

THE CONDOR

A Magazine of
Western Ornithology

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The friends of Mr. Joseph Dixon are relieved to learn that he with his party is safely housed for the winter on the Arctic shore of Alaska, near Demarcation Point. Letters were brought overland by sledge to Circle City during October and November. The latest letter was dated October 16, and reports everyone well and steps already under way towards carrying on winter collecting.

Mr. P. B. Peabody, of Blue Rapids, Kansas, is putting the finishing touches on his bird-book entitled "Nesting Ways". There remain, however, several western birds concerning which additional facts are needed, to bring the accounts to a uniform and satisfactory state of completeness. The author will be grateful for facts relative to any of these: Black Swift, Peale Falcon, Nevada Cowbird, Suisun Song Sparrow, Gray Titmouse, California Sage Sparrow, Monterey Hermit Thrush, and Salt Marsh Yellowthroat.

Southeastern Alaska received an unusual amount of ornithological attention the past year. That most remote of the southeastern fringe of islands, Forrester Island, was studied for three months by Dr. Harold Heath, of Stanford University. While Mr. George Willett explored several of the islands in the vicinity of Sitka. Reports from each of these field-observers are promised for future publication in THE CONDOR.

On the afternoon of November 6, 1913, the Museum of History, Science, and Art, in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, was formally opened to the public, the culmination of a

series of events which have been followed with closest interest by the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club. This dedication formed part of a two days' general celebration by the city of Los Angeles, marking the completion of the Owens River aqueduct, the exercises of the second day centering at Exposition Park. The other structures in the park, the State Exposition Building and the Armory, were also dedicated during the afternoon, though their unfinished condition precludes their immediate use by the public; and the site of the great memorial fountain which it is proposed to erect, was the scene of additional exercises.

After the ceremonies the Museum was thrown open for two hours, during which time it was inspected by about 4500 visitors. A reception was held by the Board of Governors in the evening, attended by about a thousand invited guests.

Although this date marks the formal dedication of the institution, two of the three wings, dealing with the natural sciences and with history, respectively, had been informally receiving visitors for nine months previously. The steadily augmenting numbers of these visitors, ranging from 300 to 1000 on Sundays, with a sudden jump to nearly 7000 on the Fourth of July, is sufficient indication of the place the institution is occupying in the life of the city. The added attractions of the art gallery have produced a marked increase in the attendance since the opening; altogether the number of people visiting the building, despite its location so far from the center of town, is encouraging evidence of its appreciation by the general public.

The Southern Division has not been slow to avail itself of the advantages afforded by the Cooper Club's connection with the Museum. Most of the Division's meetings are held in the building, and several of the members have placed their collections here as an eminently secure place of deposit; on the other hand, a number of the exhibition cases have been filled with gifts received from various of our members.

The city of Los Angeles owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. W. M. Bowen, president of the Museum's board of governors, as it is largely to his untiring labors for some years past that not only the Museum, but the entire Exposition Park, with everything included therein, was preserved to the people. The Cooper Club is under no less a debt to Mr. Howard Robertson, our representative on the Museum's governing board, who ably seconded Mr. Bowen in his labors, and who clearly perceived the many ways in which the Museum and the Club could be mutually helpful and beneficial.—H. S. S.

COMMUNICATION

A COLLECTOR IN SOUTH AMERICA

EDITOR THE CONDOR:

I dropped you a line or two from Lake Junin, Peru, some few weeks since. Am now