

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

O. W. Howard and H. S. Swarth have departed for a five months' collecting trip in Arizona.

On March 4 Mr. Chas. R. Keyes presented a paper before the Ornithological Section of the Academy of Sciences entitled "Eastern Iowa as a Field for the Ornithologist."

R. C. McGregor, whose ornithological work has become extralimital, has occasioned some uneasiness by sending a note from the "Bureau of Non-Christian Tribes for the Philippine Islands"!

Malcolm P. Anderson has spent the past winter in the Sisiyou Mountains in the north-western part of the state. From latest advices Mr. Anderson has been very successful in obtaining several birds of particular interest.

Mr. J. H. Bowles of Tacoma, Wash. has in process a work on *The Birds of Washington* to be issued at perhaps an early date. Mr. Bowles' painstaking and accurate writings assure ornithologists of a treat in the completed work.

Mr. H. W. Fowler, a well-known Philadelphia ornithologist and formerly secretary of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, is now located at Stanford University and delivered a most entertaining paper at the March meeting of the Northern Division.

Oologists will regret to hear that Mr. A. M. Shields contemplates disposing of his entire egg collection, which is one of the most extensive remaining on the coast. Lack of time in which to care for the collection has brought about this decision, but it is to be hoped that many of the fine series will be secured intact by other advanced oologists.

An Alameda paper prints the following advertisement which has been traced to H. R. Taylor: "FOR SALE. Live great horned owl and peregrine falcon, handsome birds, little care, fed once a day on meat. Owl has a fine bass voice and hoots nightly and on foggy mornings; better than an alarm clock; lives in cahoots with falcon. Reasonable price; address 'Hoot Mon,' this office."

Archibald J. Campbell, author of "Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds," and a prominent ornithologist of that region writes Mr. M. S. Ray under date of Dec. 12, 1901: "You may be glad to hear that we have started an ornithological union in Australia with an official journal called 'The Emu.' So far the movement has received great encouragement not only from home but abroad also."

As we go to press an expedition is about to depart to engage in work among the fishes, invertebrates and birds of the Hawaiian Islands. Dr. Chas. H. Gilbert of Stanford University is in charge and is accompanied by Walter K. Fisher and J. O. Snyder, besides other zoologists, who will have their headquarters on the U. S. Fish Commission steamer Albatross. The expedition will be gone six months.

Mr. Wm. Alauson Bryan is investigating desirable birds to introduce into the Hawaiian Islands. There have been recent invasions of injurious insects and Mr. Bryan hopes to find some California species adapted to the conditions of the islands which will at the same time exterminate these pests. We doubt the advisability of introducing foreign birds for such purposes. Species occasionally change their habits under new conditions forcibly imposed and are likely to prove undesirable citizens.

It is worth remarking that not in the nine years of its existence has a meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club been deferred on account of inclement weather until the session of March 1. On that day the elements conspired to bring about such boisterous conditions that few even of the enthusiasts chose to venture out. Mr. Grinnell, with a proper regard for his presidential duties, and accompanied by an anchor and an umbrella, sought the meeting place at Stanford University where he informally 'received' the kindred spirits who assembled. The meeting was postponed and the session of a week later proved one of the most enthusiastic of recent years.

The chapter arrangement suggested by Mr. Daggett some months ago and later embodied in the new constitution of the club, bids fair to become a reality. The Oakland members of the club, headed by Misses Helen Swett and Bertha L. Chapman, hope to organize a chapter at an early date. If so, Oakland can claim honor for the initial chapter, and other sections should rapidly follow the example.