

BIOLOGICAL SURVEYS OF STATES BY THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DURING 1919

Work in biological investigations of birds and mammals by the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and cooperating institutions, while somewhat interrupted by the war, is rapidly getting back to normal. The work falls into three principal divisions, namely, investigations of habits, distribution, migration, and systematic studies of birds, investigation of the habits and relationships of mammals, and natural history surveys of the states. This note deals with work under the latter head only.

In Wisconsin the State Geological and Natural History Survey is cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture in the work, which is in charge of Dr. Hartley H. T. Jackson for the Department of Agriculture, and Professor George Wagner of the University of Wisconsin for the State of Wisconsin. Work was begun May 15 and continued until September 20. The principal field of cooperation was the northwestern part of the state, special attention being devoted to the Apostle Islands in Lake Superior. Mr. Harry H. Sheldon for the Biological Survey, and Mr. Arthur J. Poole for the Wisconsin Survey assisted throughout the season.

In Montana, Mr. Marcus A. Hanna, assisted by Mr. Harry Malleis, worked the valley of the Missouri and the bordering plains and mountains from the mouth of Milk River westward, under the general direction of Mr. Edward A. Preble. The Little Rockies, Moccasin Mountains, Big and Little Belt Mountains and Castle Mountains were visited during the latter part of the summer. Victor N. Householder was a member of the party during the early part of the season.

The biological survey of Florida was continued by Mr. Arthur H. Howell. Field studies were carried on during March and April over a large part of Lee County and in the region around Lake Okeechobee. The collections in the Florida State Museum were examined and the specimens carefully identified. A collection of bird records from Florida, both published and unpublished,

shows approximately 390 species and subspecies recorded from the state.

Cooperating at different times with the Biological Survey in field work in the state of Washington were the following: Professor William T. Shaw, State College of Washington, Pullman; Professor H. S. Brode, Whitman College, Walla Walla; Professor J. W. Hungate, State Normal School, Cheney; Professor J. B. Flett, National Park Service, Longmire; Mr. William L. Finley and Mrs. Finley, Portland, Oregon; and Stanton Warburton, Jr., of Tacoma. The Biological Survey was represented for a part of the time by Mr. Stanley G. Jewett, Pendleton, Oregon; and throughout the season by Mr. George G. Cantwell, Puyallup, Washington, and Dr. Walter P. Taylor, of the Biological Survey, the last named in charge of the work. Investigations were made in the Blue Mountains area of extreme southeastern Washington, in which occurs an unusual mixture of Rocky Mountain and Cascade Mountain types; and in Mount Rainier National Park, in connection with which the circuit of Mount Rainier was made for the first time, so far as known, by any vertebrate zoological expedition.

In North Dakota Mr. Vernon Bailey worked through September and October to get data on the hibernation of mammals and on the stores of food laid up for winter by non-hibernating species. He has returned with many valuable notes to be added to his report on the mammals of the state, and with an interesting collection of live rodents for study of habits in captivity.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

SIR WILLIAM OSLER, regius professor of medicine at Oxford University, died on December 29, aged seventy years.

DR. L. O. HOWARD, chief of the Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture and for twenty-two years permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, was elected president of the association at the St. Louis meeting. Dr. Edward L. Nichols, who last