

Notes and Comments.

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the current year are due, and should be forwarded to the Hon. Treasurer, 376 Flinders-st., Melbourne.

The annual Congress of the R.A.O.U. is to be held at Sydney during October next, the tentative opening date being October 18. Important matters are listed for discussion, and it is hoped that members in all the States will make every effort to attend. Following the Congress (the business of which will be interspersed with outings in and about Sydney,) a camp will be held on the Williams River, in the vicinity of the picturesque Barrington Tops. This is an interesting locality for naturalists, providing as it does the southern limit of several sub-tropical birds.

The attention of members is directed to Rule 31 of the R.A.O.U., as follows :—" Each candidate for membership of the Council shall be nominated by two members of the Union, and the names of all such candidates, together with the names of their nominees, shall reach the secretary at least 28 days before the annual general meeting. All such nominations shall where practicable be accompanied by the consent in writing of the candidates proposed."

Rule 56 of the R.A.O.U., states :—" Any member who is desirous of bringing forward any business for consideration at any annual general meeting shall forward to the secretary not later than the first day of the month of August immediately preceding such meeting, a notice in writing, signed by himself and one other member as seconder, stating in concise terms the motion or motions he wishes to move, and the Council shall cause such notice of motion or motions, together with the names of the proposer and seconder, to be included in the circular summoning the meeting."

At a conversazione of Melbourne members of the Union held at the National Museum on May 5, 1926, the following resolution was carried on the motion of Messrs. A. G. Campbell and A. H. E. Mattingley :—" This meeting is of opinion that the Council should invite applications for the formation of branch committees under article 26, and from any part of Australia ; such briefly to outline their proposals, and that this matter be given a prominent place in the business of next session."

Messrs H. F. & G. Witherby will publish shortly a work by Dr. Hopkinson, M.B.O.U., entitled *Record of Birds bred in Captivity*, at which he has been working during his leave from service in West Africa. The work records the successful breeding of more than 800 species of birds and about the same number of hybrids.

Mr. Otho Webb, R.A.O.U., of "Wahroonga," Darr Creek, via Jandowae, Queensland, who has taken some notable photographs of wild birds, now offers for sale his photographic outfit. It comprises four high-class cameras equipped with six super-quality lenses by the well-known makers, Ross, Aldis, Voigtlander, Wollensak, Carl Zeiss and Planbel, giving a very complete range of focal lengths of from 2"-52". The cameras are exceptionally well supplied with accessories and are all in good condition. The placing on the market of this outfit, which cost over £130, offers a wonderful opportunity to anyone desirous of securing a photographic equipment capable of undertaking every branch of nature-photography. Price £65. Mr. Webb would also like to hear from anyone interested in the purchase of the original negatives of his collection of nature-studies, consisting almost solely of those of bird-life.