

THE CONDOR

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Western Ornithology

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS.

As far as we are aware, bird banding has not been practiced to any considerable extent on the Pacific Coast. This year Mrs. Amelia S. Allen, of Berkeley, and Mr. J. S. Hunter, of the State Fish and Game Commission, have undertaken to band some wild birds. Supplies of the necessary bands together with instructions as to their use, and the objects of so doing, can be secured from Mr. Howard H. Cleaves, Secretary of the American Bird Banding Association, New Brighton, N. Y.

Dr. C. G. Stivers, of Los Angeles, a Southern Division member of the Cooper Club, is now Captain, M. R. C., Aviation Section, Signal Corps, with headquarters for the time being in San Francisco.

FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED TO COLLECT MIGRATORY BIRDS, THEIR NESTS AND EGGS FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES

Collectors of birds, their nests or eggs for scientific purposes will be interested to know that the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which was passed by Congress and became a law on July 3, 1918, makes it unlawful to take, possess, or transport migratory game birds, or other migratory birds, their nests or eggs, without a permit issued by the United States Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with regulations under the new law which became effective July 31, 1918.

Applications for permits must be addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., and must contain the name and address of the applicant, the name of the State, Territory, or District, in which the specimens are proposed to be taken, and the purposes for which they are intended. Each application must be accompanied by certificates from two well-known ornithologists that the applicant is a proper person to have a permit.

The permit will authorize the holder thereof to possess, buy, sell, or transport migra-

tory birds, or parts thereof, and their nests or eggs for scientific purposes. Public museums, zoological parks or societies, and public scientific and educational institutions may possess, buy, sell, and transport in any manner at any time migratory birds, or parts thereof, and their nests and eggs, for scientific purposes without a permit. No specimens shall be collected, however, even for such institutions, without a permit.

Permits will be issued free of charge, and will be valid only during the calendar year of issue. They will not be transferable and will be revocable at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture. Persons holding permits are required to report on or before January 10 following their expiration, giving the number of skins, nests, or eggs of each species collected, bought, or sold during the life of the permit. Every package in which migratory birds, their nests or eggs are transported shall have clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof the name and address of the sender, the number of the permit held by the shipper in every case where a permit is required, the name and address of the consignee, a statement that it contains specimens of birds, their nests or eggs for scientific purposes, and, whenever such a package is transported or offered for transportation from the Dominion of Canada into the United States, or from the United States into the Dominion of Canada, an accurate statement of the contents.

Holders of Federal permits are also required to comply with State laws and regulations governing the taking of migratory birds, their nests or eggs for scientific purposes.

In a letter dated August 10, 1918, E. W. Nelson, Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, gives assurance that the requirements under the new law will be made as little burdensome as possible. Reasonable time will be given for allowing collectors to become informed in regard to these regulations and to take the necessary steps to meet them. But after that anyone who collects without a permit is liable to arrest and prosecution in the Federal court.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The May meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was an outdoor meeting held at the home of the Secretary, Mrs. Allen, at three P. M. on Sunday, May 19, 1918. Dr. Evermann called