

how this situation may best be handled to the interests of the Club at large.

DEPARTMENT OF ORNITHOLOGY AND MAMMALOLOGY OF THE MUSEUM OF THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—The Museum of the California Academy of Sciences has recently acquired by gift the entire ornithological and oological collection of John W. and Joseph Mailliard. The collection is devoted exclusively to North American birds. There are about 11000 skins representing 777 species. The oological collection contains more than 13000 specimens, in 5240 sets representing more than 600 species.

This is one of the largest and best selected collections in western America, and contains numerous specimens of species that are now rare or that possess unusual interest because of locality or other important fact. The collection represents the joint work of the Mailliard brothers during their many years of field work and study of American birds. The collection is especially valuable because of the unusually full and carefully kept records that accompany the specimens.

The water birds have already been installed in the Academy Museum; the land birds and the nests and eggs will remain at the residence of Mr. John W. Mailliard for the present, until adequate facilities for properly housing them are provided at the Museum.

With the transfer of ownership of the collection to the Academy of Sciences, and at the urgent request of the Council of the Academy, Mr. Joseph Mailliard consented to accept the Honorary Curatorship of Ornithology in the Museum. Having retired from active business, Mr. Mailliard is able to give practically his entire time to curatorial work in the Department, to field work for enlarging the collection where insufficiently represented, and in research work.

The Academy has also secured the services of Mr. Luther Little, formerly of Los Angeles, as Assistant Curator of Ornithology and Mammalogy. Mr. Little is a member of the Southern Division of the Cooper Club, has had considerable experience as a collector and student of birds and mammals, and is regarded by the Academy as a decided acquisition to its Museum staff.—B. W. E.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

THE ANIMAL LIFE OF GLACIER NATIONAL PARK.—The animal life of our national parks is one of their best recreative assets. The cliffs, the lakes, the waterfalls, and the for-

ests each and together tend to stimulate the senses and the mind to pleasurable excitement; and the efforts to secure these pleasures in full measure bring vigorous bodily exercise. But the animals, provided interest in them is once aroused, undoubtedly constitute a more subtle and even more alluring objective, one that brings into play at keenest pitch those more or less latent senses and instincts which were of vital importance in the earlier stages of human history. For, among mammals, large and small, and among birds and insects, one encounters the moving, elusive objective, the one characterized by mannerism, by changing form, color tone and pattern, and by sound of great variety. Moreover, the animal life, and the plant life too, presents innumerable problems of interrelations, of interdependences and of struggles for mastery—the contemplation of any one of which will provide unlimited stimulus for intellectual activity and enjoyment.

Despite our belief in the instinctive human appeal of all these things, the average human of today must be re-introduced, as it were, to this field of appreciation. A valuable service in this regard depends for performance upon those persons and agencies possessing the naturalist's knowledge and possessing also the power to make this available to the people at large. People must be instructed at least to that most desirable point where each will pursue eagerly and independently his own study of natural history. A splendid move has been made on the part of our National Park Service in the direction of realizing upon this special value of national parks by the inaugurating of a series of papers setting forth the more attractive features of their wild life.

The first separate publication of the Department of the Interior dealing solely with the animal life of any one national park is the one just published and entitled "Wild Animals of Glacier National Park."¹ Happily enough, the account of "The Mammals" is provided by Vernon Bailey, and that of "The Birds" by Florence Merriam Bailey; for each of these authors is exceptionally qualified to handle his subject both by reason of adequate field experience throughout the west generally as well as within the area dealt with in particular, and by reason of skill to put his knowledge into comprehensible language and to develop an enthusiastic

¹Department of the Interior, National Park Service (Washington, Gov't Printing Office), 1918; 210 pp., 37 pls., 94 text figs. Our copy received March 6, 1919. Price 50 cents.

thirst for further knowledge of the subject in the mind of the reader.

Abundant illustrations add immeasurably to the attractiveness and usefulness of this contribution. An exceptionally valuable feature is the large-scale colored life-zone map of Glacier Park. This zone map, resulting from Mr. Bailey's own field work, not only furnishes the owner of this brochure with a ready geographic index to the region, but in connection with the text, it provides him with the means of locating himself definitely as regards the belt of animal and plant life in which he may find himself at any point or along any route.

The accounts of the birds consist chiefly of facts concerning the manner of occurrence of the species in Glacier Park, together with life-history notes to an extent that the necessary limits of space permit. Particularly full accounts are given, in Mrs. Bailey's vivid style, of the White-tailed Ptarmigan, Barrow Golden-eye, Harlequin Duck, and Water Ouzel.

The Baileys are to be congratulated upon their opportunity to inaugurate what must become an increasingly important function of the National Park Service, namely to make known to a large and receptive class of people the wild life resources of national parks. And the National Park Service is to be congratulated upon the good fortune in securing such experienced naturalists to initiate their efforts in getting value out of this asset.—J. GRINNELL.

AN ANNOTATED LIST OF THE BIRDS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, by FRANK STEPHENS. Transactions San Diego Society of Natural History, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 142-180. Issued February 15, 1919.

The most striking feature of the present list is its conciseness. It is our belief that this paper will prove of more than ordinary value to the layman. For one thing, the typography of the paper is such that one is enabled to turn to any desired species with a minimum of eye strain and effort, and there is a well-executed index.

The 320 species treated are listed under orders and families in the familiar A. O. U. order. Points such as general habitat, food and economic status are concisely treated under each order heading, while under each species there is a brief but excellent account covering such points as relative numbers, local habitat, breeding, and, in the rarer species, a record of the capture of specimens.

Mr. Stephens' many years of observation

in California, equalled by few if any ornithologists now living, make his comments on the present and former abundance of certain birds of especial value. His opinion regarding the economic status of various species, based on years of experience also as a rancher, is to be held in high esteem by those who are familiar with the conservative and impartial judgment of the man.—J. DIXON.

BIRDS OF THE KANSAS CITY REGION. By HARRY HARRIS. Transactions of the Academy of Science of St. Louis, vol. XXIII, no. 8, pp. 213-371, 4 text figs. (maps). Issued February 27, 1919.

In this paper we find a regional list of unusual merit. While we are not at all familiar with the ornithology of the Kansas City region, we are inclined to have the utmost confidence in the accuracy of the facts given, on the basis of the thoroughness of the workmanship shown in other respects. The arrangement is excellent; the bibliography is full, and the comments offered on the titles are illuminative; and the index is unusually complete.

The paper is much more than a list, as the annotations relating to manner of occurrence, habits, etc., of a single species often amount to half a page. The total number of species admitted is 343, though 8 of these are now extinct in the region. A notable feature is the detailed explanation of the distribution of the three subspecies of Red-winged Blackbird, two of which breed in Kansas and a third appears in migration, and through the winter as well, sometimes in company with the others.

All in all, Mr. Harris has planned and put through a thoroughly creditable piece of work, and one which must mark a far advance in the development of Kansas ornithology.—J. GRINNELL.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

FEBRUARY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at 8 P. M., February 20, 1919. President Evermann was in the chair, and the members present were Messrs. Bryant, Carriger, Cohen, Cooper, Grinnell, Hall, Hansen, Hunt, Lastreto, Law, Mailliard, Moffitt, Storer, Swarth, Wheeler, Wright; Mesdames Allen, Bamford, Grinnell, Knappen, Law, Newhall, Roe, Schlesinger and