

NOTES AND NEWS

SNOWY OWL MIGRATION

SOUTHERN Canada and New England are experiencing a migration of Snowy Owls this year. The large number of records thus far received, especially from Maine, seems to indicate that it may rival the great invasion of 1926-27. It is desirable to record these cyclic invasions but to do so requires a great number of widely separated reports to determine the extent and range of the migration. Your cooperation is earnestly solicited. Taxidermy shops usually are a source of information concerning owls that would not otherwise be reported. Please send records of the owls seen or killed to ALFRED O. GROSS, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, who is compiling the records of this migration.

A GENEROUS GIFT

'THE AUK' extends its thanks to Dr. George Miksch Sutton, for having raised funds to cover the cost of the colored plate in this issue. Under present conditions the Council of the A. O. U. has voted not to publish colored plates unless these are donated, since the expense is prohibitive.

TEN-YEAR INDEX TO 'THE AUK'

THE Ten-year Index to 'The Auk' for the years 1931-40 has been prepared by Mr. George Willett. It is hoped that publication may proceed at once so that the volume may be ready by spring. See notice by the Treasurer on advertising pages. The work has been carefully and thoroughly done and affords a ready means of finding all matter published in the journal during that period concerning many species of birds.

THE FUTURE OF THE A. O. U.

IN the fifty-nine years since its founding in 1883, the American Ornithologists' Union has stood in the forefront among scientific organizations of this country. By its action and encouragement the scientific study of birds has been actively furthered, their economic value emphasized and their protection developed. The Union has published its quarterly journal 'The Auk' throughout this period for the diffusion of knowledge in ornithology, has prepared and published 'Check-lists' of the birds north of Mexico and has constantly striven to promote the scientific and popular interest in birds that has proved so effective for human benefit. Its modest income is still too small to serve these interests adequately. An endowment fund of at least \$50,000 should be raised to carry on its work. These needs are briefly set forth in a modest brochure mailed in December to all members of the Union. Subscriptions or bequests are urgently asked of all who are able to make them for this purpose, that we may commence building up an adequate endowment for future work.—G. M. ALLEN.