

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.
Circular Letter No. 6

July 15, 1924.

Dear Fellow-member of the I.O.U.-

This is the busy season for a great many bird lovers. It is the working season for the bird-banders. We should have more active bird-banders in Iowa than we now have. It is fascinating work, and also yields important information. If you are interested and do not know how to get started write to any of the officers of the I.O.U. for information. A recent report gives a list of twenty licensed bird-banders in Iowa. There should be twice as many.

August 8th (Friday) has been designated as Bird Day Conference at the Wild Life School at McGregor, Iowa. This has been done partly at the suggestion of the officers of the I.O.U., and it is hoped that it may be a summer rally day for all bird lovers who can possibly get away at that time. The entire day will be devoted to bird work, including programs in the forenoon and evening and a field trip in the afternoon. As planned at present talks or papers will be presented by Dr. H. C. Oberholser, of the U.S. Biological Survey, and by Dr. L. T. Weeks, of the Wild Life School. Others will be added in the meantime. It has been arranged for each member of the I.O.U. to receive a detailed program of the Wild Life School, including the Bird Day. Try to make arrangements to be present.

For some months Dr. W. T. Hornaday, of New York, has been developing a campaign urging a general reduction in the bag limits on migratory game birds. Twenty-nine states now allow a daily bag limit of 25 ducks. If every one of the licensed hunters in these states alone would shoot his bag limit on one day only it would mean the destruction of over 73 millions of ducks; and the other states (in which the bag limit ranges from 10 to 20) would bring the grand total up to more than 98 millions of ducks, to say nothing of other kinds of game birds. It is within the power of the Secretary of Agriculture to reduce these bag limits by simply changing the regulations under the Migratory Bird Law. These regulations are issued each summer with such revisions as may be deemed necessary. If you are sufficiently interested in the matter you can register your views by writing to Secretary Wallace, of the Department of Agriculture, or to Dr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the Biological Survey.

The I.O.U. is now a going concern, with a membership of 125, all paid up at least to the first of this year. But we want and need every member we now have, and more. Please do not let your membership lapse.

Respectfully,

W. M. Rosen, President.