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International Union for Quaternary Research (Inqua)

The IX INQUA Congress is to be held in Christchurch from 2-10 December 1973. This will be only the second time the Congress has been held outside Europe. The 1973 Congress is being organised by a committee under the chairmanship of Professor Maxwell Gage, with Professor Jane M. Soons as secretary.

INQUA seeks to bring together those working on all aspects of the Quaternary—from tectonics to human pre-history, and so its scope is far wider than can be covered by any one scientific discipline. Accordingly each country belonging to INQUA sets up a National Committee for Quaternary Research—in New Zealand it has been set up by the Royal Society, the present chairman being Doctor R. P. Suggate, and the secretary Mr. C. G. Vucetich.

INQUA attempts to stimulate co-operation on parti-

cular topics through the organisation of commissions and subcommissions, some for regional purposes, others concerned with worldwide problems. New Zealand has representatives on several of these groups, and in addition Professor Soons is a vice-president of INQUA. The principal commissions of interest to New Zealand are those concerned with Quaternary Stratigraphy (with sub-commission on stratigraphic nomenclature and the lower boundary of the Pleistocene), Tephrochronology, Neotectonics, Shorelines and Quaternary Biology.

It is hoped that all those interested in New Zealand's Quaternary history will be able to participate in the 1973 Congress, and that important contributions will be forthcoming. It is anticipated that New Zealand's key geographical position and its complex Quaternary history will attract several hundred participants.

XVI International Ornithological Congress

The International Ornithological Committee agreed at the end of the XV International Ornithological Congress in the Hague, Netherlands, that the next Congress would be held in Australia in 1974. Professor J. Dorst was appointed President. The Australian invitation had been proffered jointly by the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union and the Australian Academy of Science.

The Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union appointed Dr. H. J. Frith as Secretary-General and an Australian Advisory Committe has been formed. After close examination of the possibilities the Australian Advisory Committe has decided that the XVI International Ornithological Congress should be held in the Australian National University in Canberra in the period 12 August to 17 August 1974. A programme of scientific

sessions, major and minor excursions and ornithological exhibits will be organised.

Applications for membership will be accepted until March 1 1974. Applications for the presentation of papers and for arranging Specialist's Meetings should reach the Secretary-General not later than February 1 1974. It is probable that, apart from those presented by invitation in a Symposium, there will be some selection of the papers that are actually read. Accordingly it is essential that each offer of a paper should be accompanied by a summary of about 200 words.

Information regarding the XVI International Ornithological Congress can be had from —

The Secretary-General, XVI International Ornithological Congress, P.O. Box 84, Lyneham, A.C.T., Australia. 2602.