

in securing but one new member or but one new subscriber, we should become self-supporting at once. We can offer liberal terms to any who are willing to canvas for new subscribers. Write the editor for terms.

We are in the midst of the winter season again, when there is stagnation in bird study for the large majority of bird students. This ought not so to be. While the winter tramps will not yield so many species as at any other time of year, it will often result in more novel experiences and in learning more useful things about the birds than a whole summer's work will. Elsewhere in this number you will find a call for New Year horizons. Will you not consider this a personal matter and make sure of some outdoor study of the birds about you on the first day of the year 1903, to begin the year right?

We are pained to learn of the death of Mr. Chester Barlow, late editor of The Condor, on November 6, at Mountain View, Santa Clara county, California. His career as a bird student was marked by enthusiasm and accurate work. His loss will be a serious one to the Cooper Club.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1903.

The election resulted in the selection of the following officers for 1903. A full statement of the election will appear in the Reports of Officers for 1903, to be issued with the March Bulletin.

President—Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio.

Vice-President—N. Hollister, Delavan, Wis.

Secretary—John W. Daniel Jr., 3146 Q St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

Treasurer—Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Penn.

Executive Council—

John H. Sage.

H. C. Oberholser.

W. E. Saunders.

GENERAL NOTES.

NOTES FROM SOUTHERN OHIO.—MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaidura macroura*). This is an abundant resident in Scioto county, even in the severest winters at sheltered places. It feeds mostly on corn and wheat, which have been scattered in the fields. These two grains form almost its whole food. Only during October have I observed weed seeds composing more than half of its food, yet the Mourning Dove is by no means injurious to crops. Observations based upon stomach and craw contents are not entirely reliable in regard to the food of birds, since some food is so quickly digested that it cannot be

satisfactorily traced; hence, these examinations must be supplemented by careful observations by reliable naturalists. The Mourning Dove nests as early as April 10, 1898, and as late as August 15, 1901, these being the dates on and between which fresh eggs were found. Frequently but one egg is laid. The nest is seldom higher than twenty feet, and frequently on the ground.

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*). This is common as a summer resident but not so common as a winter resident. An egg in the writer's collection taken on May 26, 1902, has a strong greenish ground color, and was heavily incubated. The nest was in the hollow top of an old sycamore along the Scioto river, at Waverly.

MARSH HAWK (*Circus hudsonius*). This hawk is fairly common all winter, but I have never seen it during the summer. It is confined to the bottom lands while here. It is a great catcher of birds. The farmers know why they call him "Quail Hawk." I have never shot one that was not after quail or small birds, even where there were plenty of mice.

COOPER HAWK (*Accipiter cooperi*). Common all the year. This is the greatest robber of the barn-yard, always hungry and ready to kill. To quote an example: on October 18, 1898, a female was shot while in the act of pouncing down on a chicken. In its stomach and craw were found remnants of a young chicken, the head of a Bob-white, and parts of a Tufted Titmouse, with all of which it was literally stuffed.

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo borealis*). During the last three years I have skinned and mounted some twenty Red-tails, and every one of them, whose stomach was not empty, had in its craw or stomach or both, remnants of chicken, Bob-white, or squirrel, but never the least sign of a mouse.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus*). Unlike the Red-tail and Marsh Hawks, the Red-shouldered is a great mouse killer, and should be fully protected. A specimen shot February 1, 1901, had two mice in its craw and three in its stomach.

NORTHERN FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus luteus*). A male shot September 26, 1894, at South Webster, Scioto county, had in its bill and craw each one acorn, and five in its intestines. Another shot October 8, 1894, at the same place had six dogwood berries in its intestines and six in its gizzard.

BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata*). On May 9, 1896, I saw a Blue Jay destroying the nest and eggs of a Chipping Sparrow in the garden of the parsonage at South Webster. I did not see it suck the eggs.

REV. W. F. HENNINGER.

A FEW WAYNE COUNTY (MICH.) NOTES, 1902.—**SAW-WHET OWL** (*Nyctala acadica*). Several of these little owls have been taken during the past year—two from Grosse Point, on December 26 and January 29, and one October 26, which was shot in the heart of Detroit. Mr. Norman A. Wood informs me that several were brought in during the past winter at Ann Arbor.

SNOWY OWL (*Nyctea nyctea*). During the past winter more of these birds were brought in to the local taxidermist than I have record of for many years. Several were shot at the St. Clair Flats, and from the surrounding counties of Macomb and Oakland. Numbers of these birds seem to have been taken all over the East during the past winter, and certainly they were more abundant in Southern Michigan than in many seasons.