

## EDITORIAL

We would welcome a much larger number of contributions to the General Notes section of the *Bulletin*. These notes provide items of especial interest to a wide variety of readers and often contain, page for page, more contribution to ornithology than major articles. However, contrary to the first impressions of many intending contributors, a really good note requires careful thought and accurate writing. Usually several versions are necessary before even the most experienced writer attains an accurate, concise statement of all of the pertinent facts and the justifiable conclusions. As to subject matter, our readers are least interested in records of unusual seasonal or geographical occurrence; reports on habits and other life history matters are much preferred and commonly have more scientific value.

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Many of our members are now in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps, or are doing civilian war-work in regions strange to them. The revised membership list published in this issue will enable them to locate fellow Wilson Club members who live nearby and can direct them to the best places for bird study. In these strenuous times there are more frequent address changes than usual, but your Secretary and Editor will gladly furnish members with the latest such information on any region. On behalf of the British Ornithologists' Club, N. B. Kinnear of the British Museum of Natural History (Cromwell Road, London, S. W. 7) has generously offered similar help to any of our members stationed in that country.

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We are indebted for editorial assistance during 1942 to W. J. Breckenridge, Pierce Brodtkorb, Frederick M. Gaige, Helen T. Gaige, Grace Orton, Roger T. Peterson, George M. Sutton, Ruth D. Turner, Frank N. Wilson.

## ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

The Sixtieth Annual Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union was held at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, October 12 to 16, 1942. Officers elected for the new year were as follows: *President*, James L. Peters; *Vice Presidents*, George Willett, and Hoyes Lloyd; *Secretary*, Lawrence E. Hicks; *Treasurer*, J. Fletcher Street; *Editor*, John T. Zimmer. Arthur A. Allen, Rudolphe M. de Schauensee, Robert C. Murphy, and Rudyerd Boulton were elected new members of the Council; Clarence Cottam, Rudolphe M. de Schauensee, and Harrison F. Lewis were elected Fellows; Earle R. Greene, Harry W. Hann, Robert C. Miller, Earle L. Poole, and S. Dillon Ripley were elected new Members. The 1943 meeting, if conditions permit, will be held in New York City in October.

Claude H. B. Grant, editor of *The Ibis*, announces the election of David Lack to the new post of Biological Assistant Editor. With the year 1943, the grouping of annual volumes of *The Ibis* into six-volume series will be discontinued, and the one for that year will be designated as volume 85.

The 1942 Walker Prize in Natural History was awarded by the Boston Society of Natural History to Frank Bene of Springfield, New Jersey, for a paper on hummingbird behavior.

William W. Griffin recently resigned as editor of *The Oriole*, quarterly publication of the Georgia Ornithological Society, to join the Marines. In September he was commissioned second lieutenant. The new editor of *The Oriole* is Robert Norris of Tifton, Georgia.

Richard L. Weaver has been called to the University of New Hampshire at Durham as Extension Specialist in Conservation and Associate Professor of Biology.

William F. Rapp, Jr. (130 Washington Avenue, Chatham, N.J.) is making a study of the occurrence of the Swallow-tailed Kite in the northeastern states (Pennsylvania, Delaware, and northeastward). He requests information on all records and especially on the present location of specimens.

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REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Your Committee offers the following nominations for officers of the Wilson Ornithological Club for 1943:

President: George Miksch Sutton

First Vice-President: S. Charles Kendeigh

Second Vice-President: Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr.

Secretary: Maurice G. Brooks

Treasurer: Milton B. Trautman

Councillors: Burt L. Monroe, Eugene P. Odum, Lawrence H. Walkinshaw.

Since the usual Annual Meeting has been cancelled because of war conditions, balloting must be by mail. Therefore this committee report is being published in the December *Wilson Bulletin* and members are requested to mail their votes promptly to the Secretary. In addition to the slate offered above, all Active and Sustaining Members are eligible for office in the Club. Any such name may be written on members' ballots, if preferred, in place of names from your committee's slate.

HERBERT L. STODDARD

JESSE M. SHAVER

MARGARET M. NICE, *Chairman*

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To the Editor of The Wilson Bulletin:

Though the author-catalog of the "Bibliography of Birds" was published about three years ago (*Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser.*, 25, parts 1 and 2, 1939), there has been unavoidable delay in the publication of the third and much larger volume, which consists mainly of subject- and finding-indices. Galley proof for subjects as far as "migrations" in the subject index was received over a year ago, also 110 pages of page proof, which include subjects as far as "connective tissue." Occasional requests have been received for information contained in these indices, and I am sympathetic with these efforts.

The finding-index cannot be finally arranged until all of the page proof has been produced. However, all of the items have been written, and they have been sorted for those subjects covered by the page proof received. As a topic may occur in many parts of the subject-index, the finding-index is essential. It is, therefore, not feasible to attempt to locate at this time all of the references dealing with a topic. However, many can be located.

I cannot take the time necessary to search through the manuscript of the subject-index or through the many thousands of slips which bear the finding-index items. However, I am willing to employ and direct a student to do what is feasible in collecting references to topics which may interest correspondents. Such service can probably be obtained for 50 cents an hour, and it should ordinarily not take more than a few hours to do what is feasible on any single topic. This expense would be charged to the correspondent. Care would be taken to avoid impracticable searching. My memory of the location of items would of course help.

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