

## NOTES AND NEWS

Under the Bylaws amendments adopted at Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1975 the A.O.U. will elect a President, a President-elect (both for two-year terms) and a Vice-president (one-year term) at the meeting of Fellows and Elective Members, Monday 9 August 1976. Fellows and Elective Members may nominate candidates for these three offices (Fellows only are eligible) and for four Elective Councilors (Fellows and Elective Members are eligible; three for three-year terms and one for one year to fill a vacancy) by writing to the Secretary by **1 August 1976**. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the meeting. Past Presidents are *ex officio* life members of the Council.

**North American Wading Bird Conference.**—The National Audubon Society and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are sponsoring a conference on wading birds (herons, egrets, ibises, storks, spoonbills) in North America. The conference is scheduled for 14–17 October 1976 at the Mills Hyatt House in Charleston, S.C. Four general sessions will concern the broad topics of: Behavior, Conservation and Management, Populations and Surveys, and Ecology. Each session will contain several invited papers, followed by submitted papers in the appropriate fields. A series of workshops is also planned. It is further expected that a “Working Group on Wading Birds” will be organized to facilitate information exchanges and further studies on wading birds. For further information write: RESEARCH DEPARTMENT, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, 115 Indian Mound Trail, Tavernier, Florida 33070, or DON WOODARD, National Coastal Ecosystems Team, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Space Technical Laboratories, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi 39520.

**XVII International Ornithological Congress.**—At the XVI International Congress in Canberra the International Ornithological Committee accepted the invitation of the deutsche Ornithologen-Gesellschaft to hold the XVII Congress in Germany. It elected Professor Donald S. Farner (Seattle) as president of the Congress. In consultation with the President the German members of the International Ornithological Committee decided to hold the Congress in the Kongresshalle in Berlin (West) 4–11 June 1978; Mr. Rolf Nöhring of the Berlin Zoological Garden was designated as Secretary-General.

For the first time, the Scientific Program Committee is an international one. Its members are Immelmann (Bielefeld) Chairman, Berthold (Möggingen), Bock (New York), Dorst (Paris), Gwinner (Erling-Andechs), Ilyichev (Moscow), Snow (Tring) and Wiltshko (Frankfurt/Main)!

Five plenary sessions are planned. There will be about 30 *symposia* arranged in four parallel sessions. *Contributed papers* will be presented as *poster papers* for which the Kongresshalle has excellent facilities. Instructions for preparations of materials for poster papers will be available later. Time and space for *round-table* discussions will be assigned to appropriate individuals or groups, on application to the Secretary-General. The themes and structures of these discussions are prerogatives of the organizers or organizing groups in consultation with the Chairman of the Scientific Program Committee. These themes as well as those of the poster papers will be announced in the program of the Congress. An extensive film program is being

arranged by a committee chaired by Georg Ruppell (Erlangen). All-day and evening sessions are projected together for "replays" of those that prove to be most popular.

Excursions, no longer restricted to the inviting country, but leading to several European countries, will precede and follow the Congress. Details will be included in the *second announcement*, which will be available for mailing in August 1976. It will contain forms for preliminary registration for the Congress and excursions.

Those interested in participating in the Congress are urged to inform the Secretariate as early as possible in order to obtain the second announcement and communications concerning the Congress. Communications should be addressed to the *Secretary-General* ROLF NÖHRING, *Zoologischer Garten, Hardenbergplatz 8, 1 Berlin 30, Germany*.

The Smithsonian Institution has had translated from Polish and published in paperback *The range expansion of animals and its causes* (as demonstrated by 28 presently spreading species from Europe) by Eugeniusz Nowak. It was originally published under the title, "O rozprzestrzenianiu się zwierząt i jego przyczynach—na przykładzie 28 współcześnie rozprzestrzeniających się gatunków z terenu Europy" in *Zeszyty Naukowe*, No. 3, 1971. Pp. 1–255. The work covers 7 mammals, 8 birds, 8 insects, 3 crustaceans, and 2 mollusks and includes 388 references. Copies are available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22151 at \$6.75 domestic and \$9.25 foreign. Cite publication no. TT 74-54005. A limited number of free copies are available from the Smithsonian Institution. Send a sturdy preaddressed envelope at least  $10 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches to Translation Officer, Smithsonian Institution Library, Washington, D.C. 20560. For U.S. addresses please place 30 cents postage on the envelope; foreign requests will be mailed post free.

**The Florida State Museum** has established in the last two years a very active new **Bioacoustic Archive and Laboratory**. The tape recording collection holds several thousand specimens of the voices of birds, with emphasis on the northern Neotropics but with sizeable holdings from South America and the United States. Dr. John William Hardy, who curates the collection, encourages workers in the field to deposit their original recordings or copies thereof in the archive, especially if specimens of the recordings have not been deposited in a permanent collection elsewhere. Subject to restrictions agreed to by the worker donating the tapes and the Museum, the voice specimens can thus be made available to other qualified investigators, much as are other museum specimens, and can be cited in publications by catalog numbers. The laboratory can provide copying and analysis facilities as well as replacement tapes in return for donation of voice specimens. For further information write J. W. HARDY, *Florida State Museum, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611*.

**The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology** announces the opening of a **sound analysis laboratory** funded by the National Science Foundation. The laboratory will emphasize research on geographic variation in vocalizations of birds in conjunction with studies of morphological variation. The facility will be available for use by qualified investigators engaged in studies of this type. Address inquiries to DR. MERCEDES S. FOSTER, *Curatorial Associate in Ornithology, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*.

The National Audubon Society and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology have organized the **Colonial Bird Register** to facilitate the collection and dissemination of information concerning the location and productivity of colonies of birds in wetlands throughout North and Central America and the Caribbean. Individuals and agencies working with colonially nesting species are asked to contribute to the success of the Register by completing and submitting field survey forms detailing the location of colonies, their sizes, species composition, habitat, disturbance factors, and other information.

**Sandhill Crane data.**—Lawrence H. Walkinshaw has deposited a copy of his field notes on Sandhill Cranes in the southeastern United States and Cuba in the Archbold Biological Station Library. These field notes mainly relate to Florida during 1966–1974 but also cover Mississippi, Georgia, and Cuba during 1938–1974. The crane data include nesting season and habitat, nest site and construction, adult behavior at the nest, eggs, young, nest success, and local movements. Also included are some census data for other birds occurring in Sandhill Crane habitat in Florida, Mississippi, and Cuba. For further information write: LIBRARIAN, Archbold Biological Station, Rt. 2 Box 180, Lake Placid, FL 33852.

**Shorebird color-marking.**—In 1976 the Canadian Wildlife Service will again be carrying out extensive banding and color-marking of shorebirds in James Bay. Last year a highly successful program resulted in over 70 reports of color-marked birds in eastern North America and South America from among c. 4000 banded in southern James Bay. Much valuable information on migration routes is being obtained and observers are again asked to look out for and report any color-dyed or color-banded shorebirds that they may see. Reports should include details of species, place, date, color-marks and, if possible, notes on the numbers of other shorebirds present. For color-dyed birds, please record the color and parts of the bird that were dyed. For color bands and standard metal leg bands, please record which leg the bands were on, the colors involved, and the relative position of the bands if more than one was on a leg (e.g. right leg, blue over metal, etc.). All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to DR. R. I. G. MORRISON, *Canadian Wildlife Service*, 2721 Highway 31 Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0H3.

**Color-marked Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers.**—In 1976 and 1977 the Surinam Forest Service plans to color-band large numbers of Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers along the Surinam coast, northeastern South America. The objective of this study is to obtain more information about the origin of the birds visiting Surinam and about their migration routes to and from this country. All birds will be banded *above* the tarsus (“knee”) with one standard aluminum U.S.F. & W.S. band and two *orange* color bands of about the same size as the aluminum band. Should you see any of these birds, please write to ARIE L. SPAANS, *Surinam Forest Service*, P. O. Box 436, Paramaribo, Surinam, South America, mentioning species, place and date of sighting, the position of the aluminum and color bands (left or right, and if more than one band is on a leg, which band is above and which below), and number of color-banded birds involved.

**Attention recordists.**—The committee on collections of the American Ornithologists' Union is commencing a survey of collections in North America of tape recordings of avian vocalizations and sounds. The committee will be grateful for the help of all recordists, professional and amateur, who have or are curators of such collections. Both research and nonresearch collections are of interest to the committee. To participate in the survey, write: AOU COMMITTEE ON COLLECTIONS, 159 Sapsucker Woods Rd., Ithaca, New York 14853.

**A plea for information** on the age and sex of clearly identified Gyrfalcons is needed. Please send data, dates, and general locations to JOSEPH B. PLATT, *Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853.*

On behalf of the A.O.U. the editor thanks the following 203 colleagues who helped him by refereeing manuscripts during 1975: D. Ainley, R. M. Allison, D. Amadon, P. L. Ames, J. Baird, W. W. Baker, R. P. Balda, R. C. Banks, G. A. Bartholomew, Jr., T. S. Baskett, F. C. Bellrose, Jr., A. J. Berger, D. D. Berger, C. H. Blake, C. E. Bock, W. Bock, J. Bond, S. F. Bongiorno, R. P. Breitenbach, P. Brodkorb, J. L. Brown, A. H. Brush, P. A. Buckley, G. Bump, J. Burger, R. Butler, T. J. Cade, W. A. Calder, Jr., R. J. Clark, M. H. Clench, M. L. Cody, N. E. Collias, C. T. Collins, F. G. Cooch, D. E. Davis, W. R. Dawson, E. Deevey, J. C. Dickinson, W. C. Dilger, J. J. Dinsmore, K. L. Dixon, J. L. Dusi, M. I. Dyer, E. Eisenmann, J. T. Emlen, Jr., S. T. Emlen, M. J. Erpino, A. J. Erskine, R. M. Fagen, J. B. Falls, D. S. Farner, H. I. Fisher, S. D. Fretwell, H. Friedmann, A. S. Gaunt, S. A. Gauthreaux, F. B. Gill, W. E. Godfrey, W. R. Goforth, P. Goldman, C. H. Greenewalt, D. Griffin, G. W. Gullion, J. P. Hailman, F. N. Hamerstrom, Jr., H. C. Hanson, J. W. Hardy, B. A. Harrington, J. Hatch, D. W. Hayne, D. S. Heintzelman, C. W. Helms, C. J. Henny, F. Heppner, C. M. Herman, J. J. Hickey, E. O. Höhn, H. Howard, T. R. Howell, J. T. Hussell, T. A. Imhof, L. Irving, J. A. Jackson, F. C. James, J. R. Jehl, Jr., D. A. Jenni, P. A. Johnsgard, N. K. Johnson, R. F. Johnston, M. P. Kahl, Jr., H. W. Kale, II, W. T. Keeton, S. C. Kendeigh, C. B. Kepler, L. F. Kiff, L. Kilham, J. R. King, D. G. Kleiman, J. R. Koplin, J. C. Kricher, R. L. Kroodsmas, J. A. Kushlan, W. E. Lanyon, C. Leck, R. E. Le Resche, J. Lien, D. J. Ligon, K. C. Lint, G. H. Lowery, Jr., J. P. Ludwig, R. E. MacMillen, P. R. Marler, H. F. Mayfield, D. S. McGeen, J. McIntyre, D. F. McKinney, M. K. McNicholl, W. McVaugh, H. L. Mendall, M. A. Mengel, L. R. Mewaldt, R. Meyer de Schauensee, T. C. Moermond, D. H. Morse, M. L. Morton, H. C. Miller, B. G. Murray, I. C. T. Nisbet, V. Nolan, Jr., F. Nottebohm, E. P. Odum, J. C. Ogden, R. D. Ohmart, G. H. Orians, O. Owre, R. S. Palmer, K. C. Parkes, D. B. Peakall, R. L. Penney, O. S. Pettingill, E. F. Potter, D. M. Power, K. W. Wade, F. W. Preston, R. J. Raikow, A. L. Rand, D. W. Rice, W. J. Richardson, R. E. Ricklefs, S. D. Ripley, II, J. D. Rising, C. S. Robbins, R. J. Robertson, W. B. Robertson, Jr., S. I. Rothstein, S. M. Russell, R. A. Ryder, G. W. Salt, K. Schmidt-Nielsen, R. W. Schreiber, W. G. Sheldon, A. F. Skutch, W. J. L. Sladen, P. Slud, J. N. Smith, S. M. Smith, D. E. Snyder, H. Snyder, N. Snyder, W. E. Southern, W. R. Spofford, II, A. Sprunt, IV, K. E. Stager, P. A. Stewart, F. G. Stiles, A. W. Stokes, R. W. Storer, G. M. Sutton, J. T. Tanner, J. L. Tate, Jr., R. L. Thompson, W. L. Thompson, E. J. Tramer, M. A. T aylor, L. M. Tuck, J. Verner, F. Vuilleumier, G. E. Watson, M. W. Weller, C. Welty, G. C. West, C. M. White, R. H. Wiley, L. E. Williams, Jr., F. S. L. Williamson, E. O. Willis, M. Willson, D. B. Wingate, L. L. Wolf, R. G. Wolk, R. C. Wood, G. E. Woolfenden, and R. L. Zusi.

**NSF/AOU Workshop on a National Plan for Ornithology.**—The National Science Foundation is supporting a 2-year project, sponsored by the American Ornithologists' Union, entitled "A Workshop on a National Plan for Ornithology." The Workshop, financially administered by Washington State University and coordinated by James R. King and Walter J. Bock, will include 25 participants from throughout the United States and Canada. Its purpose is to inventory the resources, both intellectual and physical, of North American ornithology, to identify current strengths and weaknesses, and to recommend guidelines for its future development and support. The first conference session of the Workshop will convene at the 94th Stated Meeting of the AOU at Philadelphia in August 1976. This will be followed by two meetings of each of the six Workshop Panels (The Role of the Ornithological Societies and the Amateur Ornithologist; Ornithological Education; Communications Resources; Special Data Banks; and Obtaining and Using Birds), and will conclude with a final conference meeting to integrate and summarize the results in a report to the National Science Foundation and the ornithological community at large. Part of the Workshop inventory will consist of a questionnaire to be circulated as widely as possible among North American ornithologists. The success of the Workshop will be furthered greatly by thoughtful and thorough responses from professionals and amateurs alike. An important objective of the Workshop will be to assess the role of amateur ornithologists, who are an important but too little used scientific resource.

The Workshop plan was originated by the AOU, but it is to be hoped that it will be regarded as a joint effort of all of the ornithological societies and of the ornithological community at large. It represents a unique opportunity for introspection, critical assessment, and identification of future directions.

**AUK editorial policies.**—Each paper received is normally submitted for evaluation to reviewers competent in its particular discipline, and is assigned a priority date when judged acceptable by the reviewers and the editor. Articles are generally published by date of acceptance, with occasional exceptions for timeliness or expedience. Articles are published without charge up to 12 printed pages, above which authors are assessed for each page at actual cost, currently \$55 per page.

At present we are able to finance and aim to publish about 900 pages annually. With our growing backlog, the time lag from acceptance to appearance in *Auk* is now running 13 to 18 months. Authors willing to pay full page costs will have their articles printed in the next available issue after the article's routine editorial processing and acceptance. Such subsidized papers are added to our 900-page quota, and do not delay the appearance of unsubsidized papers.

To allow adequate time for (1) typesetting, (2) author's checking of galleys, (3) paging, (4) final checking of page proof, and (5) printing, binding, and mailing, all copy normally goes to the printer at least 3½ months before the month of issue. "Notes and News" should be in the editor's hands at least 4 months before desired appearance. While sometimes a short, important notice may be inserted up to the time an issue is put to bed, usually 6 weeks before publication, longer and low priority copy cannot be given such consideration.—Ed.