

THE CONDOR

An Illustrated Magazine of Western
Ornithology

Published Bi-monthly by the Cooper Ornithological Club of California

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Palo Alto, California: Published January 15, 1903

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Price in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and U. S. Colonies one dollar a year; single copies twenty-five cents. Price in all countries in the International Postal Union one dollar and a quarter a year.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Business Manager; manuscripts and exchanges to the Editor.

EDITORIALS

Years are longer here in California than in most places east of the Sierras, but despite that they go quickly enough. Few of us realize that THE CONDOR is commencing its fifth volume. Four years make but a short period in the span of a man's life, but time is not necessarily a yard stick for experience. Those who were responsible for the magazine had new worlds to conquer, and much has been accomplished in a short time, even under many distinct drawbacks. It has been amply demonstrated that some medium of publication or interchange of ideas is vital to the welfare of any organization, great or small, and the experience of the Cooper Club has certainly been no exception. With the founding of the "Bulletin" new interests arose to meet added responsibilities, and fresh enthusiasm rapidly increased the operative force, until now we have enlisted more active workers within a limited field than any other organization with similar ideals.

While we, as a club, reflect with pardonable pride on the good results of this laudable movement, we must not forget that the result has been accomplished only by steady and continued effort. He, who more than any man has been responsible for the growth and prestige of the club, has passed quietly from among us. Had there been no Chester Barlow the Cooper Club would not be here today, and there would be no occasion for these words. As Mr. Taylor well says, Barlow *was* the Club, and there are few of us indeed, who escaped his contagious enthusiasm. In common with many organizations of a similar nature, our club has passed thru trying times, and it was only by virtue of a compelling personality to take the lead, that the society lived to tell the tale.

OF A MAN AND
THE FUTURE

But all this is now ended, and we have surrounded

ourselves with safe-guards for continued usefulness. So much for the work of our departed friend. As a club we can do no better to show our appreciation of his efforts than to continue the good work he did so much to perpetuate. Actions speak when words are silent, and it behooves everyone to lend a hand. Whatsoever is worth while has its cost, and in this case the price is work and thought—not spasmodic, but steady and efficient. The boom days of our existence are now over and we have settled down into a conservative epoch of hard work, not with diminishing enthusiasm but with even added strength to meet the demands of our increasing responsibilities.

Our Tenth Anniversary meeting will come off in May, and everyone should plan to attend in order to make the occasion the most successful in the history of the Club. Alto no

TENTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING definitely decided upon as yet, the meeting will extend over several days and will take place at the time of the regular bi-monthly session, early in the month. In our next issue we hope to publish definite arrangements.

In this connection it is a pleasure to note that a number of eastern ornithologists have signified their intention of visiting the Club and holding an "extra session" of the A. O. U. out on the coast, at the time of our tenth anniversary meeting. In the last August CONDOR our late editor strongly advocated holding an A. O. U. meeting somewhere in California, and it is gratifying that the suggestion met with such quick response. Alto the contemplated visit is now only a probability, we hope it will shortly assume the shape of reality. If we read the signs aright our spring meeting, combined with that of the American Ornithologists' Union, will mark the beginning of a new era in the activities of the Club, and will infuse an added interest and enthusiasm for future work. It will also bind in closer ties the western and eastern workers, and bring to each group a clearer understanding of what the other is trying to do.

During 1903 THE CONDOR will pursue much the same course as in past years, endeavoring to present the freshest bird news in each number. If any policy is followed it will be to emphasize the study of bird habits and everything that pertains to the domestic economy of our western species. Sketches of expeditions and

trips afield will be contributed by those prominent in such work, and there will be also many articles on nidification and life history, besides faunal and technical papers from time to time. In each number will be published the portrait and a short sketch of a prominent eastern ornithologist. The interests of the Club-at-large will, as heretofore, occupy a prominent place. We hope during 1903 to make a bigger showing in the number of our contributors than ever heretofore.

California is a big state, and our members are scattered pretty well from one end to the other. Our circles of acquaintance are limited, and THE CONDOR proposes to enlarge them, if the scheme strikes all concerned favorably.

In each number we would like to publish the portraits of say six ANENT A SCHEME members, and to continue these symposia as long as possible. Of course the matter rests with you, the Club members. If you like the idea, signify your approval by sending us your photograph and we will begin the series as soon as there are portraits enough to insure success.

In the current volume and those to follow THE CONDOR will endeavor to present as many short notes as possible. We believe no one feature has so much intrinsic value. With this end in view we ask every one to explore his past experiences, at home or afield, for items. Do not wait for remarkable or unusual incidents. One must remember that there are plenty of facts to be learned about our commonest birds, and that what thru familiarity may seem commonplace with you, usually is interesting to others. At any rate send in plenty of short notes, and let us be the judge.

A REQUEST We mail with this issue the index to volume IV, which has been carefully prepared by Mr. Grinnell.

To Mr. H. R. Johnson of Stanford we extend our best thanks for designing the magazine heading.

THE CONDOR is now mailed from Palo Alto tho still printed by Mr. Nace in Santa Clara. The change was made to avoid the confusion occasioned by the shifting of the editorial office.

Directory of Members of the Cooper Ornithological Club.

Revised to January 1, 1903.

(Residence in California unless otherwise stated.)

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