

T H E

# Western Tanager



Vol. IX

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No. 8

## WE GO FORWARD!

By John H. Baker, Executive Director, National Audubon Society

The Audubon Societies, devoted to the protection and preservation of our native wildlife, conceives this purpose to be integral in a vastly greater cause. The name borne by the organization is not merely that of a genius of bird painting, but a man of vision, devoted to his adopted country. From his patriotism and his love of nature we trace our concept and in this spirit we pursue our objectives.

"Conservation," President Taft was announcing in 1910 to a public still occupied in the main with exploitation, "is not a question of politics, or of factions, or of persons. It is a question that affects the vital welfare of all of us -- of our children and our children's children."

A fundamental freedom of democracy is the right to exercise individual initiative. This leads to exploitation, but it is one of the satisfactions of democracy that as the resulting damage becomes obvious the majority public opinion usually demands remedial action of a conservative nature. It is an important function of the Audubon societies to strive through dissemination of information and education, to reduce the time lag, to hasten the moment when the conservation rather than the exploitation idea takes hold of the public imagination.

Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has said, "There is nothing strained, I feel, in speaking of human happiness and wildlife welfare at one and the same time. We who have worked at first hand with the wildlife problems of the United States are increasingly conscious of the interdependence, or at least coincident relationship, of human welfare and an abundant wildlife. In many ways we have found it true that the same measures that benefit wildlife also promote human welfare -- not only our happiness that comes through recreation and the tonic presence of wild creatures, but also our economic welfare. In brief, wildlife is an important factor in our whole economy of living. Conserving wildlife is promoting the best possible world for ourselves."

Today we live in a world engulfed in war. Yet for all that we do not surrender the ideals of peacetime. War does not lessen the need for the work of the Audubon societies. For that work is part of our war, a total war against aggression, by those who hold life sacred, both human and wild. The morality of our enemies is that of exploit, destruction and death. The morality of America aims toward a peaceful plan of living together, men and women, birds and trees and grass, in a mutually tolerant and helpful society. In the midst of preoccupations and perils, we shall go forward under the bright standard of the artist-patriot who gave us his name --

"America, my country!"

## MAY

May is the essence of surprise  
A flowering maple tree,  
A splash of scarlet in your eyes  
A bluebird's melody.

May is a song, a flash of wing  
Bloodroot under pines.  
Chrysalids uncovering  
Butterfly designs.

--Harry Elmore Hurd

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Membership Dues: Annual \$1.50, Sustain-  
ing \$5.00 annually, Life \$25, Patron \$100.

Can you top this one? Mrs. Marie Brown-  
lee of South Pasadena has a life list of  
birds which numbers 443 species.

**CALENDAR FOR MAY**

**BOARD MEETING** - Thursday, May 20, 10 a.m. State Bldg. Exposition Park.

**PROGRAM MEETING** - Thursday, May 20, 1:30 p.m. State Bldg. Exposition Park.  
Ranger-Naturalist Paul Colburn of Sequoia National Park will talk to us on "Trees  
and Birds of Sequoia."

**STUDY CLASSES** - Thursday, May 27, 10 a.m. Meet at entrance of L. A. County Museum,  
Exposition Park. The group will then go to La Brea Hall where Dr. Hildegard Howard  
will speak to us on fossil birds. Dr. Howard is a nationally known authority on this  
subject and has studied and named many of the birds from the La Brea pits as well as  
other fossil birds.  
At 11:00 a.m. group will go to Educational section of the museum for a talk on native  
ferns by Mr. George T. Hastings.

**FIELD GROUP** - Sunday trips for active birders - anyone interested invited.  
Sunday, May 9, Join in one of several Audubon Conference trips. See announcement  
elsewhere in this issue.  
Sunday, May 23, - Chino Creek and nearby Santa Ana River bottoms. Best inland marsh,  
willow and field area in our section; Least Bittern, Florida Gallinule, Rails and  
Blue Grosbeak are among the breeding birds. Start at old Chino Gun Club, entering  
by dirt road off Chino-Corona highway (River St.) seven miles south of Chino, four  
and a half miles north of Corona, look for the Tanager sign. For more information as  
to location or possible transportation contact Howard L. Cogswell, 3807 Sierra Grande  
St., Pasadena (phone SY 6-5563).

**WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS**

North Hollywood:  
Mrs. Kathrine Gladman, 11243 Newby St.  
Los Angeles:  
Mrs. Edith White, 2727 Moss Ave.  
Mrs. R. Y. Glidden, 5334 Chesley Ave.  
Mrs. Norah Heppenstall, 10521 Stilson St.  
Miss Charlotte Ahlhorn, 5632 Fountain Ave.  
Russell Storcken, 253 South St. Andrews Pl.  
Miss Charlotte Ellis, 1019 W. 8th St.  
Mrs. Floyd R. Parks, 210 S. Norton Ave.

**THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** has submitted the  
following names to be voted on at our next  
indoor meeting:

President.....Mrs. J. H. Comby  
First Vice-President...Mrs. O. M. Stultz  
Second Vice-President...Mrs. Mary V. Hood  
Recording Secretary....Mrs. Belle H. Maguire  
Corresponding Secretary.Miss Laura Greely  
Treasurer.....Miss Bonnie Green  
Historian.....Miss Martha Gilbert

**MRS. FLORENCE SCOTT**, Community Center Direc-  
tor at Plummer Park has left to join the  
WAACS. Our best wishes go with her and also  
to Mrs. Vera Lewis who is taking over her  
work.

\* \* \* \* \*

WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

"Eyes Front" to the Audubon Conference May 7-9. If the results of this conclave may be predicted by the fine spirit of cooperation already shown by the participant groups, a successful outcome is assured. The program, diversified, but with a central theme of Conservation and Youth Leadership is timely in that it is of primary importance in the perpetuation of the American way of life. A day in the field in Audubon sanctuaries is anticipated as a fitting culmination of this lively three day session.

The Los Angeles Audubon Society extends a cordial welcome to the Conference and an invitation to enjoy its facilities at Headquarters, Plummer Park."

THE NEWS YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR, ABOUT THE REGIONAL AUDUBON CONFERENCE:

Preliminary Program, subject to change,-

- FRIDAY, May 7 PLUMMER PARK - Los Angeles Audubon Society, Host Club.  
9:30 A.M. Registration. Fee, fifty cents. Obtain badge and final program.  
10:00 A.M. Study Classes, Miss Miriam S. Faddis, on "Feather Facts," and  
Mr. W. A. Kent, on "The Development of Birds."  
Noon Picnic lunch. (Bring your own or obtain it on the grounds.)  
2:00 P.M. Round Tables:  
"Let's Go Afield!" Mrs. Anna B. Young presiding  
Nature in Morale Building - Mr. W. Scott Lewis presiding  
4:00 P.M. Wildlife Photography. Mr. C. A. Harwell presiding. Motion Picture,  
"A World of Wings," Mrs. Dorothy Dean Sheldon  
5:30 P.M. Reception honoring Mr. John H. Baker  
6:30 P.M. Dinner. Early California. \$1.00. Make reservation at once, please,  
with Mrs. Schoenlank, Hillside 5777  
8:00 P.M. Motion Pictures- The Western Grebe. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- TURSDAY, May 8 AMBASSADOR HOTEL, 3400 Wilshire Blvd.  
9:30 A.M. Registration. Fee, fifty cents  
10:00 A.M. Round Table: Conservation Problems, Legislation and Endangered Species,  
Mrs. J. H. Comby presiding  
12:30 P.M. Luncheon. \$1.75. Make reservation 48 hours in advance with Ambass-  
ador Hotel. Speaker, Mr. John H. Baker, Executive Director, Nation-  
al Audubon Society.  
2:30 P.M. Round Table: Youth Leadership  
"Let's Form an Audubon Junior Club." Miss Helen S. Pratt, Audubon  
Junior Representative, National Audubon Society  
"Scouting for Birds." Mrs. Mary V. Hood, Extension Chairman, Los  
Angeles Audubon Society.  
8:00 P.M. HANCOCK FOUNDATION, U.S.C. Campus at 35th Street  
"Birds of the Pacific Flyway," illustrated by motion pictures in  
color. Mr. Ed N. Harrison and Mrs. Frances Roberts. Mr. Otto  
J. Zahn presiding.
- WEDNESDAY, May 9 FIELD TRIPS to Audubon Sanctuaries  
San Gabriel River Bird Sanctuary  
Alma Stultz Bird Sanctuary  
Dorothy May Tucker Bird Sanctuary

The Interested Public is Cordially Invited to Attend All Sessions of the Conference.

C. A. HARWELL, California Representative  
National Audubon Society

EXTENSION COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS 1943

Two very successful courses in Bird Study for Scouts have been made possible through the cooperation of the Los Angeles Audubon Society, the Scouts and the County Museum.

The first course, given on five consecutive Saturday mornings at the Museum was attended by an average 143.4 boys and girls. A twenty minute talk was followed by the study of mounted specimens on tables at each of which a member of the Los Angeles Audubon Society was stationed to answer questions. No field trips were attempted.

The second course for Scouters was held at Plummer Park, four evening meetings and two field trips. The average attendance was 59.3. Several leaders brought older scouts with them. The speakers were Mrs. Hood, Mr. Cogswell, Mr. Eckleberry, Mr. Harwell. The mounted birds were used as before.

We hope to continue this work next year and enjoy still further the happy associations between these four organizations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who gave so generously of their time and effort, without which this enterprise could not have succeeded.

Mrs. Mary V. Hood, Chairman

MRS. WILLIS HAS DONE IT AGAIN! A young scout found a baby Anna's hummingbird which had apparently fallen from its nest and being unable to locate the nest, brought it to Mrs. Willis to see what she could do. The fragile mite was between  $1\frac{1}{4}$  and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length and Mrs. Willis thought, about two weeks old. She began to feed it sugar syrup but knew that it must also have protein. Her resourceful husband hit upon the idea of dried dog meat which was moistened and added to the syrup but young "Annette" turned her bill away. Mrs. Willis was surprised but not nonplused, so decided to color the mixture a luscious red. This met with Annette's immediate approval and she put her needle-like bill into the medicine dripper and ate greedily. In three days she added  $2\frac{1}{2}$  grains to her weight of 70 grains. Now, when hunger gnaws, she squaks on the pitch of the highest f# on the piano to let her benefactor know that it is time for food. After the dog food was added to her diet, her meals seemed more satisfying and she called less often. In one week, she has added  $\frac{1}{3}$  to the length of her bill, her tiny feet have doubled in size and her tail, which has the white scalloped petticoat of the female, has grown  $\frac{1}{8}$  of an inch. She is showing interest in the fresh abutilon blossoms which Mrs. Willis keeps in water in a bottle wired to the size of her cage. Her favorite perch is a small cotoneaster twig but she is able to hover in the air and her back is showing the metallic green lustre. She appears to be a very healthy baby on her diet of carbohydrate, protein and vitamins A, B<sub>1</sub>, D, G and E.

Anyone interested in the chemical analysis of the protein portion of this small bird's diet, it is as follows: 85% dried meat, 10% bone, 2% dried milk with 3% being equal parts of iodine, sulphur, iron sulphate, calcined kelp, sodium chloride, copper sulphate, codliver oil, tri-calcium phosphate, potassium phosphate, magnesium sulphate, sterile bone meal, magnesium chloride, dehydrated yeast, dried tomatoes, wheat germ and liver.

Dorothy E. Groner

On April 18, Howard Cogswell discovered a cardinal's nest, containing three eggs, on East Huntington Drive in Pasadena. James Murdock and C. A. Harwell recorded the occurrence in still and motion pictures. Three singing male cardinals were present. Near nesting neighbors were a Black-chinned Hummingbird and a San Diego Towhee.

The special Easter Week trip to San Gabriel River Bird Sanctuary proved a very happy one for nearly 100 persons. Many teachers and students were able to attend and the bird list numbered 68 species. Cardinals were singing and the Chats were calling loudly. Among the unusual sights were the Harris's Sparrow and the Yellow-headed Black bird. After lunch Mr. C. A. Harwell entertained us with his delightful whistling and was accompanied by a chorus of real bird songsters.

BIRDS

- AUDUBON - "Birds of America"  
 AUDUBON MAGAZINE (formerly BIRD LORE)  
 1919 to date  
 BAILEY - "Handbook of Birds"  
 BAILEY - "Birds of the Grand Canyon"  
 BAYNES - "Wild Bird Guests"  
 BENT - "Flycatchers, Larks, Swallows  
 and Their Allies"  
 BENT - "Food of Woodpeckers"  
 BENT - "Birds of Prey"  
 BENT - "N. A. Woodpeckers"  
 BENT - "Gulls and Terns"  
 BERRIDGE - "All About Birds"  
 BLANCHAN - "Birds"  
 BURROUGHS- "Wake Robin"  
 BURROUGHS- "Birds and Poets"  
 BURROUGHS- "Under the Maples"  
 COUES - "Key to American Birds"  
 DAVIS - "Taxidermy"  
 DAWSON\* - "Birds of California"  
 DEKAY - "Zoology of New York"  
 FORBUSH - "Game Birds and Water Fowl"  
 GRINNELL - "Game Birds of California"  
 GRINNELL - "List of California Birds"  
 GRINNELL - "Birds of Southern California"  
 HARWELL - "Birds of Yosemite"  
 HOFFMAN\* - "Birds of the Pacific States"  
 HORNADAY - "Wild Life Protection Fund"  
 INGERSOL - "Alaska Bird Life"  
 KEARTON - "Nature's Carol Singers"  
 KEELER - "Bird Notes Afield"  
 MAINE - "Bird Comparisons"  
 MARTIN - "Food of Game Ducks in U. S."  
 MAY - "Hawks of North America"  
 MYERS - "Western Birds"  
 MYERS - "Birds' Convention" (Playlet)  
 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC\* "Book of Birds"  
 NUTTALL - "Ornithology"  
 PAYNE - "Baltimore Oriole"  
 PAYNE - "Photographing Birds"  
 PEARSON - "Nature Lovers' Library"  
 PETERSON\*- "Field Guide to Western Birds"  
 PORTER - "Birds of the Bible"  
 PORTER - "Song of the Cardinal"  
 PRATT - "Lure of the Lyre Bird"  
 PRIESTLY - "A Book of Birds"  
 RITTER - "The Calif. Woodpecker and I"  
 SAMUELS - "Birds of New England"  
 STEBBINS - "What Bird Is That?"  
 THOMPSON - "Bird Migration"  
 TORREY - "Field Days in California"

BIRDS, Cont'd

- WILLETT - "Birds of the Pacific Slope"  
 WILLETT - "Common Birds of the Los Angeles County Coast"  
 WILLETT - "Common Birds of the Los Angeles County Mountains"  
 WYMAN & BURNELL\* - "Birds of Southwest United States"  
 WHYMPER - "Egyptian Birds"

LIVES OF AUDUBON

- MUSCHAMP - "Audacious Audubon"  
 PAYNE - "Sketch of Audubon's Life"  
 PEATTIE - "Singing in the Wilderness"  
 PEATTIE - "Audubon's America"  
 ROURKE - "Audubon"

FLOWERS, TREES, BUTTERFLIES, NATURE

- ARMSTRONG- "Western Wildflowers"  
 BRENNAN - "Poems of Trail, Camp & Home"  
 COMSTOCK\*- "California Butterflies"  
 COLE - "Cone-Bearing Trees, Yosemite"  
 COOK - "Gardening Made Easy"  
 DAVIDSON - "Flora of Southern California"  
 HASTINGS - "Out of Doors"  
 HOLLAND - "Butterfly Guide"  
 LONG - "Mother Nature"  
 LYMAN and HOOD - "California Wildflowers"  
 MERRIAM - "The Garment of God: Influence of Nature in Human Experience"  
 MILLS - "Enos Mills of the Rockies"  
 MILLS - "Trees"  
 MUIR - "Mountains of California"  
 SAMUELS - "Living World"  
 SAUNDERS - "Western Flower Guide"  
 STYLES - "The Soul of the Universe"  
 SUDWORTH - "Forest Trees of Pacific Slope"  
 VAN DYKE - "Nature for Nature's Sake"  
 WEED - "Butterflies"  
 VARIOUS AUTHORS -  
 "Nature's Library," "Save Our Redwoods," "Home Floriculture," "Weeds."

MRS. MARY BARNES SAIMON, Librarian  
 1117 N. Fuller Avenue, Hollywood  
 Telephone: GRanite 9312

Members may borrow books listed above except those marked \*. (These are kept for reference.) Borrowing time, four weeks. Books may be mailed at 3¢ per pound. Package must be marked "Books."