

THE CONDOR

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 of Western Ornithology

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

The Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County has now under construction in Exposition Park, formerly Agricultural Park, in the city of Los Angeles, a building to be used for museum purposes. The name of the new institution is the Museum of History, Science and Art; the building is to cost \$226,000, exclusive of heating, lighting, decorating, or furnishing. Its purpose is the conservation and exhibition of scientific, historical and art objects. It is governed by a board of nine persons, chosen as follows: Two members from the Southern California Academy of Sciences, two from the Historical Society of Los Angeles, two from the Fine Arts League, one from the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and one member elected by those chosen as above stated. The present members of the Board of Governors are as follows:

W. A. Spalding and Dr. A. Davidson, representing the Academy of Sciences, Dr. Geo. F. Bovard and J. M. Guinn, representing the Historical Society, Mrs. W. H. Housh and A. F. Rosenheim, representing the Fine Arts League, Howard Robertson, representing the Cooper Club, R. W. Pridham, representing the Board of Supervisors, and W. M. Bowen, member at large.

Mr. W. M. Bowen has been elected President of the Board, and Mr. Howard Robertson Secretary. The duty of the Board is to take full

charge of the building, provide specimens and exhibits, and do such other things as are ordinarily required in the conduct of an institution of this character.

At present, progress is being made in the mounting of paleontological specimens from La Brea Ranch, and such other specimens as have been donated up to the present time.

The Museum building is divided into three wings; the north wing to be devoted to history, the south wing to natural sciences, and the west wing to art. The scientific department will be devoted to zoological specimens for exhibition purposes, as well as series for study, and it is expected that very large collections will be made. The historical department will deal largely with the early history of the southwest, and will contain many of the valuable records, books and other documents of the earlier history of southern California. The art department will be devoted to the exhibition of paintings, statuary, etc. There is now being prepared a bronze group, representing history, science and art, which, when completed, will be placed in the rotunda of the building.

Great success has been met with in obtaining exhibits, for the reason that as Los Angeles County has long been in need of a building of this kind, many people are glad of the opportunity to place collections therein. The building, of course, is absolutely fire proof, and being a county institution, sufficient funds for its maintenance are assured. It is expected that it will be completed and ready for occupancy some time during the latter part of September, or early in October. It will be some time after that before it is formally opened, as a large amount of work will have to be done in arranging exhibits and specimens.

The "Directory of the Cooper Ornithological Club" appearing in this issue contains the names of 369 active and five honorary members, showing a substantial increase in the size of the Club during the past year.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

J. H. BOWLES' "NOTES EXTENDING THE [KNOWN] RANGE[s] OF CERTAIN BIRDS ON THE PACIFIC SLOPE" (*Auk* XXVIII, April 1911, pp. 169-178).—This article was avowedly prompted by the recognized shortcomings of the Third Edition of the A. O. U. Check-List in the matter of statements of distribution. The notes deal with about forty species as occurring in the State of Washington or in California in the vicinity of Santa Barbara.

In the first place the present reviewer would make the point in defense of the Check-List that the limitations imposed by practical size of the work necessitated the use of the most general terms in the outlining of ranges. On this score the Check-List statement that *Certhia familiaris zelotes* ranges "south to San Jacinto Mountains, spreading into adjacent valleys in winter" would seem to cover the possibility of its occurrence at Santa Barbara