

NOTES AND NEWS

The new cover drawing which appears on this issue of *The Condor* is the outgrowth of a long period of study and consultation by Club members. J. Laurence Murray, the artist, we believe has done an excellent job and has performed a great service in providing this illustration for the Club, of which he is an active member. Further, he has been most patient and willing in adapting his skills to the wishes of the committee charged with developing a new design. The figure of the bird itself follows closely a photograph taken by Carl B. Koford and selected by him as a suitable pose for the drawing. Moreover, Koford's unparalleled acquaintance with the California Condor in life has been drawn upon repeatedly in verifying details of outline. The background designed by Murray represents typical condor country in the mountains of Ventura County, California.

At the meeting of the Board of Governors in May, 1946, the change of the subtitle of *The Condor* to "Journal of the Cooper Ornithological Club" was approved. At that time the Board of Governors voted that the editors form an advisory committee to take final responsibility in devising and adopting either a new or modified cover design. The design that had been in use with minor changes since 1902 was thought subject to correction in the light of greatly improved modern acquaintance with the bird and its habitat. This view was adopted after due consideration for the fact that the old design had become a traditional symbol of the Club and its publication. The group of advisors included Ed N. Harrison and Carl B. Koford in addition to the editors; J. R. Pemberton, Loye Miller, and W. Lee Chambers, also thoroughly familiar with the bird in life, contributed helpful counsel.

Kenneth Stager, Curator of Ornithology and Mammalogy at the Los Angeles Museum, left Los Angeles in the middle of December for a three months' collecting trip in Mexico. His headquarters are at a mining camp in Copala, Sinaloa, and from there he expects to make extensive collecting trips into the surrounding country. This is the first field expedition sponsored by the Museum's Division of Science since December, 1941.

Recently accessioned by the Salinas Junior College is the ornithological library of the late O. P. Silliman, of Salinas, California. Mr. Silliman spent many years studying the bird life of central California and amassing a significant library on the subjects of ornithology, general zoology, and

Pacific explorations. The collection will be maintained as a separate unit at the Junior College and will be made available to the interested public as well as to students.

PUBLICATIONS REVIEWED

"The Birds of Chile," by J. D. Goodall, A. W. Johnson, and R. A. Philippi B. (Las Aves de Chile, su conocimiento y sus costumbres, Platt Establecimientos Graficos, S. A., Buenos Aires, volume 1, 1946, 358 pp., 50 colored pls., many ills., \$5.00 U. S.) is an excellent handbook in Spanish dealing with nomenclature, characters, measurements, geographic range, field marks, and habits. We agree enthusiastically with William Vogt who in the prologue states that the work is "the best book on birds yet to be published in the Spanish language." The presentation of measurements in standard statistical form rather than through the inadequate and misleading tabulation of mere averages and extremes is a distinct advance over the treatment in any handbook on North American birds. The samples used for measuring are often small, but this situation could not be remedied in an undertaking of this kind. Resident and visiting ornithologists in Chile and adjoining countries will find this work an invaluable guide and a source of interest. Volume 1 deals with the orders Passeriformes, Micropodiformes, Caprimulgiformes, Piciformes, Cuculiformes, Coraciiformes, Psittaciformes, and Columbiformes. A second volume will deal with the remaining orders.—A.H.M.

Arthur Cleveland Bent of Taunton, Massachusetts, former President of the A.O.U. and author of the "Life Histories of North American Birds," was the guest of honor at an eightieth birthday dinner given November 25, 1946, at the University Club, Boston, Massachusetts, under the auspices of the Nuttall Ornithological Club of Cambridge. Mr. Bent originally joined the Nuttall Ornithological Club in 1888 and is now an Honorary Member.

The dinner was presided over by President James L. Peters, who presented Mr. Bent with a scroll on which were the names of all those present. President Peters then turned the meeting over to Hoyes Lloyd of Ottawa, Canada, who was Toastmaster and who in turn presented Dr. Alexander Wetmore of the Smithsonian Institute, who made a short address, and then presented Professor W. Elmer Ekblaw of Clark University, Worcester, who also spoke.