

that bird collectors of this Coast will aid me in my studies of these parasites by collecting specimens of them. In the last few years I have been able to determine about 250 species of Mallophaga from North American birds, of which number I have described about 150 as new. The other 100 are assigned to species previously described from European birds. Most of the American birds from which these Mallophaga were taken were collected by Mr. Loomis of the California Academy of Sciences by zoological students of Stanford, or by myself, and have been chiefly Pacific Coast birds (from Alaska to Panama). A really good start has thus been made toward a knowledge of the Mallophaga of western birds. But more specimens are necessary, and I must trust to bird collectors for help in getting this material. One can hardly bring oneself to shoot birds for the sake of collecting Mallophaga, but birds taken for skins can be made to render a double offering to biological science in their death if the ornithologist will take the little trouble necessary to collect their insect parasites.

All the Mallophaga from a single bird specimen should dropped into a vial of 85% alcohol, with a label bearing the name of bird, date and locality of capture, the name of collector. Use a separate vial for each bird individual. One dram vials are the best, because smallest and cheapest. The vials should be well packed in cotton in firm wooden or tin boxes, and may be sent free by Well's Fargo Express, addressed to Entomological Museum, Stanford, California. Mark also, "Specimens, Donations" on the outside of the package.

I make this request now hoping that CONDOR readers may have it in mind this summer. As I shall be away from Stanford all summer, sending of specimens should be postponed until after September.

Sincerely yours,
V. L. KELLOGG.



PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED.

A NEW RACE OF THE GREAT BLUE HERON, WITH REMARKS ON THE STATUS AND RANGE OF *Ardea wardi*. By Frank M. Chapman. (Author's edition. Bulletin of the Am. Mus. of Nat. History, Vol. XIV, Article VIII pp. 87-90. Apl. 18, 1901.)

In the present paper Mr. Chapman separates the Great Blue Heron of the northwest coast region under the subspecific name of *Ardea herodias fannini*, the type coming from Queen Charlotte Island. The proposed subspecies differs from *Ardea herodias* in having "a shorter tarsus and with plumage throughout much darker, the upper parts being bluish slate-black instead of bluish gray; tibiae more feathered." It is suggested that this form in-

tergrades with true *herodias* further south.

The author mentions that in the examination of material incident to the description of *A. h. fannini*, the Florida heron, (*Ardea wardi*) has not been found to possess characters entitling it to specific rank, that there is nothing to indicate that the bird is other than a southern form of *Ardea herodias* and it is therefore suggested that it become *Ardea herodias wardi*. It is also proposed to extend the range of this southern form to the coast of Texas, whence specimens quite identical with the Florida birds have been taken.—C. B.

THOSE of an analytical turn of mind should 'rest' in the April *Auk*. There are subspecies to fit all tastes. Some them an Audubonian will accept, while others need a severely subjective state and a north light. It is worth remarking that the subjective enters into every science which has reached an advanced stage and it seems to have been used occasionally by enthusiasts in discriminating too closely related races. But this does not necessarily militate against subspecies properly used.

We cannot touch upon the articles of a general nature, but note the new races which are of interest to western ornithologists. Joseph Grinnell describes the varied thrush of the interior of Northern Alaska as *Hesperocichla naria meruloides*, reviving a name given by Swainson very probably to this form. He also separates the Aphelocoma of the Willamette Valley under the name *Aphelocoma californica immanis*. Francis J. Birtwell describes *Parus gambeli thayeri* from Albuquerque, N. M. Wilfred H. Osgood separates the white-tailed ptarmigan of Colorado from the northern form under the name *Lagopus leucurus altipetens*. He also describes *Anorthura hiemalis helleri* from Kadiak, *Certhia familiaris zelotes* from the southern Cascade Mts. of Oregon and Sierra Nevada of California, and *Hyllocichla aonalaschkae verecunda* which is distributed on the islands and coast of British Columbia and Southern Alaska. Descriptions of fifteen subspecies are reprinted from other sources. Those which have not appeared in THE CONDOR are: *Colymbus dominicus brachypterus* Chapman, Lower Rio Grande, Texas; *Arenaria morinella* (Linn) from Hudson Bay region and Northeast; *Asio accipitrinus mcilhennyi* Stone, Arctic barren grounds; *Sturnella magna argutula* Bangs, Florida; *Hirundo erythrogastra unalashkensis* (Gmelin) Unalaska; *Merula migratoria achrustrera* Batchelder, lowlands of Georgia and Carolina.

Personally we miss the colored plates which *The Auk* seems to have discontinued—and, we believe, to the detriment of the magazine.

W. K. F.

PACIFIC COAST AVIFAUNA NO II is a neatly composed "List of the Land Birds of Santa Cruz County, California." The author, R. C. McGregor, has not only drawn from his own field observations, but has also incorporated the notes of several others who have collected in the county. All available published accounts are made use of, as well; so that we may consider this list to enumerate all the species ever found within the county. The authorities quoted are always carefully cited in footnotes, while pleasing conservatism is shown in the treatment of doubtful records. The annotations are mostly brief, consisting of nesting and migration dates, comparative abundance, distribution, etc.

The nomenclature presented in this paper strikes one as too much of an improvement on the A. O. U. Checklist. Nearly every lately proposed change is adopted without question. The discrimination by name of such closely allied "genera" as *Nuttallornis* and *Horizopus* seems to us rather more of a burden than convenience. We also note that there is a confusing instability in the use of vernacular names. The millenium of permanency in nomenclature seems further off than ever!

The "Introduction" includes a brief but valuable account of the "Faunal Position of Santa Cruz County," by W. K. Fisher. *Avifauna No. II* is certainly an important addition to the ornithological literature of the State.—J. G.



So staid an ornithologist as Richard C. McGregor has, for a time, forsaken his trays of bird skins, the scalpel and the rule to pay tribute to Cupid. On Wednesday, April 10, Mr. McGregor was united in marriage to Mrs. Edith M. French of Palo Alto, the ceremony being performed in the presence of a few intimate friends in San Francisco. Miss Josie Hart attended the bride, while Chas. M. Mannon acted as groomsman. Mr. McGregor's ornithological *confreres* extend to him and his bride a goodly measure of well wishes, and trust that his already active work in ornithology will be augmented by this acquisition of a helpmeet.

That the zealous ornithologist is sometimes misjudged by an unsympathetic public, Donald A. Cohen, the well-known Alameda ornithologist can testify. Toward the latter part of March, in company with a fish-basket of generous dimensions, Mr. Cohen and his brother, a camera artist, wheeled through the town of Haywards, *en route* to the aerie of a Prairie Falcon in the near-by hills. It so happens that the trout season in California opens on April 1, and a watchful peace officer, concluding that a fish-basket thus early in the

season augured evil, followed the naturalists a warm, lengthy and interesting chase, only to have the utility of the fish-basket to the oologist explained to him most courteously at the end of the chase!

Ornithologists will hail with satisfaction the announcement that the Smithsonian Institution will complete the Life Histories of North American Birds, begun by the late Major Chas. E. Bendire who completed two volumes before his death. Dr. W. L. Ralph, Honorary Curator of the Department of Oology and a close personal friend of Major Bendire, will have charge of the work and has issued requests for notes on the life history and nesting habits of A. O. U. species and subspecies No. 514 to 63 inclusive, which will embrace the third volume of this superb work. Dr. Ralph's field experience doubtless renders him the most available person to take up the uncompleted work of Major Bendire, and he should be accorded every assistance by field workers in the West who possess, in some cases, almost exclusive notes concerning many little-known species.



THE PROPER NAME FOR THE KADIAK SAVANNA SPARROW.

Bonaparte's *Passerculus anthinus* is from "Kadiak, Russian America." *Compte Rendu*, Dec. 1853, p. 920. It is compared with *Passerculus alaudinus*, described on p. 918 from "California," as being very similar but with more slender beak, head suffused with yellow, and beneath pale rufescent, more spotted. It has been suggested that the localities of *anthinus* and *alaudinus* might have been transposed (Baird, Brewer and Ridgway, *Hist. N. Am. Bds.*, I, 1874, p. 539, foot-note.); but this idea is refuted by Ridgway (*Proc. U. S. N. M.*, VII, 1884, p. 517, foot-note).

However inapplicable Bonaparte's description may be to the race breeding on Kadiak Island, the fact that the type ostensibly came from there seems to make it desirable to use Bonaparte's name instead of *xanthophrys* proposed by me in the CONDOR (III, Jan. 1901, p. 21). The Kadiak Savanna Sparrow therefore becomes *Ammodramus sandwicensis anthinus* (Bonaparte).

JOSEPH GRINNELL.