

of California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology presents this liberal measure of results for a single season's work. The author, with one assistant, Mr. A. E. Hasselborg, spent the six months from April to October in visiting sixteen islands and six mainland localities in southeastern Alaska, reaching practically all important points not covered by the previous expedition of 1907. Somewhat more than 1000 specimens of birds and mammals were collected and a great amount of trustworthy information obtained. The list of birds totals 137 forms of which the 31 not attested by specimens are mostly included upon the careful observation and competent authority of the author himself. The extended critical and ecological notes bristle with facts new, interesting, and pertinent to particular problems. The notes on spring migration are especially welcome as very few observations have been made in this region earlier than May and June. In spite of the evident active field work done, one notes with no surprise that but little is recorded of nesting habits and the more intimate features of the bird life. Such matters must be left to local observers, for the itinerant collector in virgin fields can never spare the time for them. The critical notes are rather too numerous for specific mention, but it may be said that they carry a spirit of fairness and in a number of cases matters are presented in a new light or with additional and highly pertinent material tending to elucidate the status of various species and subspecies. Among the forms touched upon in this manner are *Macrorhamphus griseus scolopaceus*, *Buteo b. alascensis*, *Picoides a. fumipectus*, *Dryobates v. harrisi*, *D. p. glacialis*, *Passerculus s. savanna*, *Junco oregonus*, *Hirundo e. palmeri* and *Dendroica c. hooveri*. No new forms were discovered, and in view of the large collections and their careful study, this seems to indicate that possibilities in this direction are well nigh exhausted in a long productive region.

A very interesting section of the report, devoted to "Distributional Considerations," is all too short, although the modest statements of facts and conditions which it includes are perhaps better without ingenious elaboration of the theories to which they might lend themselves. In finding no faunal relationship between Prince of Wales Island and the Queen Charlotte group, the author is at variance with former writers who had the advantage of the possession of extensive material from both localities.

Doubtless he is right as to the reference of specimens, but we venture the belief that the Queen Charlotte forms are approached more closely by specimens from Prince of Wales Island and nearby islets than from elsewhere.

Arrangement, typography, and proofreading are above reproach, but the fastidious might ask for a more dignified abbreviation than Grin. for Grinnell, especially as we do not find on the same page, corresponding abridgments to Les., Lin., Nut., and Pal.—W. H. OSGOOD.

THE WARD-MCILHENNY WILDFOWL REFUGE. By CHARLES WILLIS WARD [=Forest and Stream, vol. LXXVII, no. 5, July, 1911, pp. 167-170, 5 ills.]

It is hard to overestimate the practical value of such game protection as is here described. To set aside large tracts of suitable land (there are 13,000 acres in this refuge) on which absolutely no shooting is allowed, will most assuredly protect the game thereon, while, as the writer says, "laws limiting their killing, prohibitions of the sale of game, societies for the protection of game, all seem inadequate to prevent the steady destruction of wild life". Of game laws, supposedly protective, but too often juggled with and adjusted to benefit various coteries of shooters, rather than the game, we have a superabundance, frequently so complicated and contradictory in different parts of the same state that it is hard for the conscientious sportsman to obey, and frequently easy for the unscrupulous to evade them. After years of experimentation along the same general lines we are forced to admit that our present system of game preservation is a failure, and that unless some radical changes are made, many of our game birds and mammals, and many non-game birds as well, are certain to disappear. Some have already gone. The "game refuge" idea holds out a gleam of hope. It looks practical and reasonable, and, linked with sensible restrictive laws covering the country at large, should do much to arrest the deplorable decrease of animal life. It is an undertaking that should be carried out by the various state governments, but the states are slow to move in such matters, and any private individuals stepping in meanwhile and doing as Messrs. McIlhenny and Ward have done deserve the fullest measure of praise and credit for their work. They seem to be going ahead in an eminently practical and unsentimental way. Sportsmen themselves, and fond of shooting, they are attacking the problem from the standpoint not that it is wrong to kill for sport but that it is eminently foolish and unsportsmanlike to utterly destroy so valuable an asset as the game of a country, and leave nothing for the morrow. We wish them the fullest measure of success. Their efforts should be given the widest publicity, and the results studied carefully. Would that other wealthy men could be found to attempt the same thing elsewhere; such refuges are badly needed in our own state, and could prob-

ably be established at a comparatively low cost.

In this same number of *Forest and Stream* (page 197) there is a brief editorial account of a heronry on the McIlhenny estate. It is stated to contain at least 100,000 birds, including the following species: Snowy Heron, Little Blue Heron, Louisiana Heron, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, and Egret; and has been built up from a very few pairs, simply by carefully protecting the birds at all times.—H. S. S.

#### MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

##### SOUTHERN DIVISION

**JUNE**—The June meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday evening, June 28, 1911, in the office of H. J. Lelande, 246 Wilcox Building, Los Angeles.

The meeting was called to order by President Morcom, with the following members present: Messrs. Robertson, Willett, Alphonse Jay, Judson, Granville and Lelande.

On motion by Mr. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Willett, and duly carried, Mr. Lelande was appointed Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved.

On motion by Mr. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Judson, and duly carried, the Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of those present electing to active membership Misses Kellogg and Blayne, and Messrs. Walker, Hamilton, Smith, Evermann, Carriker, Shaw, Rust, Stevens, Jordan, Barbour, Nehrling, Kermodé, Wells, Durfee, Mueller, Barker and Lane, whose names were presented at the May meeting. The following application for membership was presented: Eleanor Poitevent Earle, Palma Sola, Florida, proposed by A. B. Howell.

A communication from Mr. Frank S. Daggett to Secretary Law was read. In this letter Mr. Daggett stated that there was a probability of his making his permanent residence in California; all those present being very much pleased to hear such good news.

The following papers were read: "Further Notes from Santa Cruz Island" by A. B. Howell and A. Van Rossem; "May Notes from San Jacinto Lake" by G. Willett and Antonin Jay; and "An Early Spring Trip to Anacapa Island" by Homer L. Burt. Adjourned.—H. J. LELANDE, *Secretary, pro tem.*

**JULY**—The July meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday evening, July 27, 1911 at the office of H. J. Lelande, 246 Wilcox Building, Los Angeles.

In the absence of the President the meeting was called to order by Vice-President H. J. Lelande with the following members present: Messrs. H. C. Tracy, Howard Robertson, Otto Zahn, A. Jay, George Willett, H. J. Lelande, W. Lee Chambers. In the absence of the Secretary Mr. W. Lee Chambers was appointed by the Chair as Secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved.

On motion duly made and carried, Mrs. Eleanor P. Earle was elected to active membership.

The following applications for membership were presented: Thos. M. Trippe, Howardsville, Colorado, W. Linfred Dunbar, Bridgeport, Connecticut; E. J. Court, Mt. Pleasant, Washington and Mrs. J. H. Lancashire, Alma, Michigan; all proposed by Mr. A. B. Howell; and Miss Gretchen L. Libby, Redlands, California, proposed by Mr. H. S. Swarth.

The minutes of the Northern Division for the July meeting were read. Also three papers were read by Mr. Lelande as follows: "A Hybrid Quail" by M. E. Peck; "Some Colorado Horned Owl Notes" by E. R. Warren; and "Swallow Notes from Fresno" by J. G. Tyler.

Mr. George Willett presented some preliminary notes from his forthcoming "Birds of Southern California", which were very interesting and brought out much discussion. Adjourned.—W. LEE CHAMBERS, *Secretary pro tem.*

**AUGUST**—The August meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held on Thursday evening, August 31, 1911 at the office of H. J. Lelande, 246 Wilcox Building, Los Angeles. In the absence of the President, the meeting was called to order by Vice-President Lelande, with the following members present: Messrs. George Willett, Loye Holmes Miller, W. Lee Chambers, Antonin Jay and J. E. Law.

The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved. On motion duly made and carried, Mrs. J. H. Lancashire, Miss Gretchen L. Libby, Messrs. Thomas M. Trippe, W. Linfred Dunbar and E. J. Court proposed at the July meeting were duly elected to active membership. The applications of E. J. Darlington, Wilmington, Delaware, proposed by A. B. Howell, and Bernard Bailey, Corvallis, Montana, proposed by H. S. Swarth, were presented. On motion by Mr. Willett, seconded by Mr. Miller and duly carried, the resignation of Mr. Chas. Reining was accepted with regret. The Secretary then read a very interesting article on the nesting of the Anthony Vireo, accompanied by two cuts, by Jennie V. Getty. This article describes the taking of the first set of four eggs of this bird and other