

and can always obtain expert advice in any particular problem of special difficulty.

#### COLLECTION OF BIRDS FOR THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

ANOTHER well-known ornithological collection has been added to the rapidly increasing collections in the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California—the W. Otto Emerson collection.

Mr. Emerson began his bird studies in California some forty years ago, at that time laying the foundation of one of the most complete local collections of birds assembled in this state. His studies have been maintained in his spare time to the present date, and the results of his bird studies and observations are apparent in his notes and carefully selected series of specimens of local species. As Mr. Emerson has lived at Hayward, Alameda county, California, practically all of this period, his collection and notes have especial value from the standpoint of local occurrences, distribution, changes, etc.

In this collection are some most useful series of ducks in the first stage of juvenile plumage, carefully identified, which, added to such material as is already in the academy collection, will be of much value for comparisons, and the study of plumage. Besides the series of birds of especial local value, there are a good series of warblers from various parts of the United States, and some rare records from California in the line of warblers, and some original record specimens for the state of several species of sparrows, etc.

The academy suffered the loss of its very valuable collection of birds in the fire of 1906, and, while the series of sea and shore birds has been more than replaced, the land birds have had but little effort expended upon them. The addition of the Emerson and Mailliard collections, which consist principally of land birds, has very materially assisted in bringing the academy collection nearer to its old basis.

In addition to the collection of bird skins, some valuable manuscripts of Dr. James G. Cooper, such as those of "The Ornithology of California, Land Birds, 1870," and "The Birds of Washington Territory, 1860-65," to-

gether with some of Dr. Cooper's note books, dating back to 1853, have accompanied the collection.

#### THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

THE thirty-third annual meeting of the Geological Society of America will be held Tuesday to Thursday, December 28 to 30, at Chicago by invitation of the University of Chicago and in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The scientific sessions will be held in Rosenwald Hall on the university campus.

The address of the retiring president, Dr. I. C. White, will be delivered in the Reynolds Club building at 8 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, December 28, 1920. The annual subscription smoker will be held at the Reynolds Club at the conclusion of President White's address. Tickets, \$1.00 each. The annual subscription dinner will be held at the Chicago Beach Hotel, 51st Street and Lake Michigan, Wednesday evening, December 29, at 7 o'clock. Hotel headquarters will be established at the Chicago Beach Hotel.

The Paleontological Society will hold its twelfth annual meeting at Chicago in conjunction with the Geological Society of America. Full information regarding this meeting may be obtained, as usual, from the society's secretary, Dr. R. S. Bassler, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

The Mineralogical Society of America will hold its second annual meeting at Chicago in conjunction with the Geological Society of America. Full information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the society's secretary, Mr. H. P. Whitlock, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

The Society of Economic Geologists will hold its initial meeting at Chicago in conjunction with the Geological Society of America. For further information regarding this meeting, address Professor J. Volney Lewis, secretary, New Brunswick, N. J.

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