

No 14.

IOWA ORNITHOLOGIST'S UNION.

February 6, 1926.

Dear Fellow Member:

A month of the new year has already passed and I trust that you all have plans for improving our organization that you would be glad to see carried out this coming year. We would be glad to have them, and here are a few suggestions.

KANSAS CITY MEETING

The twelfth annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club was held at Kansas City, Mo. Dec. 28 and 29, 1925, and was quite well attended by ornithologists from the middle west. Several of our I.O.U. members were there and they report a very fine meeting. Rev. LeRoy Titus Weeks gave a talk on "Poetry on Wings" and Walter W. Bennett gave an illustrated talk on "Island Bird Life". Prof. Homer Dill was unable to be present.

Now, while it is a long way off, still it might be mentioned here that there is a possibility of this meeting being held in Des Moines in 1929, and we may well start planning for it now, for we want to put Iowa on the "Bird map" in 1929 if they come to our capital city.

BIRD DAY -- MARCH 21ST.

Do not forget that March 21st has been set aside by our legislature as Bird Day, and it is our duty to see to it that this day is observed in our various cities and towns. Begin now to make plans to have talks on birds given before your local schools, Women's Clubs, Izaak Walton League Chapter and any other place where the subject of the protection, preservation and study of birds may be brought before the public. Do not forget the radio.

A STATE BIRD FOR IOWA.

The members of the Nebraska Ornithologist's Union, which is now over 20 years old, have worked out a number of good things, and one of their latest is the selecting of a State Bird, which is creating a good deal of interest. They seem to favor the Western Meadowlark, but it has not, as yet, been decided. If each state has it's State Flower why should we not have a State Bird? It would be interesting to hear from all our members in regard to this matter and I would welcome letters offering suggestions.

BIRD NOTES.

The Nebraska Union also issues a bulletin similar to our bulletins, only they have four pages. One page and a little more is given to announcements and other business pertaining to their work, and the balance is used for "Bird Notes" which prove very interesting indeed. This is something which I think we should all copy in Iowa and I am sure we will all benefit by it.

I know each one of you had some unusual observation last year and I would like to have them sent to me at once so that I can arrange to have them in the next letter which will be issued early in March. Perhaps you have had some surprises at your feeding table this winter, but send me only the unusual records as those are the ones that will be of the most interest to others. Your name and address will also be published as this will give our members a chance to know how close at hand other members may be. I think our full membership should be published at some future time but let us have the Bird Notes first. I know you all have some good ones you wish to tell us about, so please send them in and address them to me at Ogden, and later you will be favored with a tabulated list of very interesting observations.

DUES FOR 1926.

The dues for 1926 are due and payable on January first and as this is our only source of revenue with which to pay postage and stationery bills, please send your check for fifty cents to Mrs. H. M. Bailey, 2109 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Iowa.

If you do not have the Wilson Bulletin, which is our official publication, send your check for \$1.50 to Mr. Ben J. Blincoe, R.F.D. 13, Dayton, Ohio, and this will make you an Associate member and entitle you to receive the bulletin for 1926. If you wish to become an Active member send \$2.50. Please remember that all members of the I.O.U. are not required to subscribe for the Bulletin but it would be fine if everyone received the magazine which publishes our proceedings and articles by our members.

Plan now to attend our annual meeting which will not be held this year in conjunction with the Iowa Conservation Association, but for which plans will be announced in our next letter.

Yours truly,
W. M. ROSEN,
President.