

the articles are not of immediate interest and comprehensibility. I have consistently maintained in Council discussions that the W.O.S. cannot cater to this group. There is a "Birding" magazine for people who are interested in nothing more than that. The serious amateur should expect to use *The Wilson Bulletin* as a means of *learning* what is going on in the study of birds outside of his or her own immediate interest. To that end, the Editor and the editorial board are mandated to see to it that all papers published in *The Wilson Bulletin* are well written and readable without diminishing in any way their scientific merit.

KENNETH C. PARKES

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## ORNITHOLOGICAL NEWS

The A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature has recently published *The Thirty-second Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds* (*Auk*, 90:411-419, 1973). Beginning with the December issue the names of birds used in papers in *The Bulletin* should conform to this new list.

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Members will notice the long list of Resolutions voted at the Annual Meeting. This shows an encouraging awareness on the part of the membership in current conservation problems. As mentioned earlier on this page (85:88, 1973) all too often this opportunity for the Society to take a stand is lost. It is hoped that even more problems will come to the attention of the Committee on Resolutions in 1974.

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The frontispiece to this issue shows, and a paper in the "General Notes" section discusses an exotic form which has apparently become established in some parts of the East. It seems likely that most people at inland locations or otherwise distant from the places involved have little idea of the magnitude of the imported bird industry in this country, and of the number of exotic species that, at least temporarily, have established themselves. The December issue will feature a three-part invited symposium on the exotic avifauna of three key areas in the United States.

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Olin Sewall Pettingill, Jr. has retired as director of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, being succeeded by Douglas A. Lancaster. Our understanding is that retirement will mean little change in former President Pettingill's active schedule.

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A recent study carried out by Joseph J. Hickey, President of the A.O.U. has shown that the membership in the three major American Ornithological Societies has remained constant for a number of years. In the face of increasing population, and increasing interest in nature in general and birds in particular such a result is difficult to understand. At the recent meeting the members of the Executive Council resisted the temptation to raise dues in the face of rising costs, but all agreed that one way out of this dilemma was an increased membership. It would seem reasonable that almost every member of the Society would know at least one person whom he might nominate for membership in the Society, and so it is earnestly hoped that all members will make use of the nomination forms enclosed in the front of this issue of *The Bulletin*.