

Des Moines, Iowa, April 28, 1932.

DEAR FRIENDS OF IOWA BIRDS, GREETINGS!

It is about time for the ANNUAL TREK to the selected spot to talk things over in a BIRD-WAY.

This time it is in Des Moines.

The dates are May 13th and 14th, 1932.

Meeting place is at HOTEL SAVERY the Headquarters Hotel.

It is the meeting of the IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS UNION and it happens to be the TENTH annual meeting. Quite an age our Union is acquiring. All Iowa Bird Friends are invited to come and those not members are asked to join.

Registration begins at 9:30 A.M. Friday the 13th. Forenoon program begins at 10:00 A.M.. Business meeting in the afternoon is followed by another program. Banquet at 6:30 P.M. at Younkers Tea Room. Following a short program of WIT we will have a SPECIAL NUMBER.

Saturday is the big day. At 5:30 A.M. the cars will leave the hotel for Brenton Slough to see Rails and Yellow-headed Black-birds and such other birds as may be found in similar habitat. If this trip does not produce enough shore birds we will stop at Fisher's Lake and East 14th Street Swamp. Then to Crocker Woods for the Carolina Wren and what sparrows and warblers have not been listed before. Then to Waterworks Sanctuary and BRUNCH.

A second group will start at 7:00 A.M. for Avon Lake, then to Gray's Lake and Waterworks Sanctuary. While this is a later start, the trip is guaranteed to furnish enough thrills and activity for a real ap petite for that BRUNCH. We are hoping that this group may find the Double-crested Cormorants, but, we will not write an Iowa Check List. You will want some surprises.

At BRUNCH the DES MOINES AUDUBON SOCIETY will be hosts to the guests from outside of the City. To those who have not before attended let us say that it is not all over until the end. The Climax of the Annual Meeting is the compiling of the bird list for the day.

Paved roads lead to Des Moines from every corner of the State.

We have said enough to get you to come, but we like to say more. The words "to talk things over in a BIRD-WAY" have a meaning for we are going to have a Round Table discussion on Hawks and Owls. Be prepared to take part in this. Equip yourself with facts. Let us reach some conclusions to protect these persecuted birds. Dr. F. L. R. Roberts our enthusiastic and energetic President will lead this discussion. We have often heard this call to arms for the protection of these birds. Let us help him now.

Mrs. C. J. Fulton of Fairfield is prepared to tell us of interesting experiences.

Mrs. C. C. Flodin of Cedar Rapids has for her topic, "Developing Bird Consciousness."

Dr. T. C. Stephens, well -- it is only proper that he should come from the City that furnishes the most active bird students. And who is better equipped to discuss the needs of a New Iowa Bird Book?

Judge O. S. Thomas of Rock Rapids will tell us of Bird Study right at our Homes.

Professor A. C. Hottes, formerly of Ohio State University, now with the Meredith Publications of this City, although more especially a botanist will tell, well now, why say more now, for we all know of the relation between plant life and bird life. It is with pleasure that we are looking forward to hearing Mr. Hottes.

Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Allert of McGregor and also Chas. Spiker flew to New Orleans to attend the Wilson Club Meeting in a Model T Ford, so we are demanding an explanation from Mr. Allert.

Mr. Philip A. DuMont, one time of Des Moines, later of National Museum in New York City, then of Madagascar, and now of the University of California promises to send us a paper if he cannot attend. But he will be here. We count on Phil to be on hand Friday morning at 10 o'clock promptly. And by the way, we of Des Moines, feel so proud of his recent book, "Birds of Polk County" that we take the liberty of asking you each to come with an extra fifty cents for a copy of the book. While strictly a County list, it will be appreciated that it is quite representative for the State, and lists most of the birds that may be found in any part of the State. Ornithologists from outside of the State have highly praised the book so we will quote a few.

Dr. Joseph Grinnell, President, American Ornithologists' Union.
 "Perusal of this contribution convinces me that it has been prepared and published in a careful and businesslike way. Such contributions are of very great value, not only as a scientific record of accumulated local findings in natural history, but also as stimulating wider and wider interest in ornithology for its esthetic values."

Dr. Thos. S. Roberts, Minneapolis.
 "Mr. DuMont has done a good piece of work and is fortunate in having your Society to support him."

Dr. Myron H. Swenk, Lincoln, Nebr.
 "It seems to me that this little booklet should serve an exceedingly interesting and valuable service to the bird students of the Des Moines vicinity, and of course it has also a broader value in that it is a complete summary of the birds known for a section of Iowa."

Dr. Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.
 "Mr. DuMont has done a fine piece of work, one that I am sure can be relied upon as accurate and fully up to date."

Dr. Norman A. Wood, University of Michigan.

"In my library I have most of such lists published and yours is the best I have ever seen."

Now back to the program. You are all aware of the survey being made in our State of wild life resources. This includes a game bird survey which is in charge of Mr. Aldo Leopold. Mr. Leopold will talk to us on the subject, "The Role of the Ornithologist in the Iowa Game Program." In its program the Fish and Game Commission has included a plan to restore as far as possible cover and nesting facilities for game birds. If this program is successful, it will be beneficial to other bird life in our State. To those who may deplore the introduction of the Ring-necked Pheasant into our State, which may have disturbed the natural life of some of our native birds, the writer of this letter wishes to say that he feels that the pheasant is with us to stay. They will go to all parts of the State to which they may be adapted in spite of what we may do. The Fish and Game Commission is conscientiously trying to carry out the program assigned. It is the hope of the program committee that in some way the bird students of the State may be helpful to the Fish and Game Commission and it was with the thought of finding fields of cooperation that Mr. Leopold has been asked to appear on our program. On the other hand also, the Fish and Game Commission has been frank and generous enough to ask for our cooperation. Mr. Leopold is an excellent Bird Authority and we are happy to have him with us so that we may be informed of this program in which we are so vitally interested.

Mr. W. M. Rosen will be with us. This will be his tenth annual meeting out of ten. An Iowa Bird students' meeting is not complete without him.

We are sorry that Mr. W. W. Bennett's time cannot be all spent in Iowa. He fears that he may not be able to be with us, but we do not believe that he can stay away.

You will want to meet our efficient Secretary Mrs. Mary L. Bailey, and I know all will want to get acquainted with Mr. Fred A. Pierce our genial and able editor.

Professor W. F. Kubichek has not given all of his reels and slides at former meetings. He has also prepared additional slides and movies since our last meeting. He is always generous and his contributions are always high spots.

We have broken a rule. A PEP letter should be short. This then must be a total failure. But, shucks, we are just too chuck full. And what matters it whether a rule is broken or unbroken, just so you will be with us in two weeks.

Yours for the Birds of Iowa.

DES MOINES AUDUBON SOCIETY.

*Dear Phil, -
You see we are counting on you.
Can you drop me a line giving title of paper
and time required on program.
Greetings Arthur.*