

observations with particular attention to species and numbers of each, and if possible, age determinations (adult v. immature) from the central New York shorebird sites, particularly from the ElDorado Beach area and the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge and Howland's Island Game Management sector; the ElDorado Beach site is probably the best site for sampling those migrants that regularly use the Great Lakes as a stop-over point on migration and the Montezuma NWR-Howland's Island GMA complex is admirably placed at the top of the Finger Lakes-Susquehanna River corridor. Another sector that should be regularly checked because of both its position on the aforementioned corridor and its Great Lakes shore character is the Sodus Bay area.

427 South Main Street, North Syracuse, N.Y. 13212

Additional reference:

Roberts, T. S. *A Manual for the Identification of Birds of Minnesota and Neighboring States*, University of Minnesota Press, 1955.

CONSERVATION NEWS — FOREVER WILD WETLANDS?

MAXWELL C. WHEAT, JR.

A conservation victory celebration! A week before the November elections the Hempstead Town Board announced that it was entering into a cooperative agreement with the State (which would provide half the funds and personnel) to manage the Town's 10,000 acres of salt wetlands for conservation and recreation. The Federation's official support was utilized many times by the Hempstead Town Lands Resources Council, which spearheaded and coordinated the fight, to show the state-wide concern for these wetlands which are a key waterfowl and shorebird area.

After the agreement has been signed, it can be terminated only by mutual consent of both Town and State. This, of course, doesn't assure the perpetuity essential for protection of natural resources against mounting pressure. But it represents a dramatic and welcome change in policy.

The most permanent and forceful kind of protection for natural areas is found in Article XIV, Section I of the State Constitution which provides the "forever wild" protection of the Forest Preserve. Now there is an opportunity to expand this protection to other natural areas — marshes, underwater lands, etc.

The crucial decision will be made at the Constitutional Convention of 1967 which will revise the present State Constitution and present it to the voters for approval or disapproval. By then it will be on a "take it or leave it" basis. The delegates, who will be elected this fall, could eliminate the "forever wild" protection. On the other hand, they could expand its coverage. Impossible? Not when you consider recent conservation achievements — the Hempstead wetlands, Fire Island National Seashore, Golden Eagle protection (all of which the Federation supported).

Why couldn't this be known as the "Conservation Constitutional Con-

vention"? It could, if enough members have insight and a spirit of civic mindedness.

Contact NOW political leaders on all levels with suggestions along these lines. Besides 15 delegates to be elected at-large, three will be elected from each state senatorial district. Nominations for the latter can be influenced if enough interested citizens write, phone and visit local political chieftains who even now are mulling over the make up of the fall tickets — which must be completed by May 1 for ratification in the June primaries.

333 Bedell Street, Freeport, N.Y. 11520

COME TO LONG ISLAND, MAY 20-22, 1966!

"Remember the first time the annual meeting was held on Long Island ? . . . 1966 wasn't it?" (May 20-22 at the Lido Beach Hotel, Lido Beach, N.Y.)

"How could I ever forget it? That's when I saw my first shearwater on that boat trip they arranged for us!"

"I'd certainly like to hear that speaker again — William Conway, head of the Bronx Zoo."

"But don't forget he was also Curator of Birds. He had been on plenty of expeditions. He was really worth hearing. . ."

We've been peering into the crystal ball to see how May 20-22 might look in the future. It seems to be shaping up under chairman Edwin Simon of 591 Campus Place, Baldwin, N.Y. as a block of time that will loom large in your memory if you will be sure not to miss this eventful weekend.

A pelagic trip is being planned. The committee, wild rumors claim, have been making contacts in the southern oceans for a return appearance of the Yellow-nosed Albatross that was so closely viewed on a boat trip a few years ago. Who knows what you will see out where birders seldom squint through binoculars?

We are also hoping that the hundreds of thousands of shorebirds that pour through our wetlands and over the flats at that time of year will arrange their migration schedule to meet us at Tobay and the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.

A significant paper session is being lined up by Emanuel Levine and Richard Sloss, co-chairmen. They are both former presidents of the Linnaean Society of New York and are thoroughly aware of the interesting research and field work that can be reported on at the annual meeting.

We frankly are excited about the speaker we have scheduled for the banquet Saturday night. He's 37-year-old William Conway, director of the New York Zoological Park (Bronx Zoo, for short). He has been doing spectacular work there in showing off the Zoo's great collection of wildlife—especially the birds, his particular field. Formerly Curator of Birds at the St. Louis Zoo in Missouri, in 1956 he came to the Bronx as Curator of Birds, was made associate director in 1960 and director in 1961.

Just to indicate the wealth of ideas that are being called upon to make this the most eventful annual meeting ever, we have the active help of all the bird clubs on Long Island: Baldwin Bird Club; Brooklyn Bird Club; Huntington Audubon Society; Lyman Langdon Audubon Society, and the Queens Bird Club.

So come on down to Long Island May 20-22 for a really great get-together. You will always remember it.

Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., Publicity Chairman