

BIRDS OTHER THAN GAME BIRDS.—In this publication constituting Bulletin No. 12 of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. T. S. Palmer discusses protective legislation, and in separate chapters refers to Game Birds, Birds Erroneously Considered Game Birds, Insectivorous and Song Birds, Plume Birds, and other groups, defining the species which properly belong to each. The paper comments upon the needed enforcement of existing protective statutes and suggests the adoption of further restrictive laws. The laws of each state and territory protecting game and song birds are given in full, and the 90 pages constituting this bulletin will be found a complete digest for those interested in the subject.



Communications

The A. O. U. Associate Membership

Editors of THE CONDOR:

The question discussed by Mr. Daggett in the last issue of this paper is one which undoubtedly interests many of the associate members of the A. O. U., and for an answer we must look to the active members.

During the last few years the associate membership has greatly increased and it seems to be the policy of the A. O. U. to include therein anyone who will pay \$3 a year as subscription to the *Auk*. The consequence is that the associates now include many who have no claim to be called ornithologists or oologists; some are not even Audubonists.

I think we all agree with Mr. Daggett that the standard of membership in the active list should be high, too high for most of us, who have but a little time to devote to our favorite study. Though we cannot aspire to be numbered among the august fifty, we do feel that there should be some distinction between the amateur ornithologist and the bird protectionist. Because a woman declines to wear mangled bird remains on her hat or as trimming for her clothing, is she to be called an ornithologist?

There are two possible remedies. The active membership might be greatly increased or a new class of members established, a sort of junior active membership. There are four kinds of members already and another kind would do no harm.

The fact that there are now three vacancies in the active list indicates that none of the associates are considered eligible to membership among the fifty.

I have but little time to spend with my birds and am content to be connected in any way with the A. O. U., but I do register a kick against being placed in the same class with Audubonists and fad protectionists.

RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

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GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

AN especially pleasing wedding took place at Oakland, Cal. on June 6 when Mr. Wm. W. Price, a prominent member of the Cooper Ornithological Club, was united in marriage to Miss Bertha de Laguna. Mr. Price has established a record for careful and energetic ornithological work on the Coast, among his best early field work being the taking of the first nest and eggs of the Red-faced Warbler in the mountains of Arizona. He has since done extensive scientific work in the Sierra Nevada Mts. and along the lower Colorado River. Several years since Mr. Price conceived the idea of establishing a summer school for young students in the heart of the Sierras, and the popularity of his classes was at once pronounced. Those who have been with Mr. Price afield have returned only to admire his intense congeniality and ability as an ornithologist. The members of the Cooper Ornithological Club, besides his numerous friends elsewhere, will unite as one in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Price every good fortune and pleasure in life.

PERCY SELOUS, prominently identified with Michigan ornithology, and favorably known as an authority in other sciences, died on April 7 at his home from the result of a bite of a poisonous snake, of which he had a number, kept for the purpose of study. Mr. Selous was at one time an associate editor of the *Bulletin of the Michigan Ornithological Club*, and in recent years has been a prolific writer in various natural history journals. His sudden death will be widely felt by the ornithological fraternity.

THREE members of the Cooper Club, Messrs. L. E. Taylor, W. L. Atkinson and C. Barlow spent the interval of June 4--12 in the higher Sierras collecting specimens. During the trip an ascent was made to the summit of Pyramid Peak, an altitude of 10,020 feet. Specimens of the Gray-crowned Leucosticte, California Pine Grosbeak, White-crowned Sparrow and other interesting Sierra birds were collected. The oological results of the trip may form the basis for a future paper.

WILFRED H. OSGOOD of the Biological Survey accompanied by Edmund Heller of Stanford, as assistant, sailed from Seattle in May. These gentlemen have been detailed to make collections of birds and mammals on the islands off the coast of British Columbia and as far north as practicable. It is expected that the material collected will contain many forms connecting the faunæ of Alaska with those of Washington and the results are awaited with interest.

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