Obituaries.

OBITUARY.

BARTON WARREN EVERMANN, a Member of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1901, and originally elected as an Associate at the first meeting in 1883, died in Berkeley, Calif., Sept. 27, 1932, in the 79th year of his age. He was born at Albia, Monroe Co., Iowa, Oct. 24, 1853, the son of Andrew and Nety (Gardner) Evermann. On his twenty-second birthday he married Miss Meadie Hawkins of Burlington, Ind., who died a few years ago. Evermann was educated at Howard College, Kokomo, Ind., and graduated from the University of Indiana in 1886, with the degree of B.S. Later he received from his alma mater the degrees of A.M. in 1888, Ph.D. in 1891, and LL.D. in 1927. He also received the degree of LL.D. from the University of Utah in 1922.

Dr. Evermann's long years of activity fall naturally into three periods. For ten years he was a teacher and superintendent of schools in Indiana and California, for a quarter of a century he was associated with fisheries work and for nearly two decades was engaged in museum activities. He served as Professor of Biology in the Indiana State Normal School from 1886 to 1891 and from 1888 to 1914 was connected with the U. S. Fish Commission and Bureau of Fisheries, in various capacities, including appointments in charge of Scientific Inquiry and of the Alaska Fisheries Service. He also served as U. S. Fur Seal Commissioner in 1892 and later as chairman of the Fur Seal Board. On retiring from the Bureau of Fisheries in 1914 he became Director of the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences and rounded out his career by establishing the Steinhart Aquarium and building up the Academy in various directions.

Evermann's ornithological activities were developed mainly during his early years as a teacher, and his later years as a museum director. His publications on birds, more than forty in number, relate chiefly to species observed in California, Indiana, and Alaska, and most of them appeared in 'The Ornithologist and Oologist,' 'The Auk' and 'The Condor.' His first contribution appeared in the 'Delphi Journal' in 1878-79 under the title 'Notes on the Winter Birds of Carroll County, Indiana.' From August, 1879 to July, 1881, he taught school at Santa Paula, Calif., and the observations then made were finally summarized in his 'List of the Birds observed in Ventura County, California' (Auk, 1886). A year later appeared his 'Birds of Monroe County, Indiana, in 1888 his 'Birds of Carroll County,' and in 1920 a chapter on birds in his report on Lake Maxinkuckee, Ind. One of his most important contributions was a paper, published in 'The Auk' in 1913, entitled 'Notes on Eighteen Species of Birds new to the Pribilof Islands' and included four species new to North America. Of entirely different character but even now well worth consulting are his sketches of some of the characteristic California birds, notably, the Black Crested Flycatcher in the 'O & O,' 1882; 'Lopho, the Quail' in 'Harper's Monthly,' Feb. 1902; and 'Modesty Itself, the Brown Towhee' in 'Recreation,' April 1904. In later years his chief contribution consisted in stimulating ornithological work in the California Academy of Sciences and in the Cooper Ornithological Club. During the three years, 1917–1919, he served as President of the Club and in 1926 was elected an Honorary Member.

Evermann was primarily an ichthyologist, his interest in fishes being due mainly to David Starr Jordan and others whom he met in college days and with whom he maintained a life-long association. Naturally most of his publications dealt with fish or fisheries but all that need be said in this connection is that they comprised accounts of many native species, especially salmon and the golden trout of the High Sierras, and reports on the fishes of various parts of the United States, Alaska, Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands, and Peru. With Dr. Jordan he published among other works 'The Aquatic Resources of The Hawaiian Islands,' 'The Fishes of North and Middle America' in four volumes, and a 'Check List of the Fishes of North America' in two editions.

As a conservationist Dr. Evermann had an interesting record. Shortly after the organization of the League of American Sportsmen in 1898 he took part in its work, contributed to its journal, 'Recreation,' and several years later gave series of lectures on game and fish protection at Cornell and Yale. He took great interest in fishery treaties and the broader aspects of fish protection; also in the protection of the fur seal and other furbearing animals of Alaska, the valley elk of California, the sea elephant of Guadalupe Island, and in measures for the protection of marine life in the Pacific.

Evermann was an energetic, enthusiastic, and tireless worker and had the rare ability to put the results of his investigations in permanent form and secure their publication as promptly as possible. He was never too busy to take part in public affairs, scientific or otherwise. While in Washington he served for several years on the Board of Education and took an active part in the affairs of the Biological Society and the Washington Academy of Sciences. In San Francisco he was active in advancing scientific work and in the Commonwealth Club. Always cheerful and interested in current activities his enthusiasm was contagious, and it was a pleasure to meet him or associate with him in any undertaking.—T. S. P.