

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE COMMITTEE in charge of the Toronto Meeting of the A. O. U. October 21-24, 1935, has its plans practically completed.

Headquarters will be at the Royal York Hotel which connects directly by tunnel with the Union Station where all trains arrive. Single rooms \$3 per day, double rooms \$5. Accommodations at cheaper rates may be had at the adjacent Walker House.

The meetings will be held at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Special buses (10 ct. fare) will leave the hotel at 9 and 9:15 A. M. and return at 5:15 and 5:30 P. M. Luncheon (65 cts.) served daily at "Diana Sweets" Restaurant adjacent to the Museum.

Informal reception on Tuesday evening at the Museum. Annual dinner (\$2.00) at the Hotel on Wednesday. There will be a field day on Friday at Hamilton where the wild fowl on Hamilton Bay may be studied. Further details to be had from Mr. L. L. Snyder, Secy., Royal Ontario Museum.

With so much information furnished at such an early date it behooves all members of the Union to make their arrangements to be present at the meeting at once, so that no complications will arise at the last minute to prevent them from making the trip.

ON APRIL 26, in commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the birth of John James Audubon, the Library of Congress placed a special collection of Auduboniana on exhibition in the Rare Book Room. This exhibit intended to illustrate the naturalist's principal works, occupied two large tables to accommodate the elephant folios of the 'Birds' and 'Quadrupeds' and two table cases. One of these cases contained the various editions of the 'Ornithological Biography,' the 'Birds of America' and the 'Quadrupeds'; the other, the journals, biographies, published letters, principal portraits and a special map prepared by Frank Bond showing Audubon's travels and the important places associated with his work. Examples were shown of the four editions of the 'Ornithological Biography,' the first and last octavo editions of the 'Birds of America,' and two or three editions of the biography by Mrs. Horace St. John. This collection which remained on exhibition for a month afforded an unusual opportunity of comparing the various editions of Audubon's works and brought to light several bibliographic details which apparently have thus far escaped notice.

IN CONNECTION with the Deane Collection of Portraits in the Library of Congress, Frank Bond and the Secretary of the Union are preparing an index of the principal bird artists. This list contains as far as possible the full name, date of birth, and address of each living artist, and the names, dates of birth and death, and reference to a published biography of those who are deceased. In each case references are given to one or two works in which the artists' work has appeared. The index is world wide in scope and already includes about 400 individuals.

THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB held a most successful tenth annual meeting at the University of California in Berkeley, May 24-26, 1935. Twenty papers were presented. There was an inspection of the collections in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology on the afternoon of May 24; the annual dinner on the evening of the 25th and an all day field trip to Marin County on the 26th.

TWO ADMIRABLE "Teaching Units" by Ellsworth D. Lumley have recently been issued by the Emergency Conservation Committee on "Eagles" and "Fish-eating Birds," in which the unjust attacks on these species by gunners, fishermen and others are fairly met and refuted. Prof. F. H. Herrick has prepared the foreword for the first and Mr. W. L. McAtee for the second.

Copies may be had from the Committee, 734 Lexington Ave., New York City, at 10 cts. each; 12 for \$1.00; 100 for \$7.50. Copies of these pamphlets should be in all school libraries.

THE DELAWARE VALLEY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB held its forty-fifth annual meeting on the evening of January 3, 1935. Officers elected for the current year were President, Julian K. Potter; Vice President, Arthur C. Emlen; Treasurer, Henry T. Underdown and Secretary, John A. Gillespie. Two of the founders were present, William L. Baily and Witmer Stone.

The continued activities of members of the Club who have moved away from Philadelphia are interesting. Herbert L. Coggins became a president of the Cooper Ornithological Club; the late Chreswell J. Hunt, a vice-president of the Chicago Ornithological Club; Robert T. Moore, an active collector of Neotropical birds, with many trips and publications to his credit, resident at Pasadena, Calif.; the late H. L. Graham, active in the California Audubon Society work; David Harrower, doing excellent work at Woodmere Academy, Long Island, in stimulating ornithological interests in the students; Edw. L. Caum, resident in Honolulu where he has published papers on Hawaiian birds; A. E. Clattenburg, studying birds at Athens, Greece, in spare time from embassy work; Stuart T. Danforth, our authority on the birds of Puerto Rico; R. T. Young, professor in the University of North Dakota, formerly with the Biological Survey, where T. D. Burleigh is now an active staff member; Dr. Max M. Peet, reviving his bird work at the Ann Arbor Museum after a long surgical career; while C. H. Rogers is the ornithologist at the Princeton museum, E. L. Poole at that in Reading, Pa. and J. T. Emlen in various field work for state conservation activities. Richard Harlow, now football coach at Harvard, has been discovering rare nests during vacations from athletic duties.

THE WEST CHESTER (PA.) BIRD CLUB held its 20th anniversary meeting on June 8, 1935, with a large attendance of members and visitors. A history of the Club was read by the Secretary, who was introduced by the President, Isaac G. Roberts. An illustrated lecture was delivered by Arthur H. Hadley on 'Bird Life on the Gulf Coast' and Dr. Witmer Stone, an honorary member, made a few remarks on recent ornithological publications.

THE EARLY publication is announced of 'The Birds of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts' by Aaron C. Bagg (Holyoke, Mass.) and Samuel A. Eliot, Jr. Pre-publication price \$3.25. Publication to begin after 500 copies have been subscribed for.

THE VOLUME of plates illustrating Dr. Roberts' 'Birds of Minnesota,' has been selected by the American Institute of Graphic Arts for its fifth annual exhibit of American Book Illustration.

FROM NUMEROUS comments that come to us we find that we are not alone in deploring the change in make-up of two notable journals that come to us for review. 'Natural History' has so far departed from its former dignified appearance that it too closely approaches the cheaper magazines of fiction that one sees on the news

stands. While its text matter remains of a very high order, the practise of massing pictures of all sorts and sizes on a single page, not a few of them extending over the edge of the paper, and with display captions, recalls the newspaper picture sheet and is liable to give the casual observer the idea that the articles are of the same sort. Such a magazine surely does not have to compete with these cheap publications and we can see no reason for this make-up except the modern craze "to be different."

'Bird-Lore' too, we are sorry to see is beginning to show the same policy. It, however, has adopted another, quite indefensible, practise of printing advertisements on the back of the first and last leaves of the text so that one cannot have the journal bound without including these "eye-sores" in the volume. This, we trust, is simply an oversight.

As to the constant change in the cover design, another practise borrowed from the popular journals, there may be much said on both sides. Mr. Peterson's beautiful drawings on the 'Bird-Lore' covers are very attractive, but how much more attractive they would be as white-paper frontispieces, and as but few persons bind in the covers, the drawings will usually be lost in the bound sets.

Somehow we like the conservative cover of 'The Ibis' depicting the self same Ibis that was put there in the time of Salvin, Godman, Newton and the elder Sclater and we like to recall Dr. Chapman's plea, in connection with his 'In Memoriam' remarks on Louis Agassiz Fuertes, that the A. O. U. retain Fuertes' Auk on the cover of its journal for all time as a sort of memorial to the artist.

By changing its cover design, too, a journal to some extent loses its identity and we cannot recognize it off hand as of yore. We do not have to look twice to pick out the 'National Geographic' while in dignity of text and illustration it leaves little to be desired.

'THE AUK' is once more indebted to Mr. Robert Thomas Moore for a beautiful color plate, illustrating, this time, the remarkable new species of Jay which he describes on p. 274.

IN A RECENT pamphlet published by the Biological Survey the value of food habit research in the economic study and administration of wild life is set forth in a most convincing way with extracts from publications or original letters from all over the country from those actively engaged in the work. This sort of research carried on since the foundation of the Bureau and from 1916 to 1934 under the able direction of Mr. W. L. McAtee has given us a wealth of reliable information which is accepted as authoritative by all economists, and used as the basis for protection and control.