegates temporarily entering this country for that purpose. They do not require passports or other documents. Any Immigration official on the Border will give every consideration to delegates entering Canada."

We trust that a large number of the ornithologists of the United States will begin at once to make such arrangements as may be necessary to ensure their presence in Ottawa in October. There should be a fully representative gathering at the first Canadian meeting.

DR. A. K. FISHER celebrated his seventieth birthday on March 21, 1926, and twenty-six of his scientific friends and associates gathered at the Naturalists' Field Club house on Plummer Island above Washington to offer congratulations.

There was a shad bake and owing to the fine spring-like weather the table was set out of doors, where numerous birds joined the party, feeding upon the suet suspended from the branches of the trees over the heads of the diners.

Dr. George Bird Grinnell, of New York, Dr. John C. Phillips of Wenham, Mass., Mr. J. Fletcher Street and Dr. Witmer Stone of Philadelphia and most of the Washington ornithologists made up the party.

OWING to lack of funds, the list of members which usually appears in the April issue has been omitted.

Americans who are expected to attend the Congress include: Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Dr. and Mrs. Frank M. Chapman, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Cushman Murphy and Mr. Ludlow Griscom, all of New York; Dr. C. E. Hellmayr of Chicago; Dr. John C. Phillips of Wenham, Mass., and James H. Fleming of Toronto, Ont.