

of Reproduction," Skutch points to a dozen observations that cannot be explained adequately by the hypothesis as it is now formulated. How poorly we understand nature! And how little we shall learn unless we accept nature as her own best teacher. Without doubt, Alexander Skutch has been one of her most astute pupils.—ROBERT E. RICKLEFS.

#### NOTES AND NEWS

**The Colonial Waterbird Group**, organized during the Wading Bird Conference at Charleston, South Carolina last October 1976, will hold its first annual meeting on 21–23 October 1977, at Northern Illinois University, in DeKalb. The conference will include paper sessions, subgroup meetings (surveys, conservation, etc.) and an important business session. Any person wishing to present a paper on an aspect of research or management of pelicans, cormorants, herons, ibises, gulls, terns, alcids, or other colonial waterbirds should submit a single page abstract no later than **15 August 1977** to the *National Audubon Research Department, 115 Indian Mound Trail, Tavernier, FL 33070*. Additional information on the conference will appear in the midsummer CWG newsletter, or may be obtained by writing the above address.

The Board of Directors of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary takes pleasure in announcing an annual award of \$250 for support of raptor research. **The Hawk Mountain Research Award** will be granted annually to a student engaged in research on raptors (Falconiformes). To apply, students should submit a description of their research program, a curriculum vitae, and two letters of recommendation by October 31, 1977 to: MR. ALEX NAGY, *Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, Route 2, Kempton, Pennsylvania 19529*.

A final decision will be made by the Board of Directors in February 1978. Only students enrolled in a degree-granting institution are eligible. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to apply. Projects will be judged competitively on the basis of their potential contribution to improved understanding of raptor biology and their ultimate relevance to conservation of North American hawk populations.

**The Josselyn Van Tyne Memorial Fund** should contain several hundred dollars for research grants in 1978. Applications will be welcomed for the study of any aspect of avian biology, especially from persons without other sources of funds. Applicants should send four copies of the following: (1) a 3–5 page description of research goals and procedures, (2) an itemized budget, with a justification of major items and the total amount requested, and (3) a brief résumé of academic/ornithological experience. In addition, all applicants should request two or three letters of recommendation from recognized ornithologists, to be sent directly by the writers. All application materials, including letters, must be received before 1 March 1978. Send all materials to DR. M. F. WILLSON, CHAIRMAN, *A.O.U. Committee on Research Awards, Vivarium Building, University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois 61820*.

**The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature** has recently published the following opinions: No. 1068—The family group name LEPTOSOMATIDAE in Aves is suppressed because of homonymy in Nematoda and is replaced by LEPTOSOMIDAE Blyth, 1838. (Bull. Zool. Nom. vol. 33 (3 & 4) p. 159.) No. 1069—For the family group name THRAUPIDAE author and date on the Official List are corrected to Cabanis, 1847. (Bull. Zool. Nom. vol. 33 (3 & 4) p. 162.) No. 1070—The specific name *Archaeopteryx lithographica* von Meyer, 1861, is to be given precedence over *crassipes* von Meyer, 1857, as published in the binomen *Pterodactylus crassipes*, by any zoologists who believe the specific names apply to the same taxon. (Bull. Zool. Nom. vol. 33 (3 & 4) p. 165.)

The required six months' notice is given of the possible use of plenary powers by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in connection with the following name listed by case number: (see Bull. Zool. Nom. Vol. 33 (3 & 4) 31 March 1977). No. Z.N.(S.) 2117—*Cotyle* Boie, 1826 (Aves, HIRUNDINIDAE): request for suppression.