



Roundtable

... with Louis C. Fink

Museum Announces New Journal

The North Carolina State Museum of Natural History announces a new journal, BRIMLEYANA, the Bulletin of the N.C. State Museum. Contents will emphasize the zoology and general ecology of the southeastern United States, especially North Carolina and adjacent areas. Consecutively numbered issues will appear at irregular intervals. Information for potential contributors to BRIMLEYANA may be obtained from the Editor (Dr. John E. Cooper, Director of Research and Collections), and purchase and exchange information from the Managing Editor (Mrs. Sarah S. Robinson, Director of Publications) at: N.C. State Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Dr. John B. Funderburg, Director of the Museum, is Editor-in-Chief.

Summer Decline of Mockingbirds in South Carolina

Paul A. Stewart, 203 Mooreland Drive, Oxford, N.C. 27565, has published a report in *The Journal of Wildlife Management* relating to the absence of Mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos*) from agricultural areas in South Carolina during the late summer. Using a method outlined in his article, Dr. Stewart verified that the birds were reasonably abundant in urban and suburban areas in the same vicinity, and also abundant in agricultural areas in North Carolina. He postulates that the high loss of Mockingbirds may be due to the high acreage devoted to cotton and the insecticides sprayed from airplanes: Azodrin and Monocrotophos. Stewart admits that more study is needed and invites readers of *Chat* to make personal observations.

Colonial Bird Register

National Audubon Society and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology have organized the Colonial Bird Register to establish a computerized data base for the collection and dissemination of information concerning birds that nest in colonies. CBC members who have an opportunity to study colonial breeders are invited to become cooperators in the program. For further information, write Donald A. McCrimmon, Director, Colonial Bird Register, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, New York 14853. Many CBC members will recall having met Dr. McCrimmon during his graduate student days at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

Former CBC Officer Dies

Mecklenburg Audubon Society members were saddened to learn that Beatrice Brown Potter, widow of George C. Potter, died at Woodland Hills, California, on 17 March 1976. She was 81 years old. Bea Potter lived in Charlotte from 1942 until

1970, during which time she served as secretary of Carolina Bird Club for 5 years and held various offices in Mecklenburg Audubon Society, including the presidency.

County Bird Lists Needed for North Carolina Checklist

Your help is needed in preparing an annotated checklist of the birds of North Carolina. The Carolina Bird Club Research and Records Committees are compiling a booklet summarizing our present knowledge of the status and distribution of those bird species that have been recorded in the state. The publication, which will be available to all naturalists in the area, will consist of two parts: (1) an annotated list of the birds with descriptions of their geographical distribution, seasonal occurrence, and relative abundance, and (2) a set of county outline maps showing the status of each species in those counties where the bird is known to have been seen.

Committee members need your help to determine the status of the various avian species in the places where you have gone birding. Despite the fact that people have been observing birds in North Carolina for over a century, there are many areas from which no bird records have ever been obtained. Checklists have been published from only about a dozen of our 100 counties. As a result, there is a dismaying lack of detailed information regarding the exact distribution of even our common birds.

Worksheets and instructions for completing them are available from Dr. Marcus B. Simpson, Jr., P.O. Box 167, Statesville, N.C. 28677. By filling out a worksheet for your home county or favorite vacation spot, you can provide records that will make the distribution maps far more reliable than they otherwise would be. Without your help, there may be conspicuous "holes" in the known distribution of many species. The worksheets have been designed so you can provide valuable information without spending a lot of time and effort typing a lengthy bird list or writing notes in long-hand.

The contribution of each participant will be acknowledged, and the worksheets will be filed at the North Carolina State Museum of Natural History in Raleigh for use at a later time in preparing a new edition of *Birds of North Carolina*.—MARK SIMPSON, P.O. Box 167, Statesville, N.C. 28677.

