

NOTES AND NEWS

Frequently popular scientific publications carry articles stating that a goose, swan, condor, eagle or some other large bird (other than ostriches) has been known to break a person's arm or leg by a blow of the wing. We know of no well authenticated instance. This note is published at the suggestion of a reader in the hope that some of our Club members can adduce evidence on the subject.

The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology receives many inquiries about birds and other vertebrates from naturalists now in the armed forces. There also have been numerous requests for assistance in obtaining literature. Since entrance of our forces into the Philippines several requests have come for R. C. McGregor's "A Manual of Philippine Birds" and M. Hachisuka's "Birds of the Philippine Islands." The staff has been unable as yet to obtain copies of these works. If any Cooper Club member has copies which he is willing to loan or sell to service men in the South Pacific, please write to Seth B. Benson, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, giving details as to price, and he will make the necessary arrangements as to payment and transportation. Do not send the books until notified unless they are to be gifts or loans. Any assistance in obtaining these and similar books will be appreciated by the men in the service.

A paper which may escape the notice of students of Pacific Coast ornithology is B. F. Osoria Tafall's "La Expedicion del M. N. 'Graciosa' por Aguas del Extremo Noroeste Mexicano" (Anales de la Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biologicas [Mexico, D.F.], 3, 1944:331-360). This survey of guano production in northwestern Mexico contains many notes on the bird-life of islands near the peninsula of Baja California.—F.A.P.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

A noteworthy contribution to western ornithology is A. M. Woodbury and H. N. Russell, Jr.'s, "Birds of the Navajo Country" (Bull. Univ. Utah, 35, 1945:1-160, 8 figures + map). This paper is essentially a faunal summation of the heretofore poorly known bird-life of southeastern Utah and northeastern Arizona. The authors and other field investigators whose names are listed participated in a series of "Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expeditions" in the years 1933-1938. Their field data and specimens together with specimens in other collections and records in the literature form the basis of this report.

Apparently most of the specimens collected by Woodbury *et al.* are deposited at the University of Utah.

The main text of this paper consists of species accounts in each of which are given, insofar as possible, a general statement as to relative abundance and local occurrence, a summary of specific observations, notes on nesting and habitat relations, and a list of specimens. Much worthwhile information is condensed in these accounts. The introductory section includes a historical resumé of expeditions and investigations, a separate chronological list of expeditions, brief descriptions of major habitats, and a check-list of species and races. All of the major climatic and vegetational zones of southwestern mountains are represented in the Navajo area, bounded, in general, to the west and north by the Colorado and the San Juan rivers, to the south by the Little Colorado, and to the east by the Carrizo and Lukachukai mountains. By my count, based on Woodbury and Russell's check-list, the avifauna of the Navajo region includes 92 non-passerine and 115 passerine species. The status of 17 additional species is uncertain. The report is perhaps most valuable for information on the birds of the piñon-juniper woodland or "pigmy forest," which, "despite its irregularities, . . . seems to be more extensive and covers more area than any other single cover type in the Navajo Country." A bibliography and an index to common names are provided.—FRANK A. PITEKKA.

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

JANUARY.—The regular meeting of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was called to order by President Robert C. Miller at 8 p.m., Thursday, January 25, in Room 2503 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley, with about 45 members and guests present. Two proposals for membership were read: Miss Lois Hanscom, 72 Panoramic Way, Berkeley 4, California, by Amelia S. Allen, and Mr. John B. Hamilton, Winchester Canyon, Goleta, California, by Richard M. Bond.

Dr. Benson, chairman of the nominating committee, reported the nomination of the following: for president, W. I. Follett; vice-president, Sumner C. Brooks; corresponding secretary, Hilda W. Grinnell; recording secretary, Alice S. Mulford. As there were no nominations from the floor, Lewis Taylor moved that the secretary be authorized to cast a unanimous ballot electing the nominees. The motion was seconded and