

## NOTES AND NEWS

The Old World Cattle Egret (*Ardeola ibis*) has recently been recorded in several of the eastern states; we plan to publish the first North American specimen record in the next issue. This invasion appears to have come from northern South America where the species has been established for over twenty years. Here, we have an almost unrivaled opportunity to study the spread of a species on a new continent, a natural experiment which may provide answers to many questions. The more obvious ones are: How far will it go? How fast will it spread? Will it compete with the native birds? And what will be its food and habitat preferences in its new environment? Of even greater significance, however, are such biological questions as: Are clutch-size and nest-success greater when the species is rapidly expanding its range than when it reaches an equilibrium with its environment? What is the effect of the size of a colony on nest-success and on habits in general? And to what extent do these birds wander naturally, and how might this be connected with their remarkable spread?

Now is the time to lay the ground-work for an intensive study of these problems. We hope that a small group of energetic people will organize such a study soon. The job will not be easy: the project must be planned with great care, many groups should be circularized, and large amounts of data must be collected, evaluated, and synthesized. But the results should be of great importance.

The views of the editor on this project are not entirely altruistic. If, as we expect, this species will spread through a large section of North America, we will be deluged with notes describing its first occurrence in each region of each state to which it spreads, and we do not like turning down manuscripts. The publication of such isolated notes is, relatively speaking, of little significance. How much better it would be to utilize space in this journal for a comprehensive report. Certainly the ornithologists working fifty years from now will thank the organizers of a cooperative project which will accomplish this. We hope that we can announce the inception of such a project in an early issue of the Auk.—R. W. S.

## SEVENTY-FIRST STATED MEETING

The Seventy-first Stated Meeting will be held in Los Angeles from Wednesday October 21 through Sunday October 25, 1953, at the invitation of the Los Angeles County Museum. Dr. Jean Delacour is Chairman of the Local Committee on Arrangements which includes the following other officers: Kenneth E. Stager, Secretary; C. V. Duff, Treasurer; J. R. Pemberton, Finance Chairman; Ed N. Harrison, Field Trip Chairman; and Vernon Barrett, Entertainment Chairman.

Attention is called to the fact that the meeting has been scheduled to begin on Wednesday and conclude on Sunday. This has been done to encourage attendance of members who cannot get away during the week. Under the present plan, business meetings will be held on Wednesday; papers sessions will occupy Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; the field trip will probably be scheduled for Sunday. If members can come for just the weekend they will be able to attend one day of papers sessions, the field trip, and the banquet (which should be on Saturday night if last year's plan is followed).

Members are urged to begin making their plans now not only for attending the meeting, but also for the presentation of papers and motion pictures. The deadline for receipt of papers has been too late in recent years to permit any careful planning of the program. We are planning to set the deadline earlier this year and also send out the announcements well ahead of the deadline. It is hoped that those who are

planning to attend the meeting and will be leaving for field work by the end of June will submit their papers before then, or advise the Secretary of their plans.—ALBERT WOLFSON.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS FOR 1953 SELECTED BY THE  
A.O.U. COMMITTEE ON STUDENT MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Stuart Allen Altmann, University of California at Los Angeles  
Joseph Thexton Armstrong, Jr., Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota  
Mary Edith Barraclough, Montana State University, Missoula  
Marjorie Ann Briggs, University of Florida, Gainesville  
Philip Serna Callahan, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
Ronald L. Church, San Jose State College, California  
Robert Verity Clem, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut  
Frances Rowe Crews, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge  
Norman Roger French, University of Utah, Salt Lake City  
Alan George Gordon, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton  
Lloyd Burrows Keith, University of Alberta, Edmonton  
Eugene Allen LeFebvre, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis  
Edward Palmer Lincoln, University of Arizona, Tucson  
Raymond Lewis Linder, University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
Eugene Albert Lyons, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah  
William Joseph Maher, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Aubrey Steven Messenger, North Carolina State College, Raleigh  
James H. Oliver, Jr., Florida State University, Tallahassee  
Edward B. Reed, Colorado A. and M. College, Fort Collins  
David Caldwell Townsend, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge  
Olof Charles Wallmo, A. and M. College of Texas, College Station  
William Richardson Whitmore, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Donald Dean Williams, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

The name of Phillips B. Street was inadvertently omitted from the list of members of the Union's 1952 Committee on the Nomination of Associates (Auk, 70: 94).

About 160 members and guests attended the 75th annual meeting and dinner of the Linnaean Society of New York on March 10, 1953. John Kieran was master of ceremonies. He introduced, in turn, Beecher Bowdish, Roger Tory Peterson, James P. Chapin, and Ludlow Griscom, all of whom spoke, in a reminiscent vein, of the Linnaean Society of yesterday and today. John Bull, Jr. was elected president of the Society for the ensuing year.

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