

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

As we reported in the September *Bulletin*, Roger Peterson found that the scheduling of a trip which he is committed to lead will make it impossible for him to attend the Carbondale, Ill., meeting to be held during 2-5 May 1968. Thus, Dr. Peterson will be unable to serve as Chairman of the symposium on the preparation of state bird books, whose organization he was so enthusiastically planning. We shall miss him.

Nevertheless, the symposium will go on as planned. And all of us will be delighted to know that an excellent man, Chandler S. Robbins, has agreed to serve as Chairman of this important feature of the Carbondale meeting. Mr. Robbins' qualifications for this assignment need no elucidation among North American bird students. I will mention one point of particular relevance: the fact that Mr. Robbins is a co-author of the highly esteemed "Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia."

While we have referred to the proposed discussion of state bird books as a "symposium," I learned during a conversation with Mr. Robbins that it may not be such in the usual, formal sense. Rather, he may organize a panel discussion in which the participants will express their opinions on various aspects of state bird books which are of special interest both to the authors who write them and to the rest of us who read and use them.

What this means is that, to a greater degree than is usually the case, all of us can contribute to the success of the symposium, or panel discussion, by suggesting to Mr. Robbins the particular aspects of state bird books which we should like to see discussed. What do you look for, in particular, in such a book? What should be the emphases of future books of a state, provincial, regional, or national nature?

This is to urge, therefore, that, between now and next May, members send in suggested topics for discussion, about state bird books, to: Mr. Chandler S. Robbins, Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel, Maryland 20810.

Here is a unique opportunity for each of us to make a contribution towards the success of an annual meeting of our Society.

AARON M. BACC

LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES RESEARCH GRANTS

These grants, established in 1947, are devoted to the encouragement and stimulation of young ornithologists. One particular desire is the development of research interests among amateur ornithologists. Any kind of ornithological research may be aided. Recipients of grants need not be associated with academic organizations. Each proposal is considered primarily on the basis of possible contributions to ornithological knowledge.

An anonymous donor gave \$500 to found the fund; later donors have provided additional money. The Council of the Wilson Ornithological Society has added funds as necessary to provide at least one \$100 grant annually. Two grants were made in 1966 and again in 1967.

Although grantees are not required to publish their studies in *The Wilson Bulletin*, it is hoped that they will submit their manuscripts to the Editor of the *Bulletin* for consideration.

Since its inception, the Fuertes Research Grant has been awarded to 24 persons, many of whom have continued their research work.

Application forms may be obtained from Harrison B. Tordoff, Museum of Zoology, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Completed applications must be received by 1 March 1968.