

birds; and Mr. Edwards recently had an S. O. S. call for an emergency supply of bands, so they must be keeping up the good work. Mr. McCabe writes: "Yesterday we rode twenty-three miles, largely through willow, and it is no exaggeration to say that for every twenty yards there was a Rufous Hummingbird, many of them doing their amazing courtship performance. Whether it is a case of arrested migration (the spring has been very late) or whatever the cause, this is a year out of a century as far as birds go." In a later letter Mr. McCabe reports that between 300 and 400 birds have been banded this spring at the station of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wendle.

These stations are doing splendid work. We are looking forward to valuable results in regard to the movements of their birds from station to station, and we strongly hope that they will get some of the birds banded at southern stations and vice-versa. Already Mr. Cochran reports the recapture at his station of a Junco which had been banded at the McCabe station eighteen miles away.—HAROLD MICHENER, 418 Elm Avenue, Pasadena, California, July 22, 1927.

## EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

Our fellow member, Mrs. F. T. Bicknell, of Los Angeles, has brought forward an issue which should interest bird students, generally, whether or not resident in California. As yet, there is no "state bird" for California. Kansas has the Meadow-lark, Texas has the Mockingbird; what bird should be named as California's State Bird? We have heard numerous suggestions already; and we have our own ideas. Among the candidates mentioned the California Condor looms; but this bird is not associated in the layman's mind with the poppies! No doubt whatsoever the Wren-tit is ornithologically the most unique bird of California; but it is not widely known to the bird-loving public. The Canyon Wren is another suggested species; but it is of exceedingly local occurrence, and therefore known to but few people. Now, as an undoubtedly useful step toward the ultimate selection of a State Bird for California, the Editor of *THE CONDOR* hereby invites a postal card vote from members of the Cooper Ornithological Club everywhere. Nominate your choice and send your nomination to *THE CONDOR* Editor, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, not later than January 1, 1928. Give, briefly, reasons that you would urge for your candidate. In the following number of *THE CONDOR* we will give the result of the vote and a summary of the reasons.

For the past several years we have received greatly appreciated assistance in preparing the annual index to *THE CONDOR* from Mr. Frank N. Bassett. This year, Mr. Bassett was excused from this service, on excellent grounds; and we had to seek help elsewhere. To Mrs. Amelia S. Allen we are indebted for preparation

of the Index to Volume XXIX, appearing as part of the present number.

Americans have welcomed the opportunity this fall of making the personal acquaintance of several world known ornithologists from abroad. Various ornithological centers on both coasts have been visited by Mr. Jean Delacour of Paris, Mr. M. U. Hachisuka of Tokyo, and Mr. Gregory M. Mathews of London. It has been a real pleasure to meet these accomplished gentlemen. Also, the conversations held have availed much of practical benefit. Exchange of views has measureably enlarged our own grasp of certain general questions in our field of science.

Our January issue, already in press, will be the largest single number in the history of our magazine. It will be occupied largely by Mr. Harry Harris's exhaustive "Biography of Robert Ridgway", this to be accompanied by fifty illustrations. This contribution, we are confident, is literarily and historically of high order of merit and will be widely read and appreciated, especially by the hosts of friends and admirers of Mr. Ridgway himself.

### PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

HENDERSON'S "PRACTICAL VALUE OF BIRDS".\*—This volume proves to be the most useful book yet available for supplying information in economic ornithology. The tenor throughout is calm, sane, non-sentimental. There is no element of disputation; indeed, moot ground appears to

\* The | Practical Value | of Birds | by | Junius Henderson | Professor of Natural History and Curator of Museum, | University of Colorado | New York | The Macmillan Company | 1927; demy 8vo, pp. xii + 342; \$2.50. Our copy purchased August 9, 1927.