

Annual Congress and Camp-Out, 1932

Attendance of members at the last two Camp-outs of the Union has not been as great as desired, and it is hoped that members will endeavour to attend the Tasmanian Session and Camp-out this year. The following details, supplied by the State Secretary for Tasmania, Mr. Clive Lord, suggest that the Session will be an interesting one.

The Annual Congress will be held in Hobart this year (1932) and the Camp-out at Coles Bay, on Freycinet Peninsula, East Coast of Tasmania.

Present intentions are for the Conference to open in Hobart on Wednesday, October 19, in the Royal Society's Rooms, the Tasmanian Museum. The meetings and excursions will occupy members' attention until Saturday, October 22, when the party will leave for the East Coast and remain in camp until Thursday, October 27, or longer if desired. The camp is a permanent one, and individual members who desire to stay longer can arrange to do so at a cost of 8/- per day. The camp site is situated on the shores of Meredith's Fishery, under the picturesque granite peaks of the Hazard Mountains. Here members will not only be able to see the land fauna and flora, but will have the opportunity of seeing some of the sea-birds also. An added attraction is that Moulting Lagoon is only a few miles to the north and the thousands of Black Swan and other aquatic birds on this sheet of water are a wonderful sight.

The Tasmanian members are hoping that a large number of mainland members will attend the meeting, as in addition to the formal business of the Conference, a number of social outings and excursions are being arranged. Members will have an opportunity of seeing the bird life in the vicinity of Hobart, as well as visiting some of the most interesting points of the East Coast.

Members who propose to attend the Meeting and Camp-out, or who are at all interested are asked to communicate with Mr. Clive Lord, The Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, who will be pleased to forward all details in connection with the Meeting and Camp-out. The cost will depend upon the number attending, as concession fares can be obtained if a number travel, and members are requested to get in touch with their local State Secretary concerning this aspect of the cost.

The cost of the Camp-out will be approximately £5 inclusive of all cost of travel from Hobart and return. Everything will be provided at the camp, which is a most comfortable one, and there will be boats for the use of members. If a number travel, the cost will be reduced, and it is hoped to make arrangements for the party to travel by motor via the East Coast Road to the camp and return by sea or *vice versa*, as this would make the outing more interesting.

The ordinary return fare (1st class) from Melbourne to Hobart is £7/9/6 (boat £5 and train £2/9/6) and 2nd class £5/2/5 (boat £3/10/- and train £1/12/5), but these figures are subject to a reduction if a number travel. Concession rail fares (available if six travel) from other capitals to Melbourne are as follows:—

From Sydney: 1st Return, £5/6/8; 2nd Return, £3/10/8.

From Brisbane: 1st Return, £10; 2nd Return, £6/13/4.

From Adelaide: 1st Return, £4/13/4; 2nd Return, £3/2/8.

The Tasmanian members are most anxious to make a success of the Conference and Camp-out and in order that arrangements may be made well in advance *it is hoped that members will forward an early intimation of their intention to attend the meeting, as this will help very considerably as regards the management.*

News and Notes

Members are invited to make nominations for the position of members of Council for the year 1932-33. Attention is particularly drawn to the provisions of Article 31 of the Union's Articles of Association, which, as amended last year, provides that all nominations must be in writing and must be accompanied by the consent of the nominee. Members are especially required to make the nominations for their own States' representatives.

The following new members have been enrolled:—R. Friedlander & Son, 11 Karlstrasse, Berlin, Germany; Donald Thomson, Cape York, Qld.; R. N. Molesworth, "Ballark," Morrisons, Vic.

Some criticism has been made of late regarding "bird lists" and to some extent the Editor is in agreement with the objections raised. Whilst such lists are of extreme value to those engaged upon the compilation of bird maps, and upon the habitat and range of different species, often the bird census that is a mere list with but little accompanying data, especially when the area dealt with is a well-settled and well-known one, is of interest to a small number of members only. Contributors should bear in mind that full notes on a few species are, generally speaking, of more general interest than a list of birds, concerning which the only remarks are "rare" or "common" as the case might be.

The next species to be figured in colour will be the White-tailed Kingfisher (*Tanysiptera sylvia*).