

THE CONDOR

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Western Ornithology

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EDITORIAL NOTES AND NEWS

With this, the last issue of the year, THE CONDOR concludes its fourteenth volume. Only one preceding volume (1908) has numbered more pages. As for quality of contents we leave the reader to judge. The point in mind is to suggest to all Cooper Club members as well as subscribers that their regular cash contributions are now payable. Remember that early remittances save the Business Managers from much clerical labor. And this means that commensurately more attention can be given to ways and means for further growth.

As for the Editors, their dream is to secure for the coming year the same high standard of articles that have predominated in the present volume. We hope to be able to print illustrated life histories of as high merit as Rockwell's Barr Lake series. There are yet birds of unknown nesting habits which should not be left for Ray alone to exploit! Authoritative faunal lists in moderate proportion are of value as basis for the distributionist's studies. Above all, we invite "Field and Study" notes. Here we get variety of topic and concise treatment. The "Field and Study" department is read by more people twice over than any other part of our magazine. This statement is based upon assurances from many sources. Reviews, communications, and matter for news notes all go to make up the Editorial stock-in-trade. Practically all the material necessary to make a CONDOR must come from the contributor at large. Therefore let those Cooper Club members fortu-

nately situated in respect to such resources remember the Editors early and often.

Sanely administered conservation of natural resources is a much-to-be-desired consummation. This cannot, however, be brought to a satisfactory realization until popular opinion is educated still farther beyond the primitive notion of "everything for today." Certain phases of the bird-life of the west are disappearing at an alarming rate, far faster than is consequent upon the settlement of the country. The proper restriction of hunting privileges must be legalized at once, if certain of our shore birds and ducks are to be saved at all. We would call serious attention to these subjects as discussed in subsequent columns of the present issue. The Club is fortunate in having so energetic an exponent of conservation as W. P. Taylor, chairman of the Northern Division committee. It will require the combined efforts of very many of like industry and enthusiasm to offset the influence of the gunner, when it comes to securing state legislation of an effective sort. This we must obtain *immediately*, or be compelled to witness the complete extermination of many of our native game birds.

COMMUNICATIONS

THE BIRDS OF COLORADO

Editor THE CONDOR:

Perhaps you will kindly allow me a few words in reply to Mr. W. W. Cooke's review of the "Present Status of the Colorado Check-list of Birds." I should like, however, first to thank you and all other of my American ornithological friends for your kind reception of my recently published work on the Birds of Colorado. The time I spent in Colorado was comparatively short, so that I was very much dependent on my friends and correspondents for local observations; but I had the advantage of the very fine collection of Colorado birds made by Mr. C. E. Aiken on which to base my descriptions, and in this way was able I hope to bring to light a good many new facts and at the same time to prepare a work which will always be useful to the Colorado bird-lover.

Mr. Cooke enumerates first of all thirteen species included by me but not by him in his most recent list of Colorado birds (*Auk*, 1909, p. 400); of these he admits six as valid and rejects seven. In regard to these:

Phalaenoptilus nuttalli nitidus. This species I only retained in deference to the A. O. U. Check-List; I agree with Mr Cooke that it is probably only a color phase of *P. nuttalli*.

Otocoris alpestris enthymia. I regard this species as a very doubtful one. I would not have recognized it had I been certain of the A. O. U. Committee's final decision in the matter; but the new edition of the Check-List did not appear till some time after my manuscript was corrected, and I confess I overlooked the fact that Oberholser's subspecies was omitted.