Writing of Australia, A. H. Chisholm expresses the opinion that lyre-birds, despite the fact that they lay only one egg in a season, are increasing throughout their range, which is from southern Victoria to southern Queensland. Certain other species, notably several beautiful parrots, have, however, decreased considerably, though, with the exception of the small varieties of emu, no Australian bird is known to have become extinct since the white occupation of the country. In Canada, according to Hoyes Lloyd, the insectivorous birds protected by the Migratory Birds Treaty with the United States are in no serious danger, and the attitude of children towards birds is, owing to better education, showing a great improvement. The shooting season for ducks and geese has since 1936 been limited to two months, and the shore-bird family is almost totally protected. The extension of bird sanctuaries has continued in Canada, but some of the prairie waterfowl sanctuaries are at present useless owing to drought.

E. V. Sanderson reports on the position in New Zealand, where the Forest and Bird Protection Society "is now a powerful and well-to-do organization." Unfortunately moose and other introduced mammals have done much damage by destroying natural vegetation in such reserves as the Fiordland National Park, which covers 2,600,000 acres. In New Zealand the upland game-birds have decreased greatly, leaving the grey duck to face most of the shooting, with the result that this bird is now becoming rapidly scarcer.

In an "informal report" on what is happening in South Africa, Dr. E. Leonard Gill says that wild birds seem to him to be better treated there than in most parts of the world, largely because in Africa sportsmen have shot big game and have not troubled much to shoot birds.

The bulletin also contains reports from Argentina, Mexico, Japan and many European countries, as well as the minutes of the meetings held at Rouen last year.

THE NEW MILFORD LABORATORY OF THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES

CONSTRUCTION of a new laboratory for the Fisheries Service at Milford, Conn., according to the bulletin issued by the service, is now under construction as a Public Works Administration project. When completed, it will serve as a center for oyster-cultural research for the New England area and may be used also for investigations on other aspects of fishery problems.

The new laboratory will be housed in a two-story, fireproof building, 70 by 35 feet, constructed of brick and cinderblocks. The building is to rest on yellow-pine piling driven 35 to 40 feet into the ground. The first floor will contain the director's office and laboratory, one laboratory room 21 by 16 feet, two small rooms for investigators, a room for meetings, lectures and displays, 22.7 by 22 feet, rooms for the heating plant and mechanical equipment, lavatories and a carpenter shop.

Chemical, physiological and biological laboratories, each about 23 by 16 feet, will be placed on the second floor, together with the chemical stock room, balance room, photographic room and library. All the laboratories will be provided with standard equipment, *i.e.*, gas, electricity, cold and hot fresh water, sea water, compressed air and the necessary furniture. The chemical room is to be equipped with standard chemical tables and two large fume hoods with forced draft. The sea-water system consists of a non-corrosive pump of suitable capacity, a large steel rubber-lined tank in the attic and lead pipes delivering the sea water to drain tables placed in each of the laboratory rooms. With the exception of the director's office and display room, the floors are of concrete covered with rubber matting. The building will be steam-heated by means of an automatic oil burner.

There will be a series of large concrete outdoor tidal tanks, about eight feet deep, built along the water line. Each tank is individually filled with sea water through tidal gates and the depth of the water can be maintained at three different levels. Seven of these tanks have been erected and have proved useful for keeping animals for various experiments.

Before designing the laboratory and selecting its equipment, a careful study was made of existing biological stations, and efforts were made to introduce the necessary up-to-date equipment, yet at the same time to avoid expensive structural features. This work benefited from a detailed examination of plans and buildings of the Marine Biological Laboratory and the Oceanographic Institution at Woods Hole, Mass. Many of the architectural features proving useful in these institutions were incorporated in the plans. To conform with its surroundings, the Milford Laboratory is of simple design and colonial in style of architecture.

The Bureau of Fisheries has conducted oyster investigations in Long Island Sound from headquarters at Milford for nearly twenty years. The work to be conducted in the new laboratory will be devoted principally to the study of improved methods of oyster culture, and special attention will be given to the possibility of controlling the propagation of oysters and other commercial mollusks.

THE THOMAS R. BAKER MUSEUM OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

LAST spring Rollins College received by deed from the City of Winter Park, Fla., a property known as the Aloma Golf Club to be developed by the college

as an enlarged and more useful Natural Science Museum. The property consists of a large and attractive building and three acres of land about one and a half miles from the college campus. The Club House was built in 1926 at a cost of about $35,000. It consists of a large room suitable for exhibition cases, a library, a curator's office and laboratory, shop room, rooms for storage and preparation of specimens, laboratory space for visiting biologists and living quarters for caretakers. While the museum is a division of Rollins College, the trustees have appointed a large committee, consisting of officers and faculty of the college and other local residents interested in the development of the museum, to manage its affairs. The present plans include development along the following lines: Exhibition of and information concerning Florida fauna and flora; development of a library of general treatises on natural history and also special papers dealing with Florida plants and animals; educational work with students of all ages and finally laboratory facilities for visiting biologists. It will depend for its support on gifts of which several have already been made. It will strive to be of service to the thousands of residents of Central Florida and others. Further information can be obtained from Edward M. Davis, curator, Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla.

G. G. SCOTT

MATHEMATICAL REVIEWS

A NEW international journal, to be known as *Mathematical Reviews*, will be edited at Brown University this year under the sponsorship of the American Mathematical Society, with the support of other learned and philanthropic organizations.

The Rockefeller Foundation has granted the university $49,500 for a micro-film laboratory to be set up in connection with the new journal and with the mathematics library of the university. Professor Otto E. Neugebauer, formerly editor of the *Zentralblatt für Mathematik*, and Professor J. D. Tamarkin, of the university, have been made editors; Dr. Will Feller will be assistant editor.

The journal is planned to "review all fields of pure mathematics," and will be published regularly in four languages—English, French, German and Italian. It is expected to be a clearing-house of information for teachers and research workers in all parts of the world.

The Carnegie Corporation has appropriated $60,000 for the journal, and the Rockefeller Foundation has pledged $12,000. The American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America have given $1,000 each. The micro-film laboratory will be used to copy rare mathematical material for Brown's mathematics library. Film copies of out-of-print journals and other publications will be available to mathematicians throughout the world. Films of any article reviewed in the journal will be sent to subscribers at cost.

THE UNITED STATES ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

THE National Bureau of Standards reports that the United States Antarctic Expedition, which is expected to leave early in November, has need for many special kinds of devices and scientific apparatus. The various governmental agencies have been requested to cooperate with the members of the expedition to insure the accomplishment of the objectives. Because of the unusual conditions under which the scientific work must be done, special apparatus had to be designed for much of this work.

The bureau is supplying the equipment and apparatus for determining the temperature and density of the snow and ice at various depths. It is planned to install thermometers in the snow at the surface and at various depths down to 160 feet to determine not only the temperature at the various depths but also how these temperatures are influenced by the air temperatures during the different seasons. In addition, measurements will be carried out at different stations to determine the influence of the local topography on the subsurface temperatures.

The bureau is supplying 42 electric resistance thermometers and 2 wheatstone bridges with accessories, such as switches, extra galvanometers, etc. The instruments will be graduated from +10° to −70° C. (+50° to −94° F.). The thermometers will be located in holes about 2 inches in diameter. Especially designed drills for making the holes are being constructed in the instruments shops. Electric heating devices are also being provided to melt holes into the snow or ice, in case it is not possible to drill the holes to the full depth with the limited manpower available.

Apparatus and materials for determining the density of snow and ice and for determining the amount of communicating air spaces consist of the following: Balances; sampling devices for obtaining representative samples of snow; triethylbenzene to be used for filling the communicating air spaces in the density samples; and a number of density standards for determining the density of the various liquids, such as triethylbenzene, kerosene, etc., which will be used in determining the density of the snow.

Because it is difficult to estimate the accuracy which will be obtained with the apparatus at the extreme temperatures at which it will be used, numerous standards, such as resistance coils, freezing-point samples, masses, etc., are being provided for the purpose of testing and calibrating the apparatus under the conditions encountered in the Antarctic.