

During the past winter and spring, Mr. A. J. van Rossem had occasion to make several week-end trips to Oak Glen, situated at the head of the Yucaipa Valley, at an altitude of 5200 feet, in the San Bernardino Mountains, California. Careful scrutiny of the flocks of juncos which frequented the vicinity disclosed two individuals of the Rocky Mountain species, *Junco caniceps*. These specimens (nos. K 75 and K 76, coll. D. R. D.) were collected by van Rossem on March 4, 1922, and thus confirm the field determination.

The heavy rains which the West enjoyed during the winter months of 1921-1922, with the consequent heavy snowfall in the higher altitudes, naturally restricted the winter range of these ground-feeding birds which are, in all probability, normally present in the mountains of southern California during the winter months. It is the writer's belief, based on this data, that *caniceps* would be found a regular—though possibly rare—winter visitant to California, if equally favorable opportunities for observation were afforded each winter. The lack of mountain collecting in the winter months, and the rarity of similar snow conditions, have in all probability accounted for the previous dearth of California records of this species.—DONALD R. DICKEY, Pasadena, California, May 30, 1922.

RECORD OF BIRDS BANDED

Bands:	5701-5708	9726-9730	12336-12344	24801-24805	32885-32889	56433
	6612-6650		12346-12368	24807-24835	32891	
J. E. Law, at Los Angeles, Calif., November 28, 1921, to May 26, 1922.						
<i>Carpodacus m. frontalis</i> , (22)	6615-17,			<i>Pipilo c. senicula</i> , (1)	32885.	
-29, -41, -42,	6647-6650,	12352,		<i>Zonotrichia coronata</i> , (1)	6626.	
12359-12361,	24810, -13, -15,	24817-		<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i> (subsp.),	(48)	
24822.				6612, -14, -16, -18, -20, -21, -23, -24, -25,		
<i>Dendroica a. auduboni</i> , (1)	6622.			-27, -28, 6630-6637, 6643, -46, 12341, -42,		
<i>Melospiza m. cooperi</i> , (4)	6619, 24830,			-50, -51, -53, -54, -55, -56, -58, 12362-		
48129, -30.				12368, 24804, -09, -11, -12, -23, -24.		
<i>Mimus p. leucopterus</i> , (1)	32886.					
At Altadena, Calif., December 7, 1921, to May 30, 1922.						
<i>Chamaea f. henshawi</i> , (5)	6639, 24805,			<i>Pipilo m. megalonyx</i> , (2)	12343, -49.	
-07, -08, -14.				<i>Thryomanes b. charienturus</i> , (5)	24831-	
<i>Cinclus m. unicolor</i> , (1)	56433.			24835.		
<i>Hylocichla guttata</i> (subsp.), (2),	6638,			<i>Toxostoma r. redivivum</i> , (5)	9726-9730.	
12357.				<i>Zonotrichia coronata</i> , (13)	6613, -40, -44,	
<i>Junco o. thurberi</i> , (1)	12344.			-45, 24801, -02, -03, -16,	24825-24829.	
<i>Mimus p. leucopterus</i> , (1)	12348.					
<i>Pipilo c. senicula</i> , (5)	12346, -47, 32888,					
-89, -91.						
Ernest P. Walker, at Beardslee Island, Glacier Bay, Alaska, August 3, 1921.						
<i>Larus glaucescens</i> , (3)	5701-5703.					
At South Marble Island, Glacier Bay, Alaska, August 5, 1921.						
<i>Larus glaucescens</i> , (5)	5704-5708.					

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The annual Cooper Club roster appearing in the present issue of THE CONDOR, shows a total membership of 800. This is a six per cent increase over last year, and, of course, is larger than ever before. For the compilation of this directory, which experience has shown to be a very useful feature of our annual volume, the Club is indebted to Mrs. J. Eugene Law.

The best index to current ornithological

literature in the world today, we believe, is that comprised in the "Recent Literature" department of *The Auk*. The editor of this journal, Dr. Witmer Stone, with the advantage of the excellent literary facilities at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, has proven himself able to cover the literature of every country with remarkable thoroughness. Rarely does a title come to light which he has missed. Especially useful is it to have a clue to articles

which are widely scattered, often effectively hidden, in various publications other than the regular ornithological journals.

Ornithological work we happen to know to be in progress relative to western North America includes the following: By Joseph Mailliard, further studies on the local migrations and distribution of birds in the northwest coast district of California; by Walter P. Taylor and Prof. W. T. Shaw, the distribution and habits of the birds of Washington; by Joseph Grinnell and Tracy I. Storer, the natural history of Yosemite birds; by Allan Brooks and Harry S. Swarth, the distribution and systematic status of the birds of British Columbia; by Donald R. Dickey and A. J. van Rossem, the systematic status of various birds of southern California; by J. Eugene Law, the birds of the Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona; by Loye H. Miller, the fossil birds of the McKittrick asphalt deposits; by Joseph Grinnell, the birds of Death Valley.

An editorial in the Berkeley "Gazette" for April 24, 1922, is so good, the points made appeal to us as so well taken, that we give the gist of it here. "The Department of Agriculture is now experimenting with various kinds of gas as a means of destroying noxious insects, mammals and birds. . . . A test is to be made, probably with chlorine, on the destructive blackbirds of the Imperial Valley. The plan is to overwhelm them with a gas cloud at night while they are roosting in the marshes. Other plans contemplate the slaughter of grasshoppers, locusts, etc., by similar clouds, used precisely as the gas was used against hostile armies. It is a hopeful adaptation of destructive weapons to constructive purpose, but one to be used with extreme caution. Aside from the danger to the wielder of the weapon, there is the same objection to gas in peace as in war—it is likely to kill noncombatants along with enemies. This is true alike of mammals, birds and insects. The gas may annihilate them all, the beneficent along with the rest, and often it is difficult to say in which class any particular creature belongs. Many a well-meant effort at riddance of a pest has brought a worse evil, by interfering ignorantly with the fine balance of nature. Any farmer contemplating a gas-cloud assault along his crop front had better wait until the experimenting has gone farther."

Everyone who has any sympathetic regard for the sport of bird photography should see the illustrated article by Robert B. Rockwell and Clark Blickensderfer, in *Natural History* (American Museum of Natural History, New York, xxi, 1921, pp. 626-638). Remarkable success was won by

these men in picturing the home life of the elusive Saw-whet Owl in the mountains of Colorado. The eighteen excellent photographs published with the article betoken a degree of patience and skill that only a person who has made attempts along similar lines can fully appreciate.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

PHILIPPINE BIRDS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. By Richard C. McGregor and Elizabeth J. Marshall; with illustrations by Macario Ligaya. Manila (Bureau of Printing), pp. 1-138, many plates (colored) and text figures.

Thirty presumably common species of Philippine birds are treated in brief chapters, giving for each certain outstanding features of its life history. The book is written "for boys and girls", as indicated by the title, and apparently for very small boys and girls. Brief appendices giving additional information regarding the birds described, and with references to bird literature, will be valuable to teachers using the volume as a text book. This is a new departure for the senior author, in rather startling contrast to the technical articles with which we are used to associate his name. It brings to the mind one feature of a cartoon that appeared in *THE CONDOR* of March, 1901.—H. S. SWARTH.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

APRIL.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology on April 27, 1922, at 8 p. m. President Swarth was in the chair, and the following members were present: Mesdames Allen, Bennet, Blake, Bogle, Culver, Davenport, Flinn, Grinnell, Mead, Reygadas, Thomson and Van Gaasbeek; Messrs. Bell, Dixon, Evermann, Grinnell, Willard Grinnell, Mailliard, Miller, Storer, Strong, Torrey and White. Among the visitors were Mrs. Evermann, Mr. and Mrs. Hagedoorn, Mrs. Thomson and Prof. Kingsley.

After the reading and approval of the March minutes, the minutes of the Southern Division for February and March were read. Mr. Vernon L. Tenney, 2536 Etna Street, Berkeley, was proposed for membership by Dr. William F. Bade.

Professor Kingsley then gave an account of naturalists he had known, using photographs for illustrative material. Adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary*.