

EDITORIAL

We are sorry to learn that, because of the pressure of other work, Milton Trautman will give up the Treasurership of the Club at the end of 1945. We are all much indebted to him, for the job is a difficult and very time-consuming one. The financial position of the Club is now better than it has ever been before, and much of the credit for this happy situation should go to the Treasurer, who has worked at his job so devotedly for the past three years.

Reuben M. Strong has very generously given the Club his back file of *The Wilson Bulletin* to be sold for the benefit of the Endowment Fund. We are also happy to report that Dr. Strong has given the Club Library his complete set of that very rare periodical, *The Curlew*, predecessor of *The Wilson Bulletin*. It was published in seven numbers from October 1888 to April 1889, and it contains the only contemporary record of the founding of our organization. The December 1888 issue records the founding of the "Wilson Chapter of the Agassiz Association" at Fall River, Massachusetts, on December 3 and publishes its constitution. *The Curlew* was designated the official organ. The officers were J. B. Richards, of Fall River, President, and Lynds Jones, of Grinnell, Iowa, Secretary. It is interesting to read in that first publication the plan that "our principal work will be on the nesting habits" of birds. The next issue of *The Curlew* contains more detailed plans and instructions to the members, closing with these words of sound and mature advice from the youthful Secretary: "Make no notes from memory, but jot them down in your notebook at the time they occur. Do not give general terms, such as 'late in March' or 'early in May,' but give the exact date"

The Editor is always glad to answer letters of inquiry from Club members about the books, reprints, and periodicals in the Club's Library. Members who have the *Bulletins* published during the last three years will find the books in the Library listed there in three installments (September issues for 1943, 1944, 1945), and an indication of the Club's principal holdings of pamphlets was published in September 1943, but meanwhile a great many gifts have been received.

We are grateful to the many people who have helped us edit the 1945 *Bulletin*. Special mention should be made of the assistance received from Maurice Brooks, Ludlow Griscom, J. J. Hickey, Margaret B. Hickey, Harrison F. Lewis, Harold Mayfield, Ernst Mayr, Olin S. Pettingill, Jr., Frank A. Pitelka, George M. Sutton, and Milton B. Trautman.

As predicted by Alfred Gross (*Maine Audubon Bulletin*, 1, 1945:80), another of the periodic flights of Snowy Owls is invading the northeastern states this winter. A committee will prepare a report on this flight similar to the report on the flight of 1941 (*Wilson Bulletin*, 55, 1943:8-10). The cooperation of Wilson Club members is requested. The committee will need to know the locality, inclusive dates, and numbers of owls seen. New England records should be sent to Alfred Gross (Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine) and Michigan records to C. T. Black (Game Division, Conservation Department, Lansing, Michigan). L. L. Snyder (Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto 5, Ontario) will handle Ontario records and will forward records from other states and provinces to the respective representatives who are to be appointed later.