

(Nov. 26, March 3); Snelling, Merced Co., 1 (Jan. 6); Grizzly Id., Solano Co., 1 (March 14); Nicasio, Marin Co., 2 (April 9, 14); Oakland, 2 (Dec. 4, Jan. 7); Santa Cruz Mts., 1 (Nov. 25); Riverside, 1 (Nov. 3). Total, 322.

Berkeley, California, September 15, 1923.

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

For preparing this year's annual index, which concludes the present issue, the editors of *THE CONDOR* are indebted to Mr. Frank N. Bassett.

The forty-first stated meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union was held at the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 9 to 11, 1923. The attendance was large, including 24 of the Fellows. A total of 43 papers was presented, covering a very wide range of topics. Elections included Dr. Chas. W. Townsend to the class of Fellows, and Messrs. Chas. D. Bunker, Joseph Dixon and George F. Simmons to the class of Members.

Pacific Coast Avifauna number 15, Florence Merriam Bailey on "Birds Recorded from the Santa Rita Mountains in Southern Arizona," was issued on November 8, 1923. This contribution is published under the auspices of the Cooper Ornithological Club, the cost of printing having been met by money donations from certain of the members who are actively interested in the development of southwestern ornithology. This new number in the Avifauna series will, we feel confident, prove of distinct credit to all concerned. Studies of this high standard are needed from a great many other western areas which possess marked faunal individuality.

It is with deep sorrow that we record the death of Winifred N. Wear, which took place after a brief illness, at Fresno, California, September 4, 1923. Miss Wear was long a member of the Cooper Ornithological Club, always active in promoting those interests for which the Club stands. She was a successful teacher in the public schools and for the last four years of her life was Principal of the Chowchilla School. She was ever alert to introduce and foster the study of natural history in the schools of the San Joaquin Valley. The cause of bird study in that region has suffered the loss of a tireless and conscientious worker. There is no one now in view to take her place.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

PREBLE AND MCATEE ON THE FAUNA OF THE PRIBILOFS.*—It is good to see another number in the North American Fauna series. We had been afraid that governmental economy had singled out this series for elimination altogether, or at least for reduction. The present number (46) is reassuring in this regard, as also because of its high standard of scientific content—equal to the best of its predecessors of like nature.

Preble and McAtee give a very interesting analysis of the avifauna of the Pribilof Islands. This is a group of rather sequestered location in Bering Sea, though situated considerably nearer the Alaskan shore than the Siberian shore. A total of 137 species of birds has been definitely identified from the Pribilofs. Only 23 of these are known to breed there, and of these 23, 19 are water birds, and only 4 species are of endemic land birds. The striking thing about the whole list is the proportion of stragglers—casual visitants or at best very irregular migrants. These strays in all cases very probably hail from the neighboring coasts of Asia and America. A great many of the records are based on just one known occurrence; and additions of this kind of record may be expected to continue far into the future, almost as long as keen observers are located on the islands. No less than 14 species are now on the North American list solely because of their casual occurrence on the Pribilof Islands.

The authors think that all these cases of straggling are to be accounted for on the basis of bewilderment of individuals driven out to sea by high winds. Such lost birds would be attracted by the sight

*U. S. Dept. Agric., Bur. Biological Survey, N. Am. Fauna No. 46, 1923 ["actual date of publication, June 20", but our copy not received until August 24], pp. iv+256, 15 pls.: A Biological Survey of the Pribilof Islands, Alaska: I. Birds [pp.10-101] and Mammals, by Edward A. Preble and W. L. McAtee; II, Insects, Arachnids, and Chelipods, by various entomologists, with an introduction by W. L. McAtee.

of land in clear weather; while in foggy weather the noise from the herds of fur seals and sea lions might serve as the guiding agency. This latter is a novel type of landmark. We were not previously aware that ocean signals (sirens, bell buoys, and the like) might reasonably be supposed to act in deflecting the flight courses of birds!

A comparatively new feature, in faunal papers, is the inclusion of considerable data in regard to the food of the birds. Detailed analyses of stomach contents are given for most of the species. It is remarked that two-winged flies preponderated in the food of the birds which fed on land; while with the sea birds a great diversity of organisms living in the kelp beds furnished the predominant supply. These "kelp pastures" proved to be "the richest sort of feeding places for omnivorous birds", both summer and winter. Insufficient and monotonous diet is *not* a characteristic of Boreal seas. There is an abundance of food, in great variety and permanent supply, and this doubtless accounts for the fact that bird life in Bering Sea is so prolific throughout the year.

The reviewer could point out many noteworthy things in the accounts of individual species, as well as in the nomenclature employed, but space forbids. Suffice it to say that the staff of the Biological Survey, more particularly the authors of the vertebrate portion of the present paper, Preble and McAtee, are to be credited with another first-class contribution.—J. GRINNELL, *California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, September 1, 1923.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

AUGUST.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division, Cooper Ornithological Club, was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, Thursday, August 23, at 8 P. M. President Cooper was in the Chair, and attendance was as follows: Members Misses Beaman, Bennet, Burk, C. Flinn, H. Flynn, Thomson, Van Gaasbeek, and Wythe; Mesdames Allen, Bogle, Frederick, Grant, Grinnell, Mexia, and Roe; Messrs. Dixon, Elmore, J. Grinnell, Willard Grinnell, Lubarthe, Swarth, Wheeler. Visitors: Mrs. Thomson and Mrs. Wheeler.

Minutes of the August meeting of the

Northern Division were read and approved and the name of Mr. Edgar Locke Lazier, Reed College, Portland, Oregon, was proposed for membership in the club by J. Grinnell. Different members then contributed accounts of their vacation experiences, after which the meeting adjourned.—AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Secretary.*

SOUTHERN DIVISION

JUNE.—The regular monthly meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Los Angeles Museum, Thursday Evening, June 28, 1923, at 8 P. M., with Vice-President Wyman in the chair. Members present were: Misses Burnell and Miller; Messrs Cantwell, Chambers, Barnes, Dickey, Hanaford, Reis, Robertson, and Ross. Visitors were: Mrs. Reis and Mr. Owen.

Minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. New names proposed for membership were: Miss Mary Bell Keefer, 605 Wallace Avenue, Covington, Kentucky, by R. T. Kellogg, Silver City, New Mexico; Mrs. Charles A. Harris, Box 8, Glendora, California, by Dr. C. H. Wood; Everett F. McBride, Box P, Fellows, California, by A. van Rossem; Thomas Guy Shafer, 2101 23d Avenue, Oakland, California, by W. Lee Chambers.

An invitation of the Cooper Club to hold a joint meeting with the Friends of Our National Parks Society, on October 25, 1923, was read. Mr. Robertson moved, seconded by Mr. Reis, that the Secretary be instructed to accept the invitation; motion carried.

Mr. Robertson presented to the Southern Division, on behalf of Mrs. Frank S. Daggett, the late Mr. Daggett's books containing bird notes and letters from various bird men throughout the country. These books will be added to the library of the Southern Division, which is always available to Cooper Club members. They will also be of value to the Daggett Bird Collection which was purchased by the Los Angeles Museum. Mr. Dickey moved that the secretary be instructed to write a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Daggett, expressing thanks for her interest in the Club. Seconded by Mr. Barnes and carried.

Informal discussion: Mr. Wyman gave a short talk on Central American birds. Mr. Dickey gave a very interesting account of his recent visit to Laysan Island. Meeting adjourned.—LUTHER LITTLE, *Secretary.*