

EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The Cooper Club membership list prepared by Mr. Harry Harris and published in the present issue of the Condor shows a total current enrollment of 869. This is good evidence of continued wide interest in the field of western ornithology. Also, this roster will doubtless find extensive use as a directory of active naturalists.

Further changes in the business management of the Cooper Ornithological Club and of the Condor are necessitated by growth. Mr. John McB. Robertson, Buena Park, California, takes over entire charge of our membership and subscription lists; hereafter all Club dues and subscriptions should be sent directly to him. Mr. W. Lee Chambers will now concern himself more with endowment affairs and investments, besides continuing to handle sale of back publications.

By the will of the late Mrs. Edward A. Kluegel (Belle Marsh Kluegel) the Cooper Ornithological Club receives \$500.00, bequeathed to it as an addition to the endowment fund. Increments of this character mean permanency in the Club's capacity to publish and thus distinctly encourage the Business Managers and the Editors. Mrs. Kluegel was a regular attendant upon Northern Division meetings for many years. While not an active participant in our programs, she evinced lively interest and her pleasant personality is lastingly remembered as making the occasions pleasurable. Her death took place at Carmel on the 28th day of May, 1928.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

BATES ON THE BIRDS OF WEST AFRICA.—In our young days Timbuctu signified just about the farthest frontier in the vast unknown interior of the Dark Continent. Now, it appears, there is scarcely a geographical nook left unexplored anywhere in Africa, and much of it is easily accessible not only to the trader and farmer but, of late, to the tourist. An evidence that this last stage is now reached is before us in the shape of a well-gotten-up "Handbook of the Birds of West Africa" (London: John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Ltd.; 30s net), by George

Latimer Bates, with illustrations by H. Grönvold; 1930 (our copy received January 27); pp. xxiv + 572, numerous uncolored illustrations. If you contemplate travelling through any of the region from Timbuctu south to the Gold Coast and from Senegal east to Lake Chad, and want to learn the birds along the way, take along a copy of Bates's Handbook. You will surely want to realize it when you find yourself within the range of the Bat-eating Buzzard, or of the Yellow-mantled Whydah-bird. You mustn't miss a chance of seeing the famous Black-throated Honey-guide, even though Mr. Bates declares that he personally knows no evidence supporting the tradition that honey-guides go about "of set purpose and intelligently, guiding people to places where honey is to be found!" Even to *one* who has no prospect ever of touring West Africa, the book in hand provides much natural history pleasant to read and obviously of sound authority.—J. GRINNELL.

WILLIAM ROWAN'S latest account of **EXPERIMENTS IN BIRD MIGRATION*** conducted at Edmonton, Alberta, presents a concrete type of data relating to the intricate problem of migration. Although the amount of literature on this subject is already most extensive, rarely are new facts, such as the data presented in this work, added to the common fund of knowledge. In a sense, Rowan's experiments are unique in that they seriously attempt to isolate and test single environmental factors and do not resort to the usual type of casual or even accidental observation. The author is well fitted to deal with migration by reason of his extensive experience among Canadian migrants, yet, at times he may be unduly influenced by the perfect and nearly universal migration of his local bird species. Were Rowan a Californian, for example, different emphasis might have been placed upon the vast number of birds which are resident or in which the migratory in-

*Experiments in Bird Migration. I. Manipulation of the Reproductive Cycle: Seasonal Histological Changes in the Gonads. By William Rowan. Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, vol. 39, no. 5, October, 1929, pp. 151-208, plates 22-32.