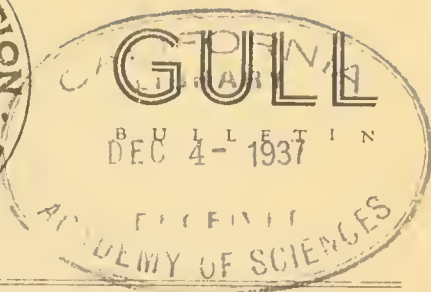
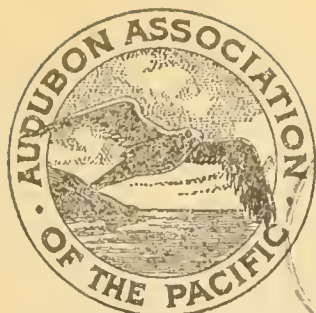


THE
MONTHLY



VOLUME 19

SAN FRANCISCO, DECEMBER, 1937

NUMBER 12

November Field Trip

The November field trip was taken to Ross, Marin County, on the 14th. The weather threatened us at the start with a brief shower, but the remainder of the day was pleasant and sunny.

Birds were unusually scarce and we obtained the smallest list for this trip in November since 1923. Our disappointment on account of the lack of birds was, however, more than offset by our enjoyment of the brilliant autumn colors: various shades of yellow of ash and maples and gorgeous red masses of madroño berries.

The species observed, thirty-four in number, were as follows:

Pied-billed Grebe	Cabanis Woodpecker	Hermit Thrush
Ring-necked Duck 100+	Black Phoebe	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Turkey Vulture	Nicasio Jay	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Cooper Hawk	Crow	Townsend Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk 3	Nicasio Chickadee	Meadowlark
Sparrow Hawk	Plain Titmouse	Green-backed Goldfinch
Quail	Coast Bush-tit	San Francisco Towhee
Coot	Ruddy Wren-tit	Junco
Anna Hummingbird	Nicasio Wren	Nuttall Sparrow
Red-shafted Flicker	Western Robin	Golden-crowned Sparrow
California Woodpecker	Varied Thrush	Song Sparrow
Red-breasted Sapsucker		

Nine members attended: Mrs. Bello; Misses Gallagher, Papina; Mr. and Mrs. Stephens; Messrs. Berliner, Hansen, Johnson, and Kirker, with two guests, Mrs. Anabel and Paul Lehman.



Observations

Mrs. T. H. Brown and Mrs. Clear observed at Metson Lake, Golden Gate Park, November 18th, a female Hooded Merganser which was verified by Mrs. A. B. Stephens.

Gordon Bolander: Inverness, November 14th, Red-bellied Hawk, White-tailed Kite, Shoveller Duck, Bittern eating a garter snake, Redhead, Pintail and Ruddy Ducks, Red-breasted Merganser, Virginia and Sora Rails, Wilson Snipe, Long-billed Dowitcher, Spotted Owl and Red-breasted Sapsucker.

Mrs. Kelly: Alameda, October 15th, Varied Thrush, 22nd, Cedar Waxwings, November 11th, Red-breasted Nuthatch; Bay Farm Island, November 9th, three Black Turnstones, one Ruddy Turnstone, one Long-billed Curlew; San Leandro Beach, forty Snowy Plovers; Cliff House, San Francisco, October 30th, fifty Red Phalaropes; Ross, October 16th, Townsend Warbler, Varied Thrush; Junction of Golden Gate Bridge and Sausalito Road, October 31st, Rock Wren; Lake Merritt, November 24th, Redhead, Buffle-head and many American Golden-eyes.

Harold Kirker: Lake Merced, November 11th, three American Golden-eyes, 13th, Marsh Hawk and Wilson Snipe.

Commander and Mrs. Parmenter: Alvarado marshes, September 18th, 50± White Pelicans, thirty-six American Egrets, three Snowy Herons, 10,000± Pintails, 100+ Avocets and many Shovellers, at times as many as 1000; October 6th, six White Pelicans, ten Baldpates, and in a group of thirty Long-billed Dowitchers and six Western Willets were nineteen Lesser Yellowlegs which gave an excellent comparison as to their sizes; November 1st, two White-tailed Kites; Dumbarton Bridge, September 18th, 500± White Pelicans, twenty-seven American Egrets, three Snowy Herons, seven Least Terns; Chain of Lakes, September 29th, two Green-winged Teal; Mountain View marshes, September 18th, twelve Long-billed and two Hudsonian Curlews.

Sears Point Toll Road: October 11th, five White Pelicans, twenty-six American Egrets, three Snowy Herons, two Green-winged Teal, 100± Black-bellied Plovers, two Long-billed Curlews and one Short-eared Owl.

Crystal Springs Lake: November 8th, Duck Hawk and two Herring Gulls. Mr. Bee, the keeper, reported to Commander Parmenter that the first Canada Geese, fourteen, arrived October 22nd, but did not remain. On the 26th more than 150 came in and on November 10th a few were still to be seen.

Commander and Mrs. Parmenter counted ten Ferruginous Rough-leg Hawks between the Skyline Boulevard and Salada Beach.

Crows are rarely seen in San Francisco, but Commander Parmenter reported two in the Presidio, October 27, 1937, and also two previous observations, one in the Presidio, December 6, 1933, and two at Land's End, March 24, 1937.

Mrs. Stephens: Lake Merced, November 20th and 25th, Brown Pelican; San Francisco Bay off Presidio, 26th, Pacific and Red-throated Loons.



Audubon Notes

December Meeting: The regular meeting will be held on Thursday, the 9th, at 8 p. m., room 19, Ferry Building. The speaker of the evening will be Mr. Bert Harwell, Park Naturalist, whose subject will be "Winter Birds in Yosemite Valley."



December field trip will be taken on Sunday, the 12th, to the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. San Francisco members take 9 a. m. Southern Pacific Ferry and Shattuck Avenue train to Berkeley Station. Party will meet at University and Shattuck Avenues. Bring luncheon, which will be eaten at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur H. Myer, who will serve hot coffee and dessert.



November Meeting: The 243rd regular meeting was held on the 11th, in room 19, Ferry Building, with thirty-four members and guests present. President Junea W. Kelly presiding.

The following new members were elected: Mrs. Elwood Woolsey of San Francisco and Mr. James Murdock of Larkspur.

Dr. Robert T. Orr as speaker of the evening gave a clear detailed account of the "Life History of Rabbits in California." His subject was related to our special interest as several of the large carnivorous birds catch rabbits for food.

Rabbits are divided into two genera, *Lepus* and *Sylvilagus*. To *Lepus* belong the hare or jack rabbits. Their young are born with their eyes open and are fully covered with hair. The White-tailed Jack Rabbit lives in the High Sierra and the Black-tailed principally in the lower country, although it ranges from Death Valley to 14,000 feet. The third member of the genus is the Snow-shoe Rabbit, which is found on the crest of the Sierra but only as far south as Tuolumne.

To the genus *Sylvilagus* belong the brush rabbits and cotton-tails. They are born blind and naked or with very short hair. The Nuttall Cotton-tail is found on the east side of the Sierra. Audubon Cotton-tail has San Francisco for its type locality. The Brush Rabbit (Bachman's) is seen more commonly in Golden Gate Park than the Audubon Cotton-tail. It also has a short white tail, which though is not so conspicuous. The last species, the Pygmy Rabbit (*Idahoensis*) is restricted to the sage brush of the northeastern part of the State.