

In the Second Index:

Burt, Homer Clarence
 Carpenter, Nelson Kitwood
 Davis, John M. (initial only)
 Edquist, Alfred George
 Frost, Albert Henry
 Herron, Robert Byron
 Newberry, Walter Cass
 Newbury (not Newberry), Frederick E.

Payne, Harry Thom
 Peyton, Sidney Burns
 Pomeroy, Harry Kirkland
 Reagan, Albert B. (initial only)
 Snyder, Gaylord Kenyon
 Trafton, Gilbert Haven
 Wright, Howard Walter

In the Third Index:

Booth, Edward James
 Cayley, Neville William
 Chaney, Ralph Works
 Clark, Dr. Frank Charles
 Cozens, Harold Hammond
 Dewar, Dr. John Michael
 Falla, Robert Alexander
 Henderson, Henry Newton
 Hill, Grace Alma

Johnstone, Walter Bagnall
 Low, George Carmichael
 Loyd, Lewis Richard William
 Mauri, Prof. Ernesto
 Metzger, Charles Thomas
 Myers, Dr. John Golding
 Quayle, Ernest Harrison
 Walker, Sir Gilbert Thomas
 Wolstenholme, Harry

Opportunity may also be taken to correct slight errors in four names: Foster, Goodwin Le Baron (not Lebaron); Mauri (not Maur); Willard, Frank Cottle (not Cattle); and Wolstenholme (not Wostenholme). Of the names still incomplete, 19 are in the First Index, 12 in the Second, and 9 in the Third, but of these last, 4, Dr. Alexandre of Mexico, Francisco C. Grinda, the Paris Brothers, and Col. Velasquez de Leon are almost hopeless, leaving practically but 5 names to be completed, a striking illustration of the care with which the last Index was prepared. Probably few journals of equal age can record such a small percentage of incomplete names of authors, about 40 in 30 volumes.—T. S. PALMER, 1939 *Biltmore Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., May 30, 1931.*

The Mockingbird Nests in Santa Cruz, California.—For several years the Western Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*) has been familiar to citizens of the southwestern precincts of this city throughout the nesting season, and an individual bird has been reported as seen with nesting materials in its beak. The writer has observed the bird in song since mid-February this year and has seen what he considered to be fully grown young birds of the year, so judged because they were associated in loose groups and were not vocal except for the oft-repeated call note.

On May 9, 1931, a nest with young was learned of which had been under observation for some days. It was fully concealed in a rose bush near a vacant house but was within easy reach from the ground. A visit disclosed a tragedy, for the nest was empty. However, there was found on the ground immediately beneath it a dead fledgling in sufficient plumage for identification. A wing and tarsus sent to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology brought a prompt confirmation from Dr. Grinnell as its being "nothing else" than *Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*, and as establishing the farthest north nesting station for the mockingbird reported from the coast belt to date.—FRED KLINE, *Santa Cruz, California.*

Lichtenstein on California Birds.—Lichtenstein's second paper on California birds is fairly generally known, although citations to it are generally incorrect in some minor details. The full title is as follows:

Beitrag | zur ornithologischen Fauna von Californien | nebst | Bemerkungen über die Artkennzeichen der Pelicane und über | einige Vögel von den Sandwich-Inseln. | Von | Hrn. Lichtenstein. | [Gelesen in der Akademie der Wissenschaften am 27. Juni 1837.] Physikalische | Abhandlungen | der | Königlichen | Akademie der Wissenschaften | zu Berlin. | Aus dem Jahre 1838. | Berlin. | Gedruckt in der Druckerei der Königl. Akademie | der Wissenschaften. | 1840. | Pp. 417-451, Tab. I-V, colored.

The title page for the "Physikalische" portion of the volume for 1838 bears the date "1840" and this is believed to be correct although the general title page for the volume is dated "1839".

The date cited for the reading of the paper before the Academy, June 27, 1837, is wrong. Upon consulting the "Berichte" (see below) it is found that there was no session held on that date; the reading took place on May 25, 1837.

The paper contains a brief but very interesting account of the travels of H. Deppe, between Acapulco on the south and Monterey on the north, including an overland journey from Loreto, Lower California, to San Diego. A few general remarks on the flora and fauna are given. A comparison is made between the northward extension of certain groups of birds on the east and west coasts of North America; "*Trochilus rufus*" is cited from Sitka (57°, 3') whereas "*T. colubris*" only extends to 43° N. on the east coast.

Pages 424-428 contain an account of the California Condor. Some of the early history of the species is given and comparison is made with the Andean form. Shaw's name, "*Vultur californianus*", is used in the text but the colored plate (Tab. I) curiously bears "*Sarcoramphus californianus* Licht."

Species No. 2 is new, "*Falco (Buteo) ferrugineus*", pp. 428-430. It is not illustrated.

Species No. 3 is also new, "*Strix frontalis*", pp. 430-432, and is not illustrated.

Species No. 4 is "*Fringilla hudsonia* Forst.", pp. 432-433.

Species No. 5 is the white pelican "*Pelecanus trachyrynchus* Lath.", pp. 433-448, pl. 2, pl. 3, fig. 5. This account formed an introduction to a review of pelicans, the following species being recognized:

1. *Pelecanus onocrotalis* Lin., p. 436, pl. 3, fig. 1.
2. *Pelecanus mitratus* Licht., p. 436, pl. 3, fig. 2.
3. *Pelecanus crispus* Bruch, p. 437, pl. 3, fig. 4.
4. *Pelecanus rufescens* Lath., p. 439, pl. 3, fig. 3.
5. *Pelecanus trachyrynchus* Lath., p. 440, pl. 3, fig. 5.
6. *Pelecanus fuscus* Lin. Gmel., p. 441, pl. 3, fig. 6.
7. *Pelecanus conspicillatus* Temm., p. 444.

No mention is made of the Brown Pelican from the west coast.

The remainder of the paper consists of descriptions of the following new species:

Hylomanes momotula, p. 449, pl. 4, col. "Valle real in Mexico".

There is nothing in the title to suggest the inclusion of this description of a Mexican bird.

Hemignathus obscurus, pp. 449-450, pl. 5, fig. 1. "Oahu".

Hemignathus lucidus, p. 451, pl. 5, figs. 2, 3. "Oahu".

I cannot find that Lichtenstein mentioned any definite California localities in this paper for the five species noted above. This deficiency is supplied in his first paper which will now be considered.

This is an abstract of the 1840 paper and was published in 1837 soon after the session of May 25. The full title is as follows:

Beitrag zur ornithologischen Fauna von Neu-Californien. Berichte | über die | zur Bekanntmachung geeigneten | Verhandlungen | der Königl. Preuss. Akademie der Wissenschaften | zu Berlin. | Zweiter Jahrgang | 1837. | P. 75. [Session May 25, 1837.]

The collection was stated to have been made by Deppe at Monterey. Nothing is said of any species from Mexico or Hawaii.

In this paper five species are likewise given, but upon comparing the names with the 1840 paper very pronounced differences appear. The list is transcribed exactly and in order:

Sarcoramphus californianus
Falco ferrugineus
Strix frontalis
Anas icariotis
Pelecanus brachydactylus

The spelling of the genus name of the condor may be a typographical error for "*Sarcoramphus*". Evidently much revision and study were made in the interval between 1837 and 1840 because no further mention of the duck appears. Also the new name for the pelican does not occur again. The names are not accompanied by descriptive matter and all can probably be distributed in synonymy without causing conflict. In some manner Lichtenstein himself failed to refer to his 1837 note in the final paper and this no doubt accounts for its having been generally missed. His receipt of correspondence from Deppe in California was noted at the session of the Academy, May 1, 1837 (Berichte, p. 69), but no details were given.

I am under obligations to Mrs. D. C. Nicholson of the University of California Library for assistance in consulting the volumes noted above. Mr. H. S. Swarth

helped in checking references in the library of the California Academy of Sciences and Dr. L. G. Hertlein assisted with the translation of Lichtenstein's difficult German.—G. D. HANNA, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, May 25, 1931.*

A Near-Tragedy Due to Bird Banding.—A few days after the exhibition of bird-banding equipment at the 1931 Annual Meeting of the Cooper Club, the writer chanced upon a story that should be of interest to all, and of particular interest to bird banders. Before quoting it from the original, the following paragraphs of historical introduction are in order.

In the summer of 1881 Mohammed Ahmed, an Arab religious reformer then living at Abbas Island on the White Nile above Khartum, began to preach resistance to the Egyptian government of the Sudan. In August a small expedition was therefore sent to apprehend him and his band of followers.

This force was ambushed and annihilated on its arrival at Abbas, and Mohammed and his followers took flight westward across the Nile into the Province of Kordofan, where, proclaiming himself the Mahdi (or Mohammedan Messiah), he preached a Jihad or holy war, recruited a large following, defeated and killed or captured all forces sent against him, and finally gathered sufficient force to march on Khartum, capital and military headquarters of the Sudan.

The growing strength of the Mahdi in Kordofan completely isolated the Egyptian forces to the west of it in the Province of Darfur, westward province of the Sudan. These forces in Darfur were under the command of Rudolph Slatin, better known to the world as Slatin Pasha, an Austrian officer in the service of the Khedive. By December, 1883, all hope of relief having vanished, Slatin surrendered and was handed over by the Mahdi, as slave and retainer, to the Khalifa Abdullahi. Khartum was besieged and fell, and General Gordon was murdered, on January 26, 1885, and from that day until September 2, 1898, when defeated and destroyed by General Kitchener at the Battle of Omdurman, Dervish power ruled the Sudan. An incident of this rule (first under the Mahdi, and then under his successor, the Khalifa Abdullahi) was a reduction in the population by war and pestilence from 8,525,000 to 1,870,000.

An attempt to send a letter to Gordon before the siege resulted in Slatin being loaded with chains, and later attempts of his friends and the Egyptian Government to communicate with him placed him in such increasing danger that he dreaded above all things having to translate to the Khalifa any communication intercepted from the outer world.

The following incident¹, then, really capped the climax.

"One day, in the month of December, 1892, when I had just left the Khalifa's door to take a short rest, one of the mulazemin summoned me to the Khalifa's presence. I found him in the reception-room, surrounded by his Kadis, and the threats and reprimands which I had received on the occasion of Taib Haj Ali's calumny were still fresh in my mind. I was therefore considerably dismayed when the Khalifa, without returning my salute, ordered me to take my seat amongst the judges. 'Take this thing,' said he, after a short pause, and in a very severe tone, 'and see what it contains.' I at once arose and took in both hands the object he gave me, and then sat down again. It consisted of a brass ring of about four centimetres in diameter, attached to which was a small metal case about the size and shape of a revolver cartridge. An attempt had been made to open it, and I could plainly see that it contained a paper. This was indeed an anxious moment for me. Could it be a letter from my relations, or from the Egyptian Government, and had the messenger who brought it been captured? Whilst I was engaged in opening the case with the knife which had been given me, I turned over in my mind how I should act, and what I should say; and, as good luck would have it, I had not on this occasion to have recourse to dissimulation. Pulling out two small papers and opening them, I found inscribed on them, in minute but legible handwriting, in the German, French, English, and Russian languages, the following:

¹ Slatin Pasha: Fire and Sword in The Sudan, pp. 298-300.